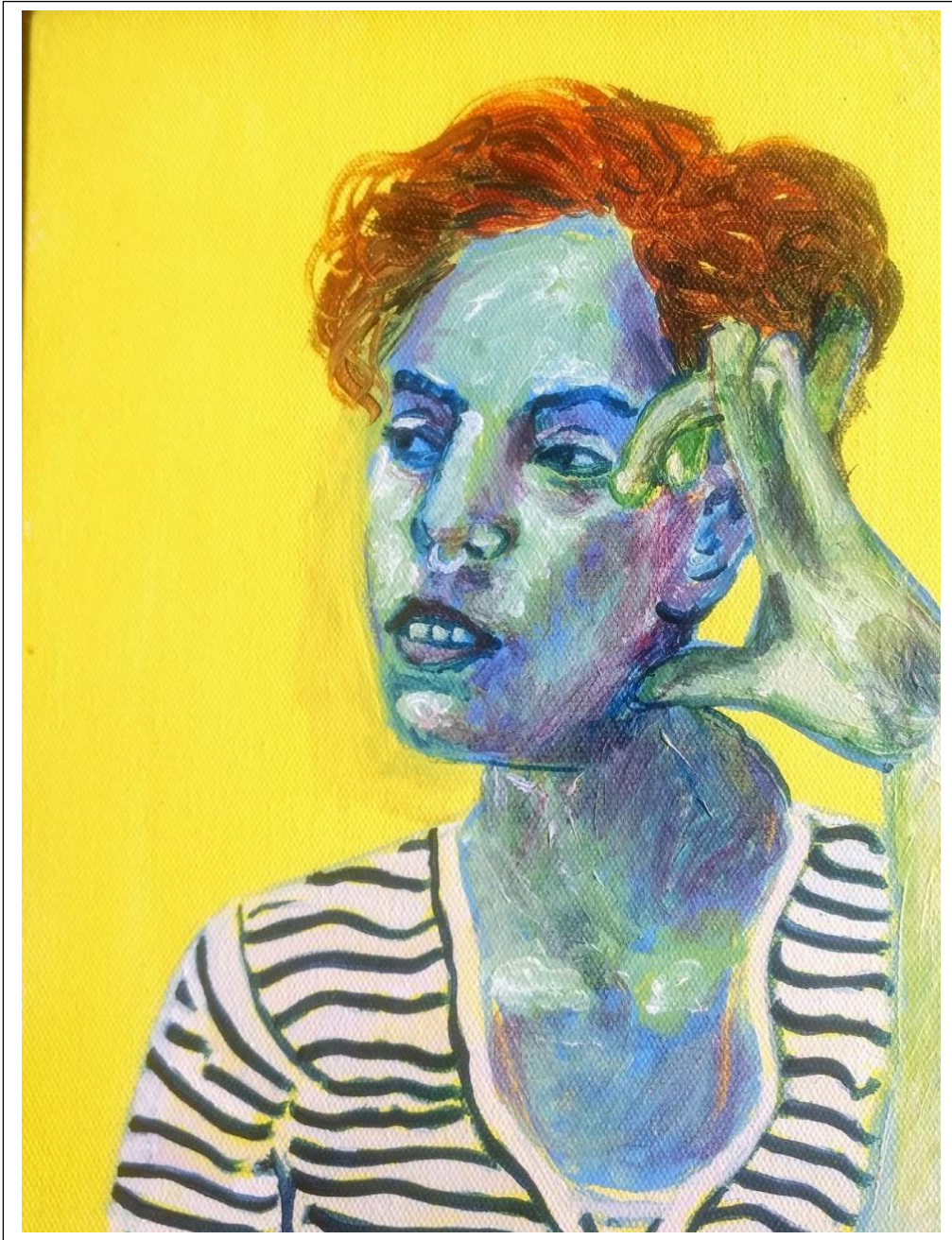


## *The Arts and Psychiatry*

This self-portrait was painted by a patient with obsessive compulsive disorder while on treatment. That person prefers to remain anonymous.



We are aware of our existence, consciousness and impermanence, but there is much beyond what meets the eye. What should be the reason behind our self-identity escaping enclosure far removed from reality and connecting beyond nature or space? It is so instinctive within ourselves that we struggle to find words to describe and understand it. I try to connect these sources through my self-portraits as a means of exploring myself and my surroundings, as the self has always been uncertain. As an individual, it has always overcome my alienation towards myself as well as towards society, thus creating a therapeutic relationship.

– *The Artist*

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