

COVER ARTIST: MICHAEL DIVINE



Michael Divine

Front and back cover:
Only Love Can (Reign Over Me)
 Acrylic/Canvas, 54" x 32"

The paintings I make create a backdrop to our lives—these ordinary and extraordinary lives that we lead. They reflect back both the mundanity and the extraordinariness. They become points of departure, growth, and intimacy. It was challenging some-

times to go back to this painting when there'd be strife or despair and I'd be left feeling like I'm wringing light from painted diamonds.

And so that is this painting: it is simply me lifting you, me—all of us—up as best I can.

Looking for a title, I'd been calling it Rain then Violet had used the word "Reign". I recalled "Love Reign Over Me"—a song from The Who—and though I'm not much of a fan of The Who, I found this bit of writing from Pete Townshend regarding the song to be relevant:

"Love Reign Over Me refers to Meher Baba's one time comment that rain was a blessing from God; that thunder was God's Voice. It's another plea to drown, only this time in the rain. Jimmy goes through a suicide crisis. He surrenders to the inevitable, and you know, you know, when it's over and he goes back to town he'll be going through the same shit, being in the same terrible family situation and so on, but he's moved up a level. He's weak still, but there's a strength in that weakness. He's in danger of maturing."—Pete Townshend (From the liner notes of *Quadrophenia*)

In those crystalline moments of realization, when we see everything so clearly. It's all just light and shadow, contrast, an ebbing and flowing. It's just life. And we can keep our heads hung low but, really, it's love that makes us look up, that causes us to open our eyes. To see. I think that only love can do that and it is some spark within us—this unquenchable fire—that is ignited again.

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I mostly live and paint in California. In my work, I look for the most beautiful expression of the varieties of human experiences, exploring and inspired by the vast spectrum of that dance. To view more details of this painting as well as many others, I invite you to visit my website: TenThousandVisions.com. If you'd like to contact me, you can write me here: Michael@TenThousandVisions.com.

Reports from Allied Organizations

We have invited the directors of COMPASS Pathways, Heffter Research Institute, and the Usona Institute to speak for themselves and share with the MAPS Bulletin readership the progress of their drug development programs and plans for the future. Articles from COMPASS and Heffter are included in this issue. Usona has elected to share their article in an upcoming publication.

Since its inception, MAPS has espoused the principles of open science by openly sharing information with researchers, therapists, doctors, practitioners, companies, organizations, enthusiasts, and explorers seeking to increase their scope of understanding of psychedelics. The nature of MAPS' relationship with COMPASS Pathways is the same as with any other research organization in the psychedelic space: to share scientific information openly and freely in order to advance our non-profit mission (maps.org/mission).

MAPS has chosen for reasons of ethics and responsibility to develop psychedelics into prescription medicines through a public benefit corporation, wholly owned by the non-profit MAPS. In this way, social benefit is built into the charter and structure of the organization, and any potential profit will be channeled back into funding future psychedelic research, rather than to individual investors. However, this is not the only way forward.

Until recently, the psychedelic research field has been occupied almost solely by non-profit organizations and academic institutions. As we move into a new era of psychedelic research and medicine there is, and will continue to be, increasing interest from for-profit companies to participate in expanding psychedelic research and medicine. MAPS' responsibility as a leader in this field is to create a standard of care and to model governance in a way that remains responsible, ethical, and accessible.

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