



CARY MICHAEL ROBINSON
CEO & CREATIVE DIRECTOR, ARTBAE
CARYMICHAEL.COM

ARTIST STATEMENT

I am a vibrant acrylic painting - capturing life's beauty in an erotic, intense, seductive and intimate fashion. I am monochromatic, multicolored or a merger between these hues. I am a two-dimensional canvas expanded into a three-dimensional, transformative environment. I am the ethos of past generations or the essence of contemporary society. I am a tangible masterpiece that breaks any interpretation of what society considers "traditional art." I am Colorful, Collaborative, Cultural and Classic...I am #CaryMichael.

BIO

Cary Michael is a native of Mobile, Alabama, now based in Washington D.C. He earned his BS in Fine Arts from Florida A&M University and MA in Design Management from Savannah College of Art and Design. While at Florida A&M, Cary served as Founder and President of the FAMU Fine Arts Society while working as a graphic artist for Tallahassee's Brogram Museum.

In 2018, Cary founded Artbae ("Art Before Anything Else") – an award-winning arts education, advocacy and events organization based in Washington D.C. Artbae facilitates "sip and paint" events, group and intimate paint parties, art therapy events and unique art buying opportunities for professionals, residents and visitors in the Washington D.C. and greater DMV area.

In 2020, Artbae was named Emerging Creative Winner in Washington D.C.'s 35th Annual Mayor's Arts Awards by DC Mayor Muriel Bowser. In 2021, the organization received the Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council (PGAHC) Artist Fellowship grant. As of 2022, Artbae has been awarded with grants from the National Black Arts Project Relief Fund and the D.C. Commission on the Arts & Humanities, and Cary recently became the winner of GAIN Power's Powerful IDEA award for Transformational Talent and Leaders (artist category).

In addition to his work with Artbae, Cary Michael serves as Design Examiner for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Studio Artist at the Creative Saints Loft in Hyattsville, MD and Welcome Team Ministry volunteer at Zion Church in Landover, MD. In recent years, he has served as both mentor and creative facilitator for Best Kids, Inc., a Washington D.C.-based non-profit committed to empowering foster youth in the D.C. area, as well as the YMCA and Big Brothers Big Sisters of America.

Cary Michael's artwork has been featured in the 2016 BET Awards, Harlem Fine Arts Show, the African American Civil War Museum and various other exhibits, including permanent collections, throughout the Washington D.C. metro area, New York, New Jersey, Alabama and Florida. Cary enjoys planning events and exhibitions that inspire courage – and is passionate about promoting equity and sustainable living, improving overall quality of life for all through effective use of creativity in all endeavors.