

Artist: Steve Chase.

Described by: Janet Van Fleet.

Title: Doctor John.

Medium: oil pastel.

Description: "Dr. John," by Steve Chase is an oil pastel, 24 inches tall by 18 inches wide.

This portrait is executed in the style called Cubism, in which the surfaces of objects are depicted as geometrical planes. The artist has applied the oil pastel vigorously and thickly, layering one color over another in many places.

The portrait is of a man, seen from the chest up, wearing a suit jacket and tie. Dr. John's head and shoulders are shown with many small triangular and rectilinear patches, colored in intense shades of red, green, yellow, and blue.

His almond-shaped eyes are light blue and his right eye looks off to the right, while his left eye looks down. His mouth is a thin, straight line curved slightly downwards, and his chin has small, irregular patches of pink and black.

There are two areas in which a bright yellow predominate. One is the right lapel of Dr. John's jacket, where stripes of yellow are mixed with green lines, and the other is his prominent forehead, where the application of pigment is a bit looser and less hard-edged.

The bright yellow over his eyebrows is joined above by a patch of blue and green over his right eye. Over Dr. John's left eye the artist has drawn a green downward-pointing triangle outlined in pink on an irregular red patch, perhaps drawing attention to the downward-cast eye below.