

# SEEKER OF TRUTH

by Artist Yvette Michele Booth Editor: Yolonda Reed

**Detroit, MI**, Sometimes you have to reflect back on where you have come from in order to know where you are going. Gary Sieradski, a fellow Detroit and artisan that grew up on Detroit's east side, celebrates his past in his now. Four years ago his sister called him up and said to him there is a call for artist and I think you should enter your art. His sister was one of few people who knew about his art. He had it locked away in his basement all this time. He was selected along with one other artist. This is when it all came out of the basement because he knew at that moment that it had to be shared.

Gary stated during his interview that we are always carrying our history around with us. When he was a youngster he was not taught that art was something that he needed to do. He taught that he needed to do as a man. He was told that he should get a job and work with his hands in a different way as many Michiganders have in the auto factories or with the auto suppliers.

He lives with the highest of highs today, by being able to create art everyday. He is often found at art fairs selling his art and he is learning to embrace technology to share his gift. He often sells out during these fairs; this is a utopia for any artist who is emerging or established.

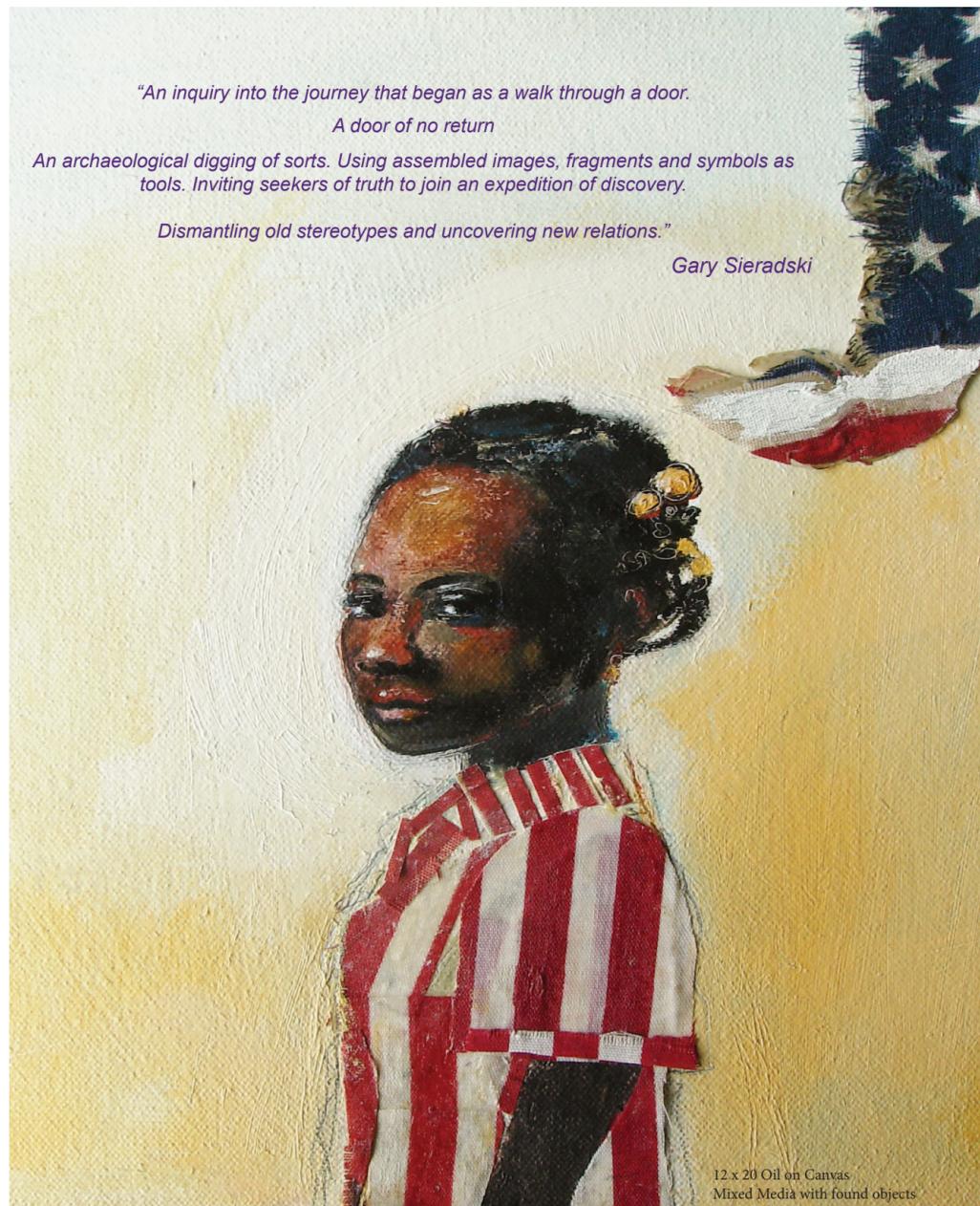
In 4 years he has sold over 500 works of art. He enjoys mixed media with oils and charcoals on wood. His work is realism as well as social political. His art is about his family's struggles and the struggles of BLACK people in America. He says that he purposely puts himself in other shoes and gets uncomfortable to be able to paint and create the essence as close as he can to their being. He doesn't mind being uncomfortable because of the gift that it gives him to share a different perspective.

Life did not always give him such an easy hand. For 15 years his family ostracized him for his choices in whom to love, where to live and how to be. It was in these choices that he became a father of three beautiful daughters who also created a source of inspiration for many of his works.

The charcoal pieces are actually one full piece and he adds etching around the piece. These etchings are a symbolism of the journey and history of African Americans.

He says the art is secondary to why he creates the art. It is his way of speaking. He does not title his pieces because he wants the viewer to come to have their own conversation with the art.

Sieradski currently resides in Lapeer, Michigan and can be contacted at [urban\\_arts56@yahoo.com](mailto:urban_arts56@yahoo.com).



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