

Marine Arts Gallery

Presents

SHANE MICHAEL COUCH



Clipper Ship Henry B Hyde New York Harbor
Oil, 32x48, overall 42x58

Shane Michael Couch was born in Lancashire, near Liverpool, England in 1963. His father, uncle and grandfather all served in the Navy so his youth was filled with stories of the great ships that were built and sailed from the nearby River Mersey. From the Trans Atlantic Packets and Clippers to the great Cunard and White Star liners, Couch spent many hours studying the huge collections in the Liverpool Museum. He worked as an aeronautical engineer for many years then moved to Cowes on the Isle of Wight, the world famous center of yachting. Living and working on the Isle of Wight, and being surrounded by water, he was inspired by the great yacht races of the past. He extensively researched the history of yachting, both in England and in America, collecting original race reports for the whole period of 1868-1914, and many original line plans of the great schooners and sloops of that period. He was particularly interested in the history of the great international schooner races of the 1870's, and of the rivalry between the American Cutter and Sloop of the 1880's. In 1997 he was commissioned by the German Yachting Historian, "Dr. Kiristin Lamerting," to depict the German Kaiers five Meteors racing together to be used for her book "Meteor".

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