

MICHAEL BELL

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SOLO & TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2008 **TICKET TO RIDE**, The Plumm, New York, NY
2006 **The Cinema of Truth**, GALLERIA RED, Long Beach Island, NJ
2005 **Voices of Violence Project**, Beverly Wilshire Hotel, Beverly Hills, CA
2004 **Revisitation**, Michael Bell and Michael Sprouse, Powys Gallery, Red Bank, NJ
Ireland, Michael Bell and Michael Sprouse, Zwaanendael Gallery of Art, Lewes, DE
2003 **The Milton Theatre Project**, Michael Bell and Michael Sprouse, Milton Theatre, Milton, DE
Michael Bell, Recent Works, Zwaanendael Gallery of Art, Lewes, DE
2002 **3rd Avenue Festival of Hope II**, 3rd Avenue, Brooklyn, NY
2001 **3rd Avenue Festival of Hope**, 3rd Avenue, Brooklyn, NY

GROUP EXHIBITIONS & CELEBRITY UNVEILINGS

- 2008 **Stars & Cigars Red Carpet Unveiling**, the Vanderbilt, Staten Island, NY
with Frank Vincent, Joe Gannascoli & Dominic Chianese of "The Sopranos."
Darkest Dreams a Lighted Way, Fort Gondo Compound for the Arts, St. Louis, MO
2007 **Per Amore del Cioccolato**, South Shore Cultural Center, Chicago, IL
2005 **Eire: The Spirit of the Emerald Isle**, Millenium Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles, CA
Portrait Unveiling for Dr. Nancy Grasmick, State Superintendent of Schools, Baltimore, MD
The Neighborhood Design Center Fall Gala, Center Stage Theatre, Baltimore, MD
The Good Shepherd Shelter 8th Annual Gala, Millenium Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles, CA
Portrait Unveiling for Aida Bogosian, Michael B. Jewelers, Studio City, CA
The Safe Passage "Wings of Flight" Celebrity Gala, Beverly Hills Hotel, Beverly Hills, CA
with Mario Lopez, Georgia Durante, Demi Ngyun, Jackie Kallen & Sean Young.
2004 **The Golden Age of Gangsters**, Chicago, IL
with Joe Gannascoli, John Fiore, Dominic Capone, Georgia Durante & Antoinette Giancana
New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence 25th Anniversary Gala, Albany, NY
2003 **The Family Shelter Service Greek Gala**, Chicago, IL
Celebrity Portrait Unveiling of Georgia Durante, Hollywood, CA
Voices of Violence, Towson Commons Gallery, Towson, MD
Artists Capturing Mentors, Chesapeake Center for the Arts, Brooklyn, MD
2002 **Celebrity Portrait Unveiling of Sofia Milos**, The Four Seasons, Beverly Hills, CA
Albert Schweitzer Leadership Awards, Regent Beverly Wilshire Hotel, Beverly Hills, CA
with Art Linkletter, William F. Austin, Pat Boone, Lou Ferrigno, Georgia Durante and others.
Playhouse Mural Unveiling, YWCA Enchanted Storybook Gala, Lowes Hotel, Annapolis, MD
2001 **Artists Capturing Mentors**, Chesapeake Center for the Arts, Brooklyn, MD
Practice What We Preach, MSTA Headquarters, Annapolis, MD
Celebrity Portrait Unveiling of Joseph R. Gannascoli, Soup as Art, Brooklyn, NY
Celebrity Portrait Auction at Rascals Comedy Club/ Restaurant, West Orange, NJ
with Kevin James of CBS's "King of Queens" and Steven R. Schirripa of "The Sopranos."
Corporate Portrait Unveiling for the Bel Air Volunteer Fire Company
Bel Air Volunteer Fire Company Headquarters, Bel Air, MD
It's Raining Children, Women & Men: Umbrellas for Art, Arundel Mills Mall, Hanover, MD
1998 **The Love Series**, Snowden Gallery, Williamsport, PA

AWARDS

- 2005 **Los Angeles Good Shepherd Domestic Violence Community Service Award**
Who's Who in America
Bedrock Media Excellence In Design Website Award for MBELLART.com
2004 **Maryland "Teacher of the Year" Award**, AACPS, 2004 – 2005
Governor's Citation for "Excellence in Education" Award
2003 **Who's Who Among America's Teachers**
2002 **MAEA Most Outstanding Career Arts Educator Award**
2001 **State Superintendent Commendation**, for Post September 11th Relief Efforts
People's Top Choice Award, Umbrellas for Art Exhibition at Arundel Mills Mall
2000 **Southern High School Teacher of the Year Award**, 2000 – 2001

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2008 *NY1* (Television), "Stars & Cigars," September 16, 2008
The Capital, "Harwood's Celebrity Artist," 3 October, Lifestyle Cover, 2008
Staten Island Advance, "Glitzy for a good cause," 10 September 2008
52nd City: Arts & Artists, "Darkest Dreams a Lighted Way," November, 2008
American Superstar Magazine, April, Editorial.
The Capital, "Giant Mural," February, p. B3.
- 2007 *Blogger and Podcaster Magazine*, April, Editorial.
Comcast TV-96 (Television), "The Gifted Visual Arts" aired February – March, 2007
The Capital, "Teen puts faith in power of art," February, pp. B1-B2.
Chicago Scene Magazine, "Chicago Happenings," February, 64.
- 2006 *The Capital*, "Michael Bell: Art Aid," 28 December, B3.
NY Arts Magazine, "Top Picks: Michael Bell," December 11, Editorial.
Investors Business Daily, "Talk Radio's New Competition," July-August Issue.
The Baltimore Sun, "Teacher Excels in Art of Education," May 14, 2006
The Capital, "Southern High Shows off Art Talent," May 4, 2006
The Capital, "Teen Paints a Rosy Future," April 29, 2006
South County Gazette & The Capital, "Artist Supports LA Shelter," January 6, 2006
The Capital, "Giving the Gift of Hope to a Shelter," January 6, 2006
- 2005 *TEAM (T-hanking E-ducators A-cross M-aryland)*, "Book Cover Design," October, 2005
The Baltimore Sun, "Educators Who Make a Difference In Maryland," page 9, Fall 2005
The Baltimore Sun, "Visual Journaling for Portfolio Development," page 11, Fall 2005
Who's Who In America, "60th Printed Edition," Fall 2005
NBC4 News (Television), "Los Angeles Good Shepherd Awards," aired October 1, 2005
The Capital, "Domestic Violence Activist Honored," September 30, 2005
IONOne Live Magazine, "Selected Bell as USA's Artist of the Month," September 1, 2005
Creative Soup Zine (Debut Issue), "Michael Bell: Visual Journaling," June 1, 2005
Maryland Public Television (Television), "Bell: Taking the Time," first aired May 2, 2005
The Capital, "Around South County: Showing off Talent," May 1, 2005
- 2004 *NAEA News*, "Special Convention Edition," Winter, 2004
Comcast TV-96 (Television), "Michael Bell: Visual Journaling," aired November 1, 2004
The Capital, "Young Artist Thinks Big," June 2, 2004
The Hub, "In the Arts," May 21, 2004
CNN Headline News: Local Edition (Television), "On the Red Carpet," aired April 13, 2004
The Capital, "County Honors Two Teachers of Year," April 14, 2004
The Baltimore Sun, "Two Educators Honored as Best in the County," April 14, 2004
- 2003 *Letters from Camp Rehoboth*, "Art Around Town," November 26, 2003
US-NEWS-WATCH, "Two-Man Exhibition to Benefit Milton Theatre," November 26, 2003
The Cape Gazette, "Zwaanendael Gallery present works of Bell," October 31, 2003
Newsday, New York City, "Victoria's Secret: Dapper Don's Wife Paints!" July 17, 2003
- 2002 *The Capital*, "South County on: Michael Bell," June 6, 2002
- 2001 *The Capital*, "Charity Begins in Class," November 8, 2001
The Capital, "Wall of Fame," August 28, 2001
WJZTV-13 (Television), "Ravens Win Big on and Off the Field," January 19, 2001
The Capital, "High School Art Captures Statewide Honors," January 19, 2001
The Baltimore Sun, "Arundel Mills Praise Winning Umbrella Art," January 11, 2001

PRESENTATIONS & KEYNOTES

- 2008 *Visual Journaling*, Presenter to all Art Teachers, Anne Arundel Community College, MD
Building Relationships, Presenter to New Teachers to Anne Arundel County, MD
Keynote Address to the Graduating Class of 2008, Equestrian Center, Upper Marlboro, MD
- 2005 *Visual Journaling: NAEA Convention Presenter*, Hynes Convention Center, Boston, MA
with Dr. Jane Bates and Dr. Ray Martens, Towson University Art Department.
The AACPS Gifted Visual Arts Program, Presenter to all Art Teachers, Annapolis, MD
Dioramas in Sculptural Form Workshop, Presenter to all Photo Teachers, Annapolis, MD
- 2004 *Expanding Vision Through Art*, MAEA Fall Conference Presenter, Montgomery County, MD
Visual Journaling, Presentation to Graduate students at Towson University, MD
Keynote Address to 600 New Teachers, The Carver Center, MD

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BIOGRAPHY

Born April 10th, on his Mother's birthday, Michael Bell grew up with a magical gift and an intense passion for the visual arts, experiencing success early in his artistic career by winning 1st Place at the age of five in his first juried art exhibition. As an emerging young artist Michael has spent a lot of his life in and around New York City, studying art with his grandmother, a self-taught artist from Lyndhurst, NJ. It was during this time period Bell began exploring life's very personal & psychological issues visually through his paintings.

As a "Celebrity Artist to the Stars" Michael Bell has painted, by commission, some of the most famous people of our time, including cast members from HBO's *The Sopranos*, *CSI: Miami*, *Law & Order*, movies such as *Goodfellas* and *A Bronx Tale* and for Best-Selling Authors, such as Georgia Durante. Backed by an impressive list of solid credentials and celebrity clientele, Michael Bell has steadily become just as famous as many of the celebrities he has portrayed on canvas.

Bell has also plays a vital role in pioneering the development of the *Visual Journaling* movement, giving workshops throughout the country, and donating his time and art to numerous charity benefits that have helped raise awareness and thousands of dollars from his painting sales. On October 1, 2005, Michael Bell received the Good Shepherd Community Service Award at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. In February, 2007 Bell was the featured artist at the world's second annual *For the Love of Chocolate* benefit in Chicago. Bell continues to make numerous appearances with his famous clientele, most recently at a star-studded 2008 Red Carpet Unveiling with "The Sopranos" Frank Vincent, Dominic Chianese and Joe Gannascoli at the *Stars & Cigars Gala* at the Vanderbilt on Staten Island, NY. On April 18, 2008 Bell also launched his famous *TICKET TO RIDE Painting Series* at "The Plumm" in New York City. A major motion picture is in the works based on this *TICKET TO RIDE* painting series.

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

"Painting, for me, is a dynamic process of self-exploration and a constructive way to give form and meaningful expression to an experience. I investigate problems on a personal and intuitive level. It's the journey that constantly fuels my mind. It's a timeless, cinematic world where stories are born...where the artist is the ultimate storyteller. I'm also concerned with the interconnections between my works and how they are presented; therefore I present many of my narrative works of art together as a thematic series.

My subject matter ranges from painting contemporary celebrities in today's visual culture to metaphorical objects as storytellers on larger than life-sized canvases. Celebrities bring a sense of decadence and iconic theatricality to my work, while working with objects as metaphors often extends meaning deep within my work on a psychological level. The final product becomes a passionate reflection of all that was revealed to me about my subjects during intense moments of personal clarity."



