

## **Vikki King Biography** *(abbreviated)*

Lifelong commitment to my role in society as an artist since 1974.

Co-Founder of The World Art Party

Publisher of The Picture Paper-PRICELESS art magazine

Donor of the Camperdown Elm tree dedicated to The Artists of The World (Centerpiece located

within the Botanical Gardens at Zilker Park)

### **“DEATH OF THE UNKNOWN ARTIST”**

617 Congress Ave., Austin, TX

The art installation featured a vivid execution-style hanging of a classical artist in his studio environment amidst symbols of the film and music industry. The show included a computerized slideshow that lampooned the entertainment and media industry. It ran concurrently with Austin’s world renowned SXSW media festival.

The presentation of this artistic spectacle enhanced historical perspective relating to political and social visual art at the turn of the millennium. The world views the U.S. as a throwaway society. The American Way of endless consumerism silences us with its demand for instant gratification and pursuit of acquiring the “Good Life.” This changes our environment, our governments, our thinking and our Planet. As artists, it is our social responsibility to comment on important social and political issues of our times.

### **Career Highlights:**

The World Art Party. Position: Co-Founder

Responsibilities: Direction/content development. Liaison to media and corporate sponsors.

The World Art Party is a democratic coalition of artists who accept the call for leadership and social responsibility. The scope includes community art events, sponsorships of local and national organizations and global art awareness programs.

The Picture Paper, Austin, Texas Position: Publisher/Creator Responsibilities: Lead concept, design & production team of this nationally acclaimed artist publication, including print and Internet editions. The publication series is now in the permanent collection of the Austin History Center.

### **The 11.11 Art Show**

Position: Creator/Organizer/Exhibitor Responsibilities: General management including fundraising, sponsorships & media liaison. This seven-day event was the largest private art exhibition ever held in Texas.

### **The Global Art Project**

Position: Director/Co-Founder Responsibilities: Coordinated the collection of collaborative art works. This project was a call to artists to cooperate in the creation of shared canvases.

### **The Arts Program, Inc.**

Position: Account Executive Responsibilities: Sold advertising space annually in regional playbills for the Opera, Ballet, Symphony and UT- Austin Performing Arts centers in the Austin & San Antonio markets.

Lauren Publications, Austin, Tx

Position: Sr. AE/Art Director Responsibilities: Start-up publication development (Austin Child Magazine). Setup Central Texas editorial office. Established art direction, objectives, public relations and promotions. Determined strategies for special features including art and cultural issues.

Austin Family Magazine, Austin, Tx

Position: Associate Publisher Responsibilities: Development of family lifestyle magazine. Day-to-day operation, public relations, art direction, and special sections. Spearheaded project that tied U.S. lifestyle magazines into a network. Sale of company resulted.

1979–1982 Street artist

Position: Poor and happy

Performed original poetry and demonstrated art crafts (weaving) to the public.

Education:

The University of Texas at Austin (1974 – 1979)

Community Involvement:

Co-founder of the World Art Party, a global artist organization. Founder of the Austin Tea Party, an artist coalition. Creator of the nationally acclaimed artist magazine “The Picture Paper”. Contributor and sponsor of the Austin Museum of Art. Sponsor of Seaholm Community Art Center Project. Contributor to the permanent collection of the Austin History Center. Benefactor to the Austin Botanical Gardens at Zilker Park. Sponsor of the International Poetry Competition. Promoter of the Texas & National Science Olympiad 1995 student competition. Organizer of the largest privately held art show in Texas (the 1111 Art Show).

Awards:

1998 PRO & CON Controversial Site Award Winner

1998 WetWired Honors Award

1998 Magic-Design (UK) Website Award

1997 PRO & CON BEST POLITICAL SITE Nomination

1997 Majon.com Best of the Web GOLD Award

1997 Fortunecity.com Native American FETAWA SPIRIT Award

1997 Goodink.net EYE CANDY Award

1997 Graphx Kingdom SELECT SITE Award

1997 JC.net C.O.O.L. Award

1997 Lonekeep.com LIGHTHOUSE Award Nomination

2016 Rosa Parks Award

Brian King (1952- ) is a listed artist, designer, photographer and writer. He was born in Des Moines, Iowa and was nurtured by parents whose love for fine art and fashion greatly influenced him. During his career he collaborated with the renowned 'father of acrylics' painter Gustav Likan (Eva Peron's personal painter), the Manhattan kinetic sculptor Ronald Mallory (of Whitney Museum/Leo Costello Galleries/Studio 54 fame), and the plastics pioneer Armand G. Winfield. From his birthplace in Iowa, he moved to California, to Monterrey, Mexico, next to Austin, TX, then Albuquerque and Santa Fe, NM **then** to the Denver Metro area **now back to Austin, TX**. King's works identify him as a cultural visionary. His works focus primarily environmental themes as well as radical political and social commentary.

His museum exhibits include the opening show at the Austin Museum of Art, a solo show where he performed the execution and display of the largest single canvas painting. King's historical balloon photographs and posters were featured in the Anderson Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum. He was also represented by The New Fisher Gallery of Albuquerque. He showed in well-known Northern California and Oregon art galleries. During the late 1980's in California he gained a following for his award winning airbrush paintings that focused on astronomical imagery. He is one of the first artists to combine digital imagery with traditional painting techniques, beginning in 1975.

Mr. King is an Internet pioneer. He created the first monument on the web, the *Monument to the Unknown Artist* in the early 1990's. He was the first to design a (now ubiquitous) form of website layout that features a branding front page, often referred to as the flash intro page. As art director he also co-published the first magazine on the Internet, *The Picture Paper*.

His public art shows include *The 11:11 Art Show*, the largest privately held art show in the U.S., *Death of the Unknown Artist*, *The Art Terrorism Show*, *The Black and White Show*, the *MOJO Art Show*, *Paint The Parks Top 100*, and many others. He founded *Art in the Park* in Austin, TX, a community event that empowered youth and adults to create art at no cost to the participants; this weekly free event facilitated the creation of art in an open supportive community environment. **King also participated in the City of Albuquerque's *Window on the Arts Project*.**

His most recent relocation was to Lakewood, CO. In pursuit of his artist activism, King became a founding member of 40West Creative Arts, the newest Colorado State Certified Arts District. His participation helps to establish 40West and West Colfax Corridor as a cultural arts destination.

Though having worked with many artists of international repute, when asked who has had the greatest influence on his artistic **viewpoint he boldly states**, "My beautiful wife Vikki is my muse and my fated love."