

DAVID BOTELLO – Biographical Information

July 24, 2008

I was born on September 24, 1946, in Los Angeles California, to Mike and Josie Botello, the eldest son of 9 children. My father was a carpenter, who would make sketches of cabinets for side jobs, that he did on weekends. He taught me to use tools and encouraged me to draw when I was very young. My two grandfathers Salvador Botello and Roberto Rivas, who came from Mexico when they were young boys, were cooks for big restaurants in downtown Los Angeles. They showed me the value of hard work and perseverance. My grandmothers were born in this country and their families go back here for generations. In many ways they also gave me a love for the land and how to make things grow. My mother hand colored photos at home when I was very young and her sister, Tia Gloria, sketched cartoons as a hobby and she gave me my first set of oil paints, when I was 15 years old. I have collected comics and art books most of my life.

I was inspired with a Catholic education and in being a good artist by my teachers and parents. I did very well with art, at Salesian High School, Cal State LA and East Los Angeles College; and in the U.S. Army, where I did my first small mural at Ft. Hood, Texas. My eyes were opened to beauty by traveling in Germany, Rome and Barcelona in 1966-67, and Mexico in 1970. This was before I started painting murals in East Los Angeles in 1971.

I helped form two very productive Art groups. The first was Goetz Art Gallery and Studios in 1970, and the other is East Los Streetscapers in 1975. With the brothers John and Joe Gonzalez, we made Goetz a focal point for local artists to finally have a place to show, sell and create art. This was, my college education in painting, murals, sculpture, and design and art restoration. With Wayne Healy, as the Streetscapers, I have expanded greatly my exposure and production of public art, including huge exterior murals, canvas murals, porcelain enamel, glazed ceramic tile and 3 dimensional concrete art pieces. Also by maintaining a high profile among L.A. artists, I have been invited to participate in many art shows, and have been included in many publications.

Simultaneously, during this time, since 1968, I have been involved in the advertising art field with the furniture and retail industries, illustrating and designing. Presently I work in theme park maintenance and set painting at Universal Studios Hollywood. Everything and almost everyone I've been involved with has kept "me in Practice and Intune" with my creative side and with educating myself in new medias. I've used this knowledge in my art and it's promotion.

