



FRANCOIS CHARTIER

Born: 1950, Montreal, Canada

Born (1950) and raised in Montreal (Canada) Chartier was always interested in the visual arts and for 25 years, he toiled as an art director and illustrator in magazine publishing and advertising. This all changed when he turned 50, Chartier decided to change course and took up painting full time. He is among the most renowned and revered Hyperrealist artists working today.

Chartier describes his approach to Hyperrealism as theatrical. He first must find the right object or objects with which to build a set. He then extensively photographs

20 QUESTIONS FOR FRANCOIS CHARTIER

My mood today:

I'm nervous. I'm leaving for vacation in an hour, and I hate departure day.

My greatest weakness:

I procrastinate.

My greatest strength:

When I want something I go for it.

My motto:

GO 4 IT

My favorite meal at my favorite place to eat:

Pasta pomodoro that I discovered in Venice (I learned how to do it myself.)

My favorite drink to accompany my favorite song:

These days ... sparkling water with *Powerful Play* by Monolink.

My favorite work environment:

My studio at home



Francois Chartier: *Minerva*, 1992, 152×152 cm
(60×60 ins), oil on canvas

© Francois Chartier, 2025, image courtesy
of the artist



these objects to ultimately achieve the right composition and lighting. For each painting, he takes hundreds, even thousands, of photos and later uses his Photoshop skills to correct and, in some cases, combine the images. He works from both the selected images and the still life itself.

He works on big canvases to render his subjects larger than life size. His goal is “to capture viewers and make them look at something they know but at a different angle with the smaller details revealed in their beauty and simplicity.” Before painting, he coats the canvas with a gesso base to mute any signs of texture and brush stroke. Weeks later, he adds the finishing touches and varnish.

Francois Chartier: *Good morning*, 2025,
102×214 cm (40×84 ins), oil on canvas
© Francois Chartier, 2025, image courtesy
of the artist

My favorite artist or who has influenced me the most:
So many ... Don Eddy

My favorite painting by another artist:
Anything by David Parish

My favorite color:
Black

My three favorite paintings, painted by me (pictured):
Go 4 it, Good morning morning, Minerva



Which work of art impressed me first as far as I remember:

In the late 60's, the Beatles movie *Yellow Submarine*.

Where do I see myself in ten years:

I'm 75 ... so very close to dying if not dead ... I had a great life and did all I had to – so no bad feeling about that. I hope studio rents are not too high on the other side.

Where I would like to travel with a time machine:

Nowhere ... I'm happy here.

Who I would most like to meet (dead or alive):

Anybody that is fun to talk with.

Why realism:

I love what I see.

What I don't like:

Who am I to criticize?

What I believe in:

Peace on earth when half of it will be destroyed ...

What I understand by "art":

Beauty ... my life.

What I expect from Vermeer Magazine:

Exactly what they are doing ... talk about us and what we do ... thanks for that ●

Francois Chartier: *GO 4 IT*, 2018, 122×135 cm
(48×53 ins), oil on canvas

© Francois Chartier, 2025, image courtesy
of the artist