



## ***Mariela Villasmil*** ***Texas***

### ***Guest Artist for SFPAC Convention***

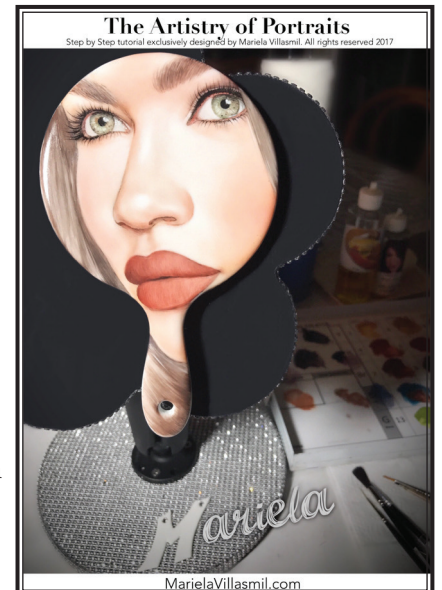
Mariela Villasmil began teaching painting classes 27 years ago after graduating from the Cecilio Acosta Catholic University in Venezuela with a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts and a Master's degree in Art Education.

After graduation, Mariela went to Rome, Italy, to continue her art studies. Around the year 2000, during the Jubilee of the Catholic Church, Mariela received the commission of her lifetime, the opportunity to paint the portrait of His Holiness, John Paul II on a porcelain piece. "I presented the painting to him, and he blessed my hands and my soul forever."

With an academic artistic formation, Mariela's passion has always been to elevate porcelain art to the highest level by teaching core art instruction along with her well-known experience as a porcelain painter. She has been the very first one to promote china painting or porcelain art as "Oils on Porcelain," a very appropriate and professional term to refer to the "techniques we use to paint instead of the support medium we paint on."

A transplanted Texan, Mariela has loved teaching art so much that 4 years ago, she decided to take a teaching position at a wonderful charter school in Dallas where she has found her true calling. Today, she is the chairperson for the art department where she enjoys teaching Art Honors students along with Fashion Design classes and every other hat she gets to wear to educate her amazing kids.

A mom to an incredible, talented young man, a proud auntie to a police officer, a devoted daughter, and wife to the love of her life and best friend, she is committed to change the world of her students one painting at a time. "I take great pride in being able to share my painting experience with you at our upcoming show. I feel incredibly blessed and honored with this opportunity. I can hardly wait."



*"What we have is given by God and to teach it to others is to return it to him." ~ Gianlorenzo Bernini*