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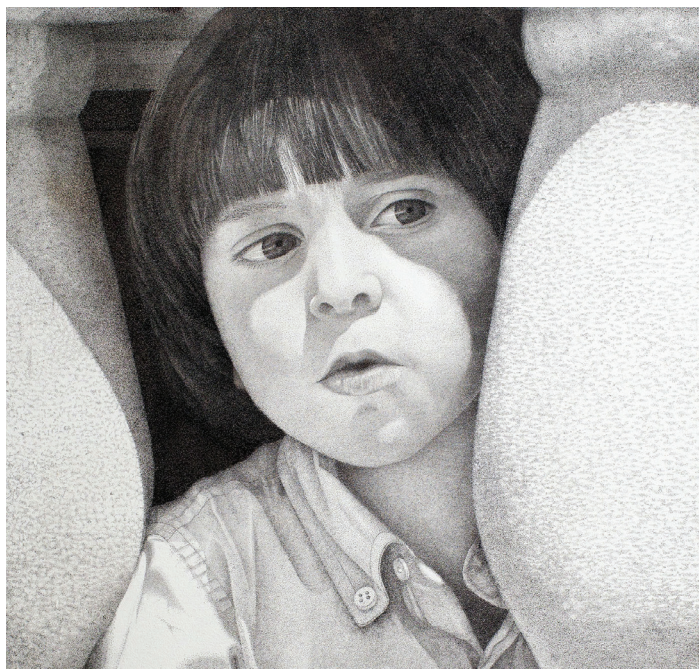
**Customized Topography-Guided CXL
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**Ver – Mirar – Observar
(See, Look, Observe)**

Jose Palao-Garcia

76 x 708 cm, pen on prepared board

This intimate painting shows the face of a child looking through the protection of a balustrade. In infancy, we are protected by our family and our parents while we observe and we glance toward the future with apprehension and lack of confidence. Interestingly, the child is not scared or surprised, but rather he is intrigued about the future. Intimacy, the silence of the glance, the deep communication of the child, and the naïve appearance of the painting highlight all of the small details of this painting, making it realistic and extremely intimate. The first glance of a child toward the future from the protection of home is the symbolic message of this artwork.

Jose Palao-Garcia is a local artist who has a longstanding personal history in painting in Alicante. He has had several local and national exhibitions, and recently his artwork has been appreciated in European countries such as Italy. His artwork expresses his talent in drawing and the delicacy of his artwork. Usually, he is involved in simple techniques with a huge expressivity and sensitivity using minimally expressive techniques.

Description by Jorge L. Alió

The "Miradas" competition was created by Jorge Alió, Journal of Refractive Surgery Editorial Board Member, and his wife, Maria Lopez, in 1998 with the intention of using artistic sensibility to bring society's attention to the phenomenon of sight, vision, and blindness. "Miradas," which means glances, is a contest in which artists from Spain and several Latin American countries submit paintings dealing with the topic of sight and the prevention of blindness. Each cover of the Journal of Refractive Surgery features paintings that were submitted to this competition. "Miradas" is sponsored by Schwind Eye-Tech-Solutions. For more information, contact www.fundacionalio.com

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