



ARTISANS OF IMAGERY

Brian Smith



FACE TO FACE

THE SONY ARTISANS OF IMAGERY PROGRAM INCLUDES SOME OF THE MOST RESPECTED PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS IN THE WORLD, WHO SHARE THEIR INSIGHT AND EXPERTISE WITH OTHER SONY USERS. WE'RE PROUD TO INTRODUCE YOU TO THIS ISSUE'S FEATURED ARTISAN OF IMAGERY, BRIAN SMITH.



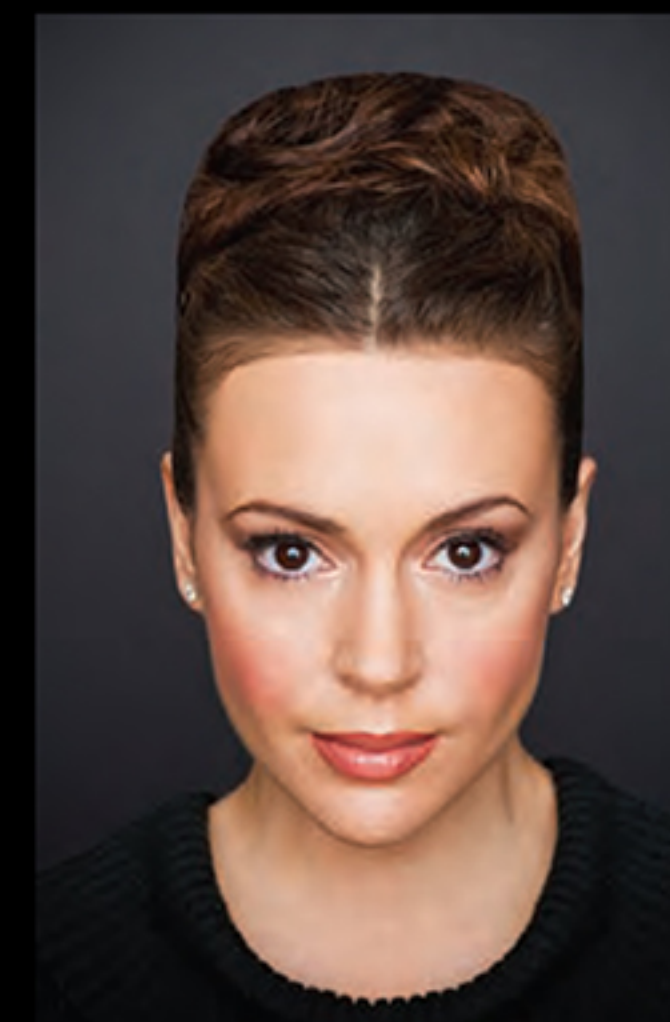
A portrait is more than a flash and a pretty face. It's an art form. Deny that and answer to Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer Brian Smith and a slew of celebrities involved in his latest project, fittingly entitled *Art & Soul*.



At 20, Brian had his first *Life* magazine cover. By 25, he had won the Pulitzer Prize. And for the last 30 years, he's been creating jaw-dropping portraits of actors, musicians, athletes and everyone in between, from Pope John Paul II to hardcore rapper D.M.X. to nude golfers in Florida and Richard Branson in a spacesuit on the beach of his private island. If you've ever picked up an issue of *Sports Illustrated*, *Time*, *ESPN the Magazine*, *Forbes* and countless others, you're sure to have seen his photographs radiating from the covers.

Art & Soul was brought to Brian by the Creative Coalition—a nonprofit organization dedicated to spreading awareness on important issues within the creative community. Sponsored by

Sony, *Art & Soul* is a portrait and testimonial book harnessing celebrity voices to stress the importance of art in our lives and to build support for funding of the arts.



Brian photographed over 200 celebrities, including Tony Bennett, Anne Hathaway, Samuel L. Jackson, Alyssa Milano and Harry Belafonte. Working within the confines of a small room enabled Brian to make the portraits even more intimate—and proved his theory of composition: Less is usually more. "Boiling it down to the essence is one of the best things you can learn to do photographically," he says. Since these images are meant to highlight the subjects' creativity, each portrait was shot with the same black backdrop and lighting, making the celebrities' personality the one element that sets them apart. "Connecting with your subjects and revealing something unique about their personality is key to being a successful portrait photographer," says Brian.