

## **Why I love portrait cameos - by Gareth Eckley**

" I love the moment when the portrait carving comes to life before my eyes. I find it exciting to see the personality of the subject captured in gemstone. I feel that I invest a part of myself in every portrait that I create."

" I really enjoy the collaborative process involved in portraiture. I work closely with my client to ensure that together we create an exceptional gemstone cameo portrait. Many of my previous clients have gone on to become friends."

## **Biography**

Gareth is one of a very select group of gemstone portrait artists. Great skill, artistry and experience is needed to be able to create accurate portraits.

He is very passionate about his art and loves to travel to meet his clients whenever possible. He has been creating work for over 28 years. Some of his clients have been collecting his work for over 20 years.

Gareth feels strongly that for a cameo portrait to work he must feel that he "knows" the subject. It is very important to know the persons name and their nature so that he can enthuse the portrait carving with their spirit.

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