

24 Henley Street, Oxford OX4 1ER | mobile: 07976 155 248 tel: 01865 453 290 |
email: robert@taylor-photo.co.uk | www.taylor-photo.co.uk |

Work held in the collections of the NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY, the VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM, OXFORD UNIVERSITY, THE ROYAL SOCIETY

I create portraits. This can mean anything from a simple formal likeness hanging at the National Portrait Gallery to a provocative and playful nude study created in collaboration with an exhibitionist artist.

"The secret of producing a good photographic portrait is to engage the subject in a collaborative effort in which both parties bring something to the final result. Clearly this is something present in Robert Taylor's engaging and provocative collection of characters. He gives his subjects their individuality and a voice, as well as making the images unique to his own personal artistic and cultural interpretation. People are not used to giving a reaction to an artist's work in an art show, so this is wholly admirable.

By including the voices of his subjects as they explore the surprisingly complicated business of being themselves, the whole enterprise becomes far more democratic, multi-sided and ultimately worthwhile."

Terence Pepper, Curator of Photographs, The National Portrait Gallery, London, May 2000

One of my most favoured working methods is the combining of striking and often intimate portraiture with the individual voices of my subjects, either answering my questions or making some kind of relevant declaration. The additional element of a 'voice' often provides an insight that might get lost in words or images alone, however well crafted.

My background in law, publishing, sustainable development work in West Africa and prison reform enables me to draw on a wide range of experiences and insights when creating and developing such projects.

RECENT PROJECTS INCLUDE:

(projects listed in bold type below can be seen at my website www.taylor-photo.co.uk)

- **Women in S.E.T.** An ongoing exhibition celebrating the achievements of award winning women of outstanding achievement in science, engineering and technology
- **Offender Artists** An exploration of creativity as a part of rehabilitation through portraits and interviews created in prison with award winning offender artists
- **Light After Death** An exploration of some of the surprising manifestations of life, light and joy possible for some after bereavement
- **Tim Clarke, NOW** A collaboration with a terminally ill man exploring through portraiture and extended text interviews his feeling about and preparation for his imminent death
- A collaboration with some members of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and a group of teenagers with extreme special educational needs exploring the young people's sense of self through their reactions and interactions with portrait making and music making
- A portrait of a university in the form of 50 portraits accompanied by short interviews exploring the subjects' relationship to the university and the city that it is part of.
- A specially commissioned portrait of a small impoverished West African town in the form of a small book, comprising interviews, portraits, general photography and a diary featuring the photographer's very personal impressions of the people, places and novel experiences
- A collaboration with a portrait painter in which sixteen people were the subject of both painted and photographic portraits, - created completely independently - and then asked to compare the two media, describing their experiences of the two processes, and feelings about the results. The exhibition featured the portraits and extracts from their responses.

BROADCASTING and EDITORIAL

I co-produced a documentary for Channel 4 about black divas and their fans, broadcast September 1996. In 2006 I was one of the photographers featured in the BBC series A Digital Image of Britain. I've also many radio appearances reviewing photography and participating in panel discussions. Also occasional feature articles and exhibition reviews in: Body Politic Magazine, Gay Times, Diva Magazine, G Spot Magazine, Geneva Post.

TALKS

A range of solo and joint illustrated talks, workshops and seminars related to identity and politics, including staging a number of events as part of Black History Month and Gay History Month programmes in London.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS**Solo**

- 2009 Women of Outstanding Achievement in Science, Engineering and Technology, The Wellcome Foundation, London, and touring
- 2008 'Women of Outstanding Achievement in Science, Engineering and Technology, The Royal Society, London, and touring
- 2008 'Three-way', Oxford University, Saïd Business School
- 2007 'Aston People', A permanent 48 picture installation at Aston University, Birmingham
- 2007 'Inside Out, Outside In' (re prisoner rehabilitation, at the Probation Centenary Conference, 2007), London and touring
- 2007 'Women of Outstanding Achievement in Science, Engineering and Technology, Science Museum, London, and touring
- 2006 'Women of Outstanding Achievement in Science, Engineering and Technology, British Library, and the Royal Society, London, and touring
- 2006 'Insected', Oxford University Museum of Natural History
- 2006 'Talking Bodies', James Gallery, The English Theatre, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2005 'Light After Death', Waterloo Gallery, London (Arts Council Funded)
- 2005 'Celebrating Our Lives', Islington Town Hall, London
- 2002 'Talking Bodies', Rivington Gallery, London
- 2002 'Glass +', Masons Solicitors, London
- 2001 'Portraits of Black Achievement', Birmingham Symphony Hall
- 2000 'Facing The Future', Millennium Dome and National Tour
- 2000 'Portrait Party', Sound, London
- 1996 'Hetero', (joint show) ICA and Iron Bar, London
- 1996 'artBlacklive II', Phoenix Theatre, Leicester
- 1995 'White Noise', Baik Gallery, London
- 1994 'Imagining Intimacy', Photofusion, London
- 1994 'Black Who?', Photofusion, London
- 1993 'Black on Black and White', Baik Gallery, London
- 1993 'Black, Queer and Fierce !', Lilian Baylis Theatre, London
- 1992 'Embrace the Human Race', St Clements Church, NYC, NY, USA

Group

2004 'Digital Photography', Ogilvy & Mather, Canary Wharf, London
 2001 'Blackout', Brixton Art Gallery, London
 2001 'UNICEF' Art Show, Rivington Gallery, London
 2000 'Scientists', National Portrait Gallery, London
 1999 '54 54 54', The Financial Times Building, London
 1997 'GAZE International Launch Exhibition', London Lighthouse
 1996 'Graphic Responses To AIDS', Victoria & Albert Museum, London
 1995 'El Art de Dar', Museum of Modern Art, Bogota, Colombia
 1994 'NAFOTO', Photography Festival, Sao Paulo, Brazil
 1993 'Art for Equality', ICA, London
 1993 'Rencontres Au Noir, Rencontres Internationales de la Photographie', Arles, France
 1991 'Artnudes', Puchong Gallery, NYC, NY, USA
 1991 'Sign of the Times', Cameraworks, London
 1991 'Hard Times', Glenn-Dash Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
 1991 'The Male Nude', Portfolio Gallery, London
 1990 'Against the Grain', Cameraworks, London
 1990 'Essential Contact', CEPA Gallery, Buffalo, NY, USA
 1990 'Distinguishing Marks', Bloomsbury Gallery, London
 1988 'Portraits', Commonwealth Institute, London

PUBLICATIONS including:

'Women of Outstanding Achievement in S.E.T.', Launched at The Royal Society, published annually from 2006 -2009 inc.
 'Passion and Politics' Launched by the Institute of Education at the October Gallery, London, 2008
 'Inside Out, Outside In', Launched at the Probation Centenary Conference, London 2007
 'Impressions Of Tafo', Launched at the Ghana High Commission, Jag Publications, 2004
 'Male Bodies' A photographic history of the male nude, Emmanuel Cooper, Pub. Prestel 2004
 'Portraits of Black Achievement' London University & Lifetime Careers, 2001
 'Portrait Party', Chronos Publishing. 2000
 'Let's Get It On', ICA publication re the "More Respect" black live arts season, 1995
 'Mirage, Enigmas of Race Difference and Desire', ICA publication 1995
 Cassell gay non fiction list 1994/95, 9 colour book jackets
 'Safer Sexy' a controversial safer sex guide for gay men, with Peter Tatchell, Cassell 1994
 'Making it Home' National Foster Care Association's 18th Birthday Book (portraits), 1993
 'The Council for National Academic Awards 1964-1993' Valedictory book featuring 33 plate portraits of key people in the polytechnic world, 1993

Also a range of annual reports, campaign materials and specially commissioned portraits, posters etc for a range of public sector organisations, charities, arts and voluntary organisations including:

Age Concern
Aston University
Carers National Association
English Theatre, Frankfurt
Government Equalities Office
ICA (Institute of Contemporary Art)
Landscape Institute
London University (Institute of Education)
London Borough of Islington
Lucent Technologies
Musgrave Group
National Foster Care Association
Oxford University
Prison Reform Trust
Probation Boards Association
Royal College of Midwives
Royal College of Nurses
Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra
Royal Society
Save The Children Fund
South Bank Employers Group
Terrence Higgins Trust
UKRC (UK Resource Centre for Women in Science, Engineering and Technology)

PERSONAL DATA

Born England 17 June 1958
Education Leicester University 1979-1982, Law Honours.
Trained and qualified barrister, called to The Bar (Gray's Inn) 1983.
Other work Rehabilitation through art, working with the Koestler Trust
www.koestlertrust.org.uk/

Sustainable development projects in Ghana with Friends of Tafo
www.friendsoftafo.org/

Chair of the international panel of judges for a European wide photography competition challenging assumptions about living with HIV, One Vision, 2004-7

Television: co-production of Black Divas, broadcast Chanel 4, 1996
Featured in the BBC's A Digital Image of Britain, 2006

Publishing in the UK and Nigeria 1983-1990.
(sex education, automotive engineering and cartography)

Royal Air Force (Air Traffic Control) 1975-1978

Photographic Agencies Holding My Work
Getty, Alamy, Autograph