

# Go West



**B**rian West is another example of exceptional talent nestling in the suburbs of the town. The Independent newspaper describes him as 'sports artist to the sports elite' the Daily Mail quoted him as 'the UK's leading football artist' - amazing accolades to say the least.

Brian's interest in art began at a young age. It was his junior school teacher however who encouraged him to enrol at Mansfield Art School and from the age of nine he attended additional art classes learning how to handle charcoal, colour mixing & perspective. With

a successful career in engineering, Brian had little time for his passion and opportunities to exhibit were rare, but in 1990 he decided to become a professional artist and having painted some of the most influential names in sport - including Gary Lineker & David Gower - he hasn't looked back.

Sport was a natural choice of subject for Brian "I was a keen sports-player myself, playing football or cricket every daylight hour when I was younger." His knowledge of sport has come in very handy "a great deal of my work has been sports action-

studies and commissions." His clients not only include famous sports personalities but also clubs and their sponsors. "Very often I am asked to capture a favourite action moment or achievement of a player or club and sometimes it is purchased as a gift for the manager or chairman. Sport often merges with the commercial world, as I also paint company montages for businesses helping to promote their corporate images in a unique way"

Brian is recognised for his style of painting which he describes as 'the colour of movement.' His paintings

convey a sense of movement and drama as if the picture was being played out in slow-motion. This technique lends itself to recording legendary moments in sporting history, not only in football and cricket, but also athletics, sailing, horse racing and many other sports.

Being local, Brian is just as happy painting people & pets portraits, wildlife or local scenes. "I work off existing photos or I can take my own to get necessary detail and a feel for the subject." Brian even paints for himself in his spare time and has a number of stunning pieces of icon Bob Dylan which hang proudly at his home.

Such has been the enthusiasm for his work that Brian's son has recently designed a new website [www.brianwestart.com](http://www.brianwestart.com) to showcase his range of paintings including private commissions, sporting legends and his prints allow every sports fan to have their very own Brian West painting at a fraction of the cost of an original.

Even the top names in football have something to say, "Brian's work is increasing in value and is obviously getting the recognition that it rightly deserves" said Sir Alex Ferguson of Manchester United Football Club.

Brian's work is on display throughout November in the Butter Market in Newark

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