



## **Mr. Larry Brown, Artist**

From his humble beginnings in Portland, Jamaica, Larrie Brown soon distinguished himself from other rising artists. He became the only student to manage his high school Art Department at the Buff Bay High School. . Later, he won the Jamaica All Island Art Competition held at the prestigious Ward Theatre in Kingston, Jamaica.

As the winner of this competition, he was awarded a scholarship to the Jamaica School of Art (now the Edna Manley College of Visual and Performing Arts), from which he graduated with distinction in 1983. It was customary for the artist receiving this highest honor to again exhibit their work in the St Ann's Bay Gallery's One-Man Exhibition Competition.

Mr. Brown, having won this privilege, was unable to exhibit his graduation pieces in the St. Ann's Bay Gallery because they were entirely sold out at graduation! He had to create all new pieces for the exhibition within the space of only three months. This display again won accolades in the local press for their freshness and originality. After this exhibition, he went on to display his work in several other prominent art galleries in Jamaica, including the National Gallery at which he was acclaimed a one of Jamaica's outstanding young artist.

As a professional artist, Mr. Brown had various assignments and commissions, including descriptive forensic drawings for the Jamaica Police Force Criminal Investigations Department. His talents distinguished him from other local artists that he was commissioned by the Government of Jamaica to create portraits of several prominent political figures from Jamaica's colonial past as well as of contemporary personalities, including prime ministers, national heroes, and the Governor General. Several of these portraits are now housed in the Jamaica National Trust.

Larrie emigrated to the US in 1989 and continued his work as an artist of exceptional talent. His work represents a spectrum of styles from traditional to modern, and he is equally at ease rendering landscapes, portraits, still life, market scenes, seascape, river scenes and figurative drawings. His latest work is an exciting and thoughtful collection entitled "Realism: Art with a Message." This exhibition is now on display in Nashville. We hope you will visit this exciting and exhilarating exhibition at Tennessee State University's Avon Williams Campus Library.