



TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

7th October, 2016

Beka Smith: Testimonial

I'm delighted to write a testimonial for Beka Smith. As Head of the Department of Engineering at the University of Cambridge, I recently commissioned Beka to paint a portrait of Professor Dame Ann Dowling, President of the Royal Academy of Engineering, to commemorate her service to this Department. I know Beka from her work for Fitzwilliam College for which she has received four previous commissions.

Beka is clearly an artist of outstanding ability. The finished portrait is simply stunning, and both I and Dame Ann are delighted with the result. Beka's attention to detail is extraordinary, and I was particularly impressed by the care and dedication with which she approached the task. She is clearly a perfectionist and cares passionately about her work. Her approach to the project was highly professional, and I was fully informed of the progress of the work throughout. The portrait was delivered on time and within budget.

Artistic ability aside, Beka is a very personable young woman, who is extremely easy to work and communicate with. Dame Ann commented to me on numerous occasions that Beka had made her feel completely comfortable throughout the entire project, and it was clear that they had developed a close bond by its completion. Personally, I could not have expected more from the commission and I would recommend Beka to anyone.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly if you require further information on Beka's work for either the Department of Engineering or Fitzwilliam College.

Yours faithfully,

David Cardwell
Head of Department of Engineering

Trumpington Street
Cambridge
CB2 1PZ

Telephone: 01223 330266
Fax: 01223 332699
E-mail: head@eng.cam.ac.uk