

Portrait of an artist

Artist Daryl Austin has captured designer Khai Liew's likeness for *True Portraits*, an exhibition of South Australian cultural identities as depicted by 13 of the state's leading figurative painters.

Austin, a realist, whose works range from urban streetscapes to illusionist representations of artists' canvases and palettes, has captured the furniture designer's serenity and interest in what he calls "the dialogue of the gaze".

Liew is shown, right, wearing his favourite jacket, with a distinctive band along the pocket, while soft colours reinforce the mood of calm and the gentle formality evident in his designs.

The woodgrain surface in the background is a reference to both Austin's trompe l'oeil style of painting three-dimensional illusions and Liew's trademark use of pale timbers in his furniture.

True Portraits is on show at Adelaide Central Gallery, Norwood, from Friday until June 16.

