



# CREATING DRAWINGS FOR WIKIPEDIA

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When you make drawings of a person based on photos, you can take them as inspiration or reference. But you must make sure that your drawing is not:

- a **reproduction**: the same image but in a different medium,
- a **derivative work**: a new work with many recognizable elements of the original.



*Nibia Berois by Lucas Roselli on  
Wikimedia Commons.  
Portrait in pencil.*

Quick tips for drawing from photos:

**1. We suggest you gather inspiration, ideally from multiple photos.** This can help you capture the spirit of the person, while making sure your illustration looks original. If it looks like a copy of a non-free photograph, it's likely to be deleted from Wikipedia!

**2. We also suggest drawing in as much of an “encyclopedic” style as possible.** The more abstract your drawing is, the more likely it is to be deleted on Wikipedia. :-)

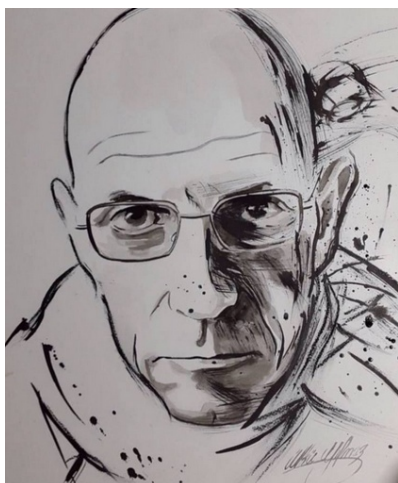
## SOME EXAMPLES

In a drawing inspired by a photo, sometimes it's not so easy to know where copyright ends and public domain begins. Let's see some examples to get the point.

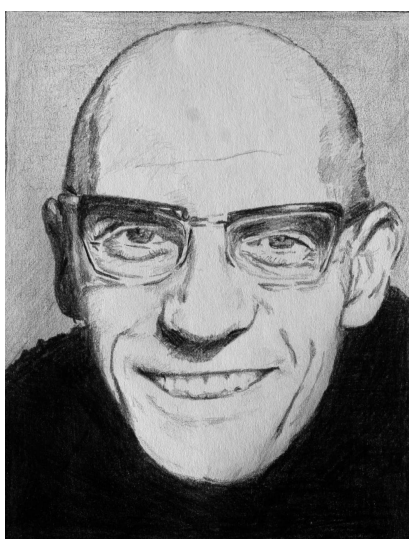
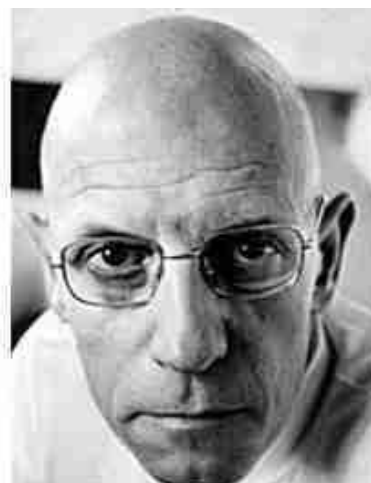
This portrait of Michel Foucault, which illustrates his Wikipedia article, is not a reproduction of any original photo of Foucault. It may be debatable whether it is a faithful portrait or not, but we do not have another photo or drawing of Foucault (for now) in the public domain or freely licensed.



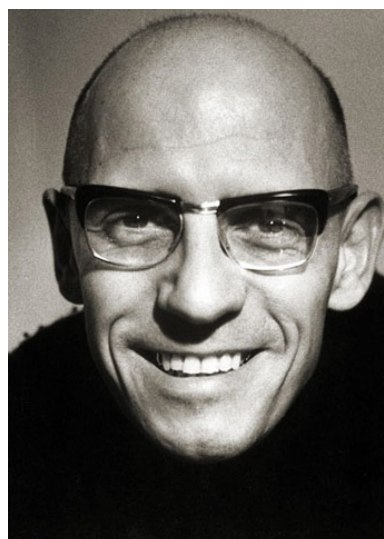
*Michel Foucault portrait, by Nemomain  
on Wikimedia Commons.*



A drawing like this, however, would be a derivative work of this photo that is not in the public domain.



On the other hand, this drawing would be a reproduction of this photo, which is also not in the public domain. Neither of these two drawings are likely to be used on Wikipedia because they are too much like the non-free photographs.



## USING DRAWINGS TO ILLUSTRATE WIKIPEDIA

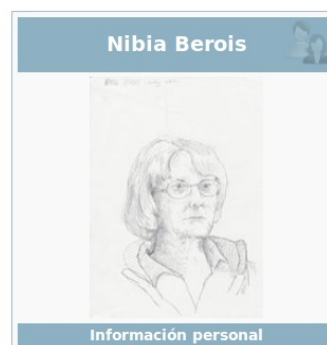
### Nibia Berois

**Nibia Berois Domenech** (nacida en [Uruguay](#)) es una bióloga, investigadora y profesora uruguaya. Trabaja en el Departamento de Biología Celular y Molecular de la [Universidad de la República](#), donde es Profesora Agregada de [Biología Celular](#) (Grado 4) de la [Facultad de Ciencias](#) e investigadora del [PEDECIBA](#). Su trabajo se enfoca en la reproducción y el desarrollo en peces. Sus investigaciones han generado resultados de impacto para la actividad pesquera, el cuidado del medio ambiente y la [biomedicina](#).<sup>1</sup>

**Trayectoria** [ [editar código](#) · [editar](#) ]

En 1972 obtiene el título de Licenciada en Ciencias Biológicas en la Facultad de Ciencias. Posteriormente, en 1996 realizó su doctorado titulado *Interacciones gaméticas en la corvina blanca, [Micropogonias furnieri](#), Características celulares, ultraestructurales y funcionales de los gametos. Gametogénesis y fecundación.*

Actualmente es responsable del grupo de investigación *Biología de la Reproducción y del Desarrollo*



Another thing that we have to take into account while using drawings in Wikipedia, is that if a higher quality photo or drawing appears later, it will probably be the one used in the article.

If the biography already has a good quality portrait, please do not change it for a lower quality one, even if you think it looks better - this will save your time, as Wikipedians are likely to come and reverse your work.



## RELATED RESOURCES

- [Getting and giving consent for images on Wikipedia](#)
- [How to upload images to make women visible on wikipedia and the Internet](#)
- [Dos and Dont's for adding images to Wikimedia Commons and Wikipedia](#)
- [How to find images on the internet to illustrate Wikipedia](#)
- [How to ask for image donations](#)