



ROMERO BRITTO BIO

b. 1963, Recife, Brazil

A modern day pop culture icon, Romero Britto is one of the premiere Pop Artists of our time. As the youngest and most successful pop artist of this generation, Britto has managed to create contemporary masterpieces that evoke a spirit of hope and convey a sense of warmth.

His original artwork, dubbed the art of healing, brings together bright colors and playful themes with compositional elements of cubism. Britto's work provides art lovers around the world an open-minded and optimistic view of life, from the mental canvas of an artist who gains daily inspiration from the world around him.

Embraced by the international community, Britto's paintings and sculptures are currently featured on five continents in more than 100 galleries worldwide, including the Saatchi Gallery in London, who recently incorporated his artwork as part of the stable for their new online gallery. In addition, Britto's artwork is also included in some of the world's most impressive private collections.

As a talented and creative child growing up in Brazil, Romero Britto often painted images on any medium he could find, including scraps of cardboard and newspaper. His inner passion and drive to excel served as an incredible asset for a young man with a longing to nurture his creative side and experience all that life had to offer. His innate love for learning and education inspired Britto to channel his focus and commitment to excellence into his artwork. This dedication is what has helped Britto become an international success during the last 18 years.

Never forgetting his humble beginnings, and ever appreciative of the many mentors he has had over the years, giving back and lending a hand to those in need has become one of his top priorities. As a result, in 2007 the Britto Foundation was established in an effort to allow him to lend his time, resources and talent to children and organizations all over the world, while continuing to spread joy and happiness through his works. Through the foundation, his goal is to provide support to individuals and organizations who work to

create, encourage, promote and preserve education and humanitarian based initiatives benefiting children around the world. From his partnership with organizations like Best Buddies International, Andre Agassi Foundation, World Economic and Development Fund, St. Jude Hospital, Governor's Family Literacy Initiative and Keep the Memory Alive Foundation, to the hundreds of charitable donations provided to organizations around the globe - Britto's commitment to giving back is unquestionable.

Romero was invited by the Arts and Exhibition International to create a pyramid commemorating the return of Tutankhamun to London after 35 years. The Britto Pyramid is the largest art installation in the history of Hyde Park to date – standing at 45 feet in height. It was produced in tribute to the Ancient Pyramids of Giza, the last of the Seven Wonders of the World, and is scheduled to be permanently installed at the Children's Museum in Cairo, Egypt.

Private collectors of his artwork include: Eileen Guggenheim, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Maria Shriver, Prince Albert of Monaco, Oprah Winfrey, Maya Angelou, Michael Jordan, David Rockefeller, Gloria Estefan and former United States Presidents Bill Clinton and George H.W. Bush to name a few. Roger Federer, Columba Bush, Shakira, Ryan Seacrest and Martha Stewart all own Britto portraits. Romero did a portrait for legendary art dealer Ernest Beyeler, the founder of Art Basel and the Beyeler Foundation for which the portrait helped raise funds.

Romero has been commissioned and continues to collaborate with corporations worldwide such as: Pepsi-Cola, Movado, Evian, TAM Airlines, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines, Univision Television Network, NFL, Cirque du Soleil, Volvo, Microsoft, Nicole Miller, Bauducco and Disney.

Various museums around the world exhibit Romero's artwork – Mola, Los Angeles; National Museum of Art, Rio de Janeiro; Evenson Museum, Syracuse; Coral Springs Museum of Art, Boca Raton; Museo de Artes Contemporáneo, Caracas; Museum of Art, Long Island; the Philharmonic Center for the Arts and The Von Liebig Art Center, Naples.

Upcoming endeavors for 2008 and 2009 include: United Nations commemorative stamp design for the Olympics in China, Developers Diversified Realty United States Sculpture Tour – *Britto Tours America*, collaboration on largest interactive water theme park in United States – *Grapeland Park* and the *Gongzhen – Sport in Art* exhibition touring several cities in China with stops at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Shanghai; RCM The Museum of Modern Art, Nanjing; and culminating in Beijing at Beijing Today Art Museum.

Romero is very versatile, so while visiting one of the poorest area schools supported by the World Education Fund or sipping tea at the home of Carlos Slim Helú in Mexico City to having one of his pieces unveiled in Windsor Castle by the son of the Queen of England, Prince Edward – what Romero really enjoys most, is spending time in his studio painting.

Whether it's serving as a panelist at the World Economic Forum, a partnership with Cirque du Soleil and the NFL for Super Bowl 2007 or a corporate commission to add that special "Britto" touch to the United Nations Postal stamp or to renowned brands including Absolut, Movado, Pepsi-Cola, Evian, Microsoft X-Box and Volvo - Romero Britto's artwork conveys an honesty that reflects his desire to use colors which exude happiness.

His works are a reflection of what words fail to express about the joys of life, and his pieces will continue to withstand the test of time because there is a Britto for everyone, appealing to art lovers ages eight to 80.