

- Fall 2004 -

## From The Artist

This summer saw the creation of the strangest and most enjoyable commission I can ever remember doing. Bill Shirk, the world's foremost escape artist, asked me to do a painting of him in the midst of a harrowing escape. The final image had him bound in a straight jacket, struggling with a massive Burmese Python, while hanging upside down from a burning rope over a pit of lions and tigers! (Whew...takes the meaning of "wildlife art" to a new level) Look for the image on my originals page.

I've recently begun work on an 18" x 24" painting of a Verreaux's sifaka – a lemur of Madagascar. The lemur is completed and I'm just getting started on the background. A painting this size, done photorealistically will often take two or more months to complete. But with any luck it will be on the site by the end of October, so check in around early November and see what you think!"

## In The Works



Detail, "Solitaire #2 - Casmerodius Albus"  
Deweese Island, Acrylic on board, 8" x 16"  
\$1,400.00

"Solitaire #2" is a small painting depicting an early morning encounter with a Great Egret that Mark experienced while visiting Deweese Island. The island is a unique location near Charleston, SC. All of the homes on the island follow strict environmental standards and transportation is limited to electric vehicles. The result is an island teeming with indigenous plant and animal life, gorgeous homes, and homeowners with exquisite vistas. Mark has visited this beautiful little island several times and will be doing larger paintings of the animals and landscapes in the near future. Please visit his website again and look for more of these beautiful images of Deweese Island and South Carolina's coastline.

## Upcoming Events

- Carmel International Arts Festival - Carmel, Indiana, September 25th and 26th. Mark Kelso participating artist. For festival information call (317) 844-4989
- Waterfowl Festival - Easton, Maryland, November 12th, 13th, and 14th. Mark Kelso participating artist. For Festival information visit [www.waterfowlfestival.org](http://www.waterfowlfestival.org) or call (410) 822-4567
- Plantation Wildlife Arts Festival - Thomasville, Georgia, November 19th, 20th, and 21st. Mark Kelso participating artist. For festival information call (229) 226-0588
- Germanton Gallery's Annual Miniature Show - Germanton, North Carolina, December 3rd, 4th, and 5th. Mark Kelso participating artist. For show information call toll free 1(800) 322-2894