To be an artist is to believe in life.

Henry Moore
6:00pm  CHAMPAGNE RECEPTION
7:00pm  WELCOME
7:15pm  TALKS
8:00pm  AUCTION
8:30pm  CLOSE

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The London Framing Studio
We are delighted to welcome you to Art for Amicus.

Imagine one of these artists, in his small, dark cell, painting or drawing or sculpting. In these moments, he can soar beyond the bars around him, temporarily losing himself in a bubble of creation.

Many of these artists would never have expected that these pieces would be in front of you in London tonight. This is a wonderful chance for them to share their work with you, and in turn for you to catch a glimpse of the men behind the prisoner numbers.

And that is the key aim behind this evening: to humanise our work. Art for Amicus gives a face to the many appalling statistics linked to injustice on death row.

Just as Frida Kahlo professed to paint her own reality, through art these men can create something greater than their tiny enclosure. Some have dedicated themselves to a particular path – Anthony Oliver has devoted himself to landscapes and Albert Jones places significance on the religious message in his handkerchiefs. Some use art to delve into their past and emotions – Keith Loker often abstractly looks at his personal history, while Young Blood McCray more overtly explores his ancestry. Colour and nature are very prevalent in the work of Royal Clark, Richard Knight and Douglas Dworak – a very poignant divergence from their current reality. Echoing Degas's words that "art is not what you see, but what you make others see", both Kenneth Reams and Daniel Gwynn use art as a mouthpiece to express their frustrations around the US justice system.
Capital defence attorneys remain under-resourced and over-worked, and the result is that many inmates face death having been denied their basic human right to a fair trial. In 1992, Andrew Lee Jones’s lack of adequate legal representation encouraged his penfriend Jane to found Amicus, promising Andrew that his name would live on. Over two decades later, our fight continues. Amicus coordinates c. 200 caseworkers with law firms in the UK, sends c. 30 interns a year to work in under-funded capital defence offices in the US, educates lawyers and students about these issues, and trains them in how to tackle them.

As the trustees of the charity, we’d like to thank Reginald D Hunter and Bob and Roberta Smith, our sponsors and, of course, you for making tonight possible. It is important to remember for whom we work and why. With your support, we can do more.

We’ll sign off with Henry Moore’s words, so poignant in this context: “To be an artist is to believe in life.”

Claire Jenkins
Jonathan Pockson
David Perkins
Joanne Cross
Mark George QC
Hannah Gorman
Reginald D Hunter was born in Albany, Georgia, and grew up to be the fourth funniest person in his family. He tried stand-up comedy in reaction to a £10 bet and hasn’t looked back since. He tours regularly and is now a staple of shows such as Have I Got News For You. He returned to the South in 2015 to explore its musical heritage in the BBC’s Songs of the South. Often attracting controversy, Reginald’s humour is sharp, intelligent and honest.
I'm genuinely honored and very pleased to have been asked to speak at this Art for Amicus event.

It is wonderful that Amicus is able to reach across the pond to offer legal assistance to those facing execution. What a strange, yet touching manifestation of the 'special relationship'! The US is not a country one immediately thinks of as being in need, but systems there are such that the odds are stacked against these men on death row - oftentimes, irrespective of whether or not they are guilty of the crimes of which they are accused. Having myself grown up in the Deep South in the post-civil rights era, I am no stranger to the harsh realities of inequality and social injustice in America.

The important work that Amicus does, raising awareness, placing interns in stretched capital defense offices throughout the States and managing hundreds of casework volunteers here in the UK, truly helps to make our global world a better place. Please join me in supporting the charity as wholeheartedly, as loudly and as generously as you can.

Yours, Reg
Bob and Roberta Smith was born as Patrick Brill in London. He worked as a sign-painter in New York, before harnessing these skills to fight for social change. His distinctive colourful slogans question elitism, politics (Make Art Not War, 1997) and education (Letter to Michael Gove, 2011), with anger as well as humour. A writer, musician, sculptor and activist, Bob is a former Tate trustee and current member of the Royal Academy. He firmly believes that art is a human right.
When I received the invitation to come and speak at Art for Amicus, I found the idea had a lot of resonance, as I'd just spent the day looking at prisoner art in London. But thank god we don't have death row in this country!

I am a strong advocate for the arts, and have spoken loudly and colourfully about the role of art in politics, education and the public arena. I believe that there is a growing understanding that art is about free expression, and that it forms an important element of all our human rights. Quite simply, art is part of democratic life.

We are all cultural beings. Art, images, artefacts, songs and culture are the principle means by which humans define themselves.

To deny inmates this is to dehumanise them.

I strongly support Art for Amicus, both as a vehicle through which the beauty, variety and poignancy of this artwork can be viewed, but also as a way of demonstrating that a man can and should not be reduced to a prisoner number.

Through the Amicus's work, inmates like these artists receive better access to justice and are ultimately treated with more fairness and dignity. Please stand by us and fight for justice on death row!

Best, Bob
WHAT IS ART FOR AMICUS?

Art for Amicus is a series of exhibitions in the UK of artwork by artists facing the death penalty throughout the US.

The exhibitions are comprised of pieces from death rows in California, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and Pennsylvania, and the media used include paint, pencil, pen, wood and cloth. One artist, due to restrictions on art supplies, has even painted with paintbrushes made from his own hair and 'paint' made from crushed colour pencils, flavoured drink mix and instant coffee.

The objectives of Art for Amicus are to:

• Highlight the importance of the arts to those in difficult circumstances; and

• Raise awareness here in the UK of the human rights issues surrounding the use of the death penalty.

"Art gives a voice"
WHY ART?

For our annual fundraiser this year, Amicus is showcasing the artwork of capital defendants for a number of reasons:

- Art humanises death row. The pieces remind us that there are living, breathing, creative individuals behind walls and bars across the US, waiting to be put to death. They bring into sharp focus the very real, very human impact of the various legal and social injustices at play in capital cases. These injustices are the reason for Amicus’ existence.

- Art offers so much to these most marginalised of men – solace, distraction, an outlet for expression, a chance to be more than just their prison ID numbers and to be defined by more than just their alleged crimes. As a public defender has told us, "truly, [art] is a reason to live on death row"; according to a former Amicus intern, "art is a lifeline".

- Art draws (pun intended!) people in. The visual nature of Art for Amicus helps viewers to connect with American criminal justice issues which are generally not at the forefront of public consciousness in the UK.

- Art, unfortunately, is not accessible to everyone. Access to materials differs widely across state lines. Some inmates benefit from relaxed rules on art supplies; others languish in solitary confinement without exposure to positive stimuli. This very much mirrors the arbitrariness of the implementation of the death penalty in the US. The race of the victim and of the perpetrator, the county in which the crime is committed and numerous other factors that simply should not influence the decision to execute, ultimately do.

to the voiceless.”

Bob and Roberta Smith
Amicus is a fair trials charity that fights for justice on death row in the United States. We believe we can make the greatest difference on the frontline, by helping to provide legal assistance to those facing execution. Be it as an Amicus intern, a caseworker, a training delegate or as a valued attendee or sponsor of our awareness-raising events, please do get involved.

**INTERNSHIPS**

As a child you learn what fairness is when you first suffer unfairness. As an Amicus intern you learn what justice is when you see and fight injustice. This is a life-defining experience.

Maximilian Hardy - New Orleans, Louisiana

Amicus places legal interns in pre-trial, appellate and research offices of capital defence attorneys throughout the US - we currently have 18 affiliate offices across 11 different states. Many US defender offices operate within severe funding constraints. Amicus interns provide vital support and carry out work that simply would not be done without them.

**CASEWORK**

We would never have been able to quickly locate the documents that supported a life resolution in this case had it not been for the work of the Amicus volunteers. Their detailed work allowed us to operate efficiently and effectively and, at the end of the day, provide the facts in support of a plea that saved our client's life.

Kathryn Kase - Texas Defender Service, Texas

The Amicus casework programme provides remote support for capital defenders in the US faced with tight timescales and limited resources. We have up to 200 volunteer caseworkers in law firms and barristers chambers throughout the city of London working on up to eight different cases, including Supreme Court, federal and state level cases, at any given time.

Amicus caseworkers have assisted with motions, such as those against the use of gruesome photographs and on the use of lethal injection as a means of execution, clemency petitions and applications to the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights in capital cases. *Amicus curiae* - literally, "friend of the court" - briefs prepared by Amicus volunteers contributed to the abolition of capital punishment for juveniles and the intellectually disabled.
TRAINING

The speakers at training were truly inspirational. The knowledge I gained of the US legal system served me well in carrying out casework projects.

Rianne McCartney - Solicitor and Amicus caseworker

Amicus runs a comprehensive bi-annual training programme in US capital defence law and procedure, legal research, evidence and professional conduct. It is attended by approximately 300-400 participants each year. The training equips Amicus interns and caseworkers to be of maximum use to capital defenders in the US and exposes all attendees to the human rights violations surrounding the use of the death penalty.

It also features talks by death row exonerees Peter Pringle and Sunny Jacobs. Sunny and her first husband, Jesse Tafero, were both implicated in the shooting of two police officers in Florida in 1976. Sunny served 17 years before her conviction was overturned: Jesse was executed in 1990, despite significant ongoing doubt about his guilt. Peter’s story also started with the death of two policemen - during a bank raid in Ballaghdereen, Ireland. His conviction was finally quashed after 15 years of incarceration when evidence of his innocence was brought to light, including evidence that his 'confession' had been written before he’d even been interviewed.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

In 2005, Amicus concluded a three-year project, funded by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, based on detailed research conducted by over 60 Amicus interns placed in offices in every US capital punishment state, with the publication of two reports: Vienna Convention Compliance in Capital Cases in the United States and Executions of Juveniles and Mentally Retarded Defendants in the United States.

In 2015, Amicus again received funding from the Foreign & Commonwealth Office to investigate the potential arbitrary application of the death penalty in Missouri. Missouri’s Supreme Court has a rich source of well-documented empirical data containing specific details of capital punishment cases. Criminologist Professor Raymond Paternoster is leading the team in exploring and analysing this hitherto untapped information.

EVENTS

Amicus holds numerous awareness-raising events throughout the year, including: talks, film nights, yoga sessions and university presentations across the country.

In the lead-up to this event, Amicus organised teaser exhibitions in London, including in law firms Baker & McKenzie, Linklaters and Kingsley Napley, in barristers chambers Doughty Street, 39 Essex Chambers and 9 Bedford Row, and in the Amnesty International Human Rights Action Centre.
Amicus was founded in memory of Andrew Lee Jones.

Andrew was born in rural Louisiana, the seventh child out of 14, into a black sharecropping family. His life changed after the death of his father, when the family was evicted from their home. Andrew soon fell into petty crime.

In 1984, Andrew was charged with the murder of his ex-girlfriend's daughter. His jury was all-white. Andrew was found guilty.

Not only did the prosecutor strike all the black jurors - she never informed Andrew's defence, despite her legal obligation to do so, that two weeks after his arrest a state psychiatrist diagnosed Andrew with psychosis. Andrew himself was told that the powerful anti-psychotic drugs he was given were sleeping pills. During sentencing, Andrew's court-appointed defence lawyer failed to inform the jury of any of the following as mitigating evidence:

- Andrew had an IQ of 77 and had never progressed beyond the second grade in school;
- Andrew suffered from organic brain damage; and
- Andrew had become addicted to drugs as a teenager and experienced psychotic episodes throughout his adult life.

Little funding was available to conduct a mental health evaluation of Andrew. In any case, his lawyer did not even request funding.

The jury duly sentenced Andrew to death.

On 19 July 1991, the Board of Pardons met to hear final pleas for clemency from witnesses and appeals from the defence. Discussion of guilt or innocence is not part of this procedure. Andrew's mother, brothers and sister and Jane Officer, his UK penfriend, begged for his life, and a psychiatrist and a psychologist testified regarding the family situation and Andrew's state of mind.
Finally, the defence lawyer from Andrew's 1984 trial gave evidence. He apologised for not giving Andrew a fair defence. Less than five years out of law school, he had not been qualified to conduct capital trials. He had received the papers only a short time prior to the trial and saw Andrew only occasionally beforehand.

However, clemency was denied. On 22 July 1991, Andrew was executed by the State of Louisiana. He was the last person in the state to be executed by the electric chair.

If our interns and caseworkers had been at hand to help in the 1980s, then Andrew might still be alive today. In memory of Andrew, and in recognition of the need for adequate legal representation when facing the ultimate penalty, Amicus was retired schoolteacher Jane's reply to the injustices of Andrew's case caused by poor lawyering.

Jane, on the origins of the charity:

*In May 1990, I started writing to a prisoner on death row in Louisiana...Little did I know that within 15 months I'd be in America for the first time in my life for his execution. Andrew was the last person to be executed in the electric chair in Louisiana. As a result of going over for that event, after our friendship had developed and being with his family, I wanted to see if there was anything we could do on this side of the Atlantic to support the lawyers who have such a very difficult job trying to defend their clients towards the ends of their lives.*

*And talking with Andrew's lawyers after the Pardon Board hearing I said, as you would, "Is there anything we can do to?" to which the straight reply was that "Yes, we need more people."*

Good legal representation could have saved Andrew's life. Instead, his death led to the forming of Amicus.
Several pieces by the artists featured in this event will be auctioned tonight.

Others items include:

Seven-day stay in farmhouse in south of France

Tickets to see Reginald D Hunter and meet him afterwards

Performance by Bob and Roberta Smith’s Apathy Band

Private tour of Middle Temple hall and library with lunch

One-night stay with Small Luxury Hotels
If Tauno Waidla were a Buddhist, he would believe he was an artist in a previous life. According to photos, he began drawing and painting before his first memory. His great-uncle was a photographer and inspired in him an interest in the arts from a young age, by taking him to theatres and art studios.

Now far removed from his native Estonia, Tauno says that through “painting, or writing novels, I have managed to keep dreaming, picturing myself producing works of art in Europe as Finn the mysterious Estonian.”
Although the subjects of Daniel’s paintings are wide-ranging, they are often figurative and sometimes politically charged. He uses acrylic paint on canvas with a high-gloss varnish finish.

He finds painting is a way of passing his time on death row. He says that "[a]lthough my resources are very limited, I still try to do what I can."
RICHARD KNIGHT
#L36345
Florida
On death row since 2007

Richard grew up in Jamaica, where he started to draw to recreate the toys that his family couldn't afford. Although he struggled academically, he says he was always good with his hands. Now, he uses pens and pencils to draw portraits and his signature hummingbirds to "put smiles on people's faces".

He believes that "art has kept me out of trouble at prison." He says that he enjoys creating and that art gives him a sense of purpose. Richard feels "free when I sit down and start drawing. It is my escape from these bars!"
Robert Butts  
#870071  
Georgia  
On death row since 1999

Robert was a prolific artist. Across the years, he has produced work with a variety of media including paints, pens and pencils. Now his artwork is more restricted.

In his own words, "back in 2005 they banned our art program and took away most of our art supplies. I did alot [sic] of drawings with material that I had left behind until even that ran out. So I don't have much to work with and as a result having [sic] been doing very much these past few years."
FRANK Y.B. MCCRAY  Arizona  
#42891  On death row since 2005

Young Blood describes himself as being "half Native American 'Cherokee' and half white man", born on the Cherokee Indian reservation in Oklahoma. Although he hasn’t been back since he was a young boy, he has "never once forgotten who I am and where I come from."

He says that because art supplies are banned on Arizona’s death row, he makes his own paint with crushed up coloured pencil leads, Kool-Aid drink mix and instant coffee. His paint brushes are formed from his own hair.
DOUGLAS DWORAK  California  
#V-85905  On death row since 2005

Douglas is "just a country boy who misses the wild places and wild things". The prevalence of nature is very strong throughout his work and he finds "satisfaction in creating something positive". For him, art a good way to pass the time, or as he puts it "more art = less television". He also uses it to connect with his family who really enjoy his work.

Douglas uses mostly biro pens in his art, occasionally with some colour felt tip and pencil. He says that he is "still learning with each piece I do."
KEITH LOKER

California
On death row since 1995

Keith is working on becoming an artist. He says currently he is just "silently yelling through each scene... in voices that do not convey all my thoughts nor all the truths." He is also aiming to find his own voice, like the artists who he admires.

Art is a means by which Keith maintains his focus on death row. Of prison he says, "[t]his environment is designed and managed to restrain all movements... [of] minds, spirits, and bodies". Through art, Keith is able to explore his past, as each scene he paints is chosen for personal reasons.
Paul G. Taylor
#BT-2525
Pennsylvania
On death row since 1992

Paul did his first drawing at the age of 12; it was of a quarter moon with a smiling face. A self-taught artist, he began painting while on death row and experiments with paints, pastel and pencil. He particularly enjoys working with acrylic because he finds that it flows and mixes how he wants it to.

Growing up he "spent a lot of time in the woods just to look at the beauty of nature, in all it's [sic] glory", and this interest is reflected in the subject of his work. He says that he likes to stay busy and that "creating artworks and mixing colors is a joy beyond words."
Anthony Oliver

#H-79800

California
On death row since 1993

Although Anthony’s interest in art started at an early age, it wasn’t until he was in prison 17 years ago, when he began to practise. When he came across landscape painting, he believes he found himself as an artist.

Each one of what he calls Oliver’s Original Expressive Landscapes is created entirely from memory and imagination. Art has changed him since he’s been doing landscapes, because “they just flow out of me. The brush is merely an extension of me.” He hopes that perhaps his audience will see “what I have to offer not just as a painter, but as a real person.”
Albert has been working towards "making my life here on death row a better one". He was inspired to start creating when he noticed others drawing. He describes himself as a very positive and honest person and his aim in making art is to "make people smile."

Albert doesn’t think that his work is the prettiest, but he believes his purpose is to create to spread the word of God. This makes him happy and proud. Art has changed him because it has opened him up spiritually to other people.
ROYAL CLARK
#J-51100
California
On death row since 1995

Royal's work is vibrant and colourful, largely focusing on nature. He started practising art simply as a pastime, but now he sees art in everything and "my view of the world is completely different". He is keen to continue to perfect his skills and to learn more.

Royal is proud of every painting he has finished. He creates art "out of love" and it makes him feel "relaxed and joyful". He defines art as "complete freedom of creativity".
KENNETH REAMS
#000927
Arkansas
On death row since 1993

Although people have often said to Kenneth that he has talent, he's only recently begun defining himself as a serious artist. He creates with speed, "like water coming out of a faucet". He says he can feel the energy of what he's doing. Through his art, his purpose is now to educate about the history of the death penalty and solitary confinement, subjects on which he believes everyone has an opinion, but few have real knowledge.

On prison, Kenneth says that "time you've been given is valuable time". He says that rather than "staring at walls, I have found myself asking questions".
Who Lives Who Dies Who Decides is a compilation of artwork about the practice and history of capital punishment in the United States.

This is the first project of young non-profit Who Decides. Created by Arkansas death row inmate Kenneth Reams, its mission is to educate the public about capital punishment, using visual art, poetry and performance to bring individuals together and to spark critical dialogue.

The content of this exhibition covers more than 400 years of US death penalty history through various mediums and perspectives: the crime, the victims, the condemned, the methods of executions and the law. Reams and artist Isabelle Watson (Ize) have collaborated for this first exhibition, and they welcome artistic donations on the topic of the death penalty as the project moves forward. The ultimate goal is to build a national death penalty museum.
Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP and the NAACP Legal Defense Fund congratulate Who Decides for its spectacular first international art show. Kenneth Reams’ art, through his use of visually striking images and haunting narratives, provokes discussion and thoughts about capital punishment and solitary confinement. It has been a pleasure on our part to see his work change and evolve over the years, and we look forward to seeing his creative endeavors in the years to come.

This show would not be possible without the unflagging support of many. Isabelle Watson has not only contributed some of her incredibly compelling artwork to this show, but she has also provided unceasing support of Who Decides’ vision and goals. Partnering with Amicus for this show was an obvious perfect match, thanks to their many years of dedication to insuring US death row inmates have adequate representation. Their work on this issue is crucial and gives voice to people who are so often silenced.
Proud to support Art for Amicus, and to help the fight for justice on death row.

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We are proud supporters, sponsors and case workers on Amicus cases dealing with those facing the death penalty in the United States.

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ArtReach
@DeathRowArtists

Art for Amicus includes several pieces from ArtReach.

ArtReach comprises the work of many artists on death row in San Quentin, California.

In April 2015, Nicola visited her penfriend in San Quentin, after six years of correspondence. He explained how many inmates use creative expression to escape their present circumstances. ArtReach was born out of the idea of offering these artists a platform to express themselves and to share their art.

The project grew in scale over the following year. Every day was Christmas with envelopes of paintings tumbling through the letterbox. Nicola was amazed with the quantity and calibre of work sent to her, and formed personal relationships with many of the artists.

An artist herself, Nicola uses items foraged from the beaches of the Thames to create collages and small sculptures for her Tideline Art. She gives these discarded objects a new purpose and a second chance as works of art. Through ArtReach, she aims to bring those on the fringes of society into the limelight, reminding us that often "these men do have something of value to contribute."
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A team of lawyers in our London office works closely with Amicus, providing case review assistance to help provide representation to those facing the death penalty in the United States.

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“I’ve really enjoyed learning about these artists on death row as I’ve drawn their portraits for Amicus.”

Josh is a young artist, living and working in London. He loves people and he really loves painting and drawing people.

Josh has completed numerous works to commission and has exhibited paintings in several small exhibitions. Please contact him if you are interested in discussing a commission.

www.joshgabbatiss.co.uk
info@joshgabbatiss.co.uk
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To sign up, please visit www.amicus-alj.org/how-help/membership.

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THANK YOU
Art is the highest form of hope.

Gerhard Richter