

# Kenneth J. Cooper



**KENNETH J. COOPER** a Pulitzer Prize winner, has been a newspaper reporter and editor for nearly 30 years, specializing in government, politics and social policy, at the Washington Post, Boston Globe, Knight Ridder, St. Louis American and St. Louis Post-Dispatch. In 1984, Cooper, then 28, shared a Pulitzer Prize in special local reporting for his role in producing "The Race Factor", a Boston Globe series that examined institutional racism in Boston. Cooper covered the nation's capital for a dozen years, reporting on the presidential campaign of Michael Dukakis, welfare reform and health policy for Knight Ridder. For the Washington Post, he covered education policy and Congress, including the "Republican revolution" that took control of Congress in 1994. He also wrote a monthly column on Washington, "Capital Scene," for Emerge magazine. From 1996 to 1999, Cooper was the Post's correspondent for South Asia, reporting on India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and the Maldives from his base in New Delhi. In his second stint at the Boston Globe, he was its National Editor from 2001 to 2005. Cooper started his newspaper career at the St. Louis American, a small weekly, a month before graduating from college. Within a year, he moved to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

=====



**Lucilda Dassardo-Cooper** is an American artist of Indian and African ancestry who was born in the Caribbean island of Jamaica and has lived in the USA since 1971. Now a citizen of the United States, she has represented her country at India's 9th Triennale with paintings from her Veiled Presence Series of sari-clad women from the Indian sub-continent.

Since childhood, she has been "a seeker of wisdom and truth" which has led to her interest in philosophy and study of yoga, bringing a universal perspective to her art. Moving beyond traditional mindsets enforced by race, culture, national origin and religion, she muses on universal themes, employing cross-cultural symbols as icons in expressing her vision.

From an early age, Lucilda knew her life's mission is to be an artist before meeting any artists.

In the lush and tranquil tropical island of Jamaica, she enjoyed an idyllic childhood communing with nature. Long hours of solitary play in her garden chasing butterflies, and floating above the shallow, sandy bay of the Caribbean Sea watching the fishes play between the sparkles of sunlight has bonded her to the natural world. In solitary introspection and communion with the natural environment, she became aware of the underlying pulsation of the manifesting universe.

Resonating in harmony with life, her images are contemporary expressions of her concerns and experiences. Her work has been described as visionary; invoking a sense of serenity and feelings of tranquility that gives them a presence similar to standing at the top of a mountain enjoying the view.