



## ‘Rise up you old goat and paint your silent songs’

#itsamilo



Milo believes freedom is a way to live, an unending verb and not a static noun.

LEADER PHOTO BY CHRIS MCDANIEL



Posted Wednesday, July 3, 2019 3:00 am

**Chris McDaniel**

[cmcdaniel@ptleader.com](mailto:cmcdaniel@ptleader.com)

If one could see sounds, what would that look like?  
Probably a painting by Milo Redwood.

“They are silent songs,” said Redwood during an interview in his paint studio on Water Street in Port Townsend. “Honestly it sounds weird, but I think they are mostly musical.”

Redwood, 58, whose birth name was Roger Neal Hager, is a prolific painter in the contemporary art form whose paintings have begun to attract the attention of stars in the music industry, in no small part because of his partnership with Wyeth “B” Barclay.

B spent years as a performer and producer in the record industry, spending over a decade working with hip hop group Bone Thugs-N-Harmony.

“I have been around art my whole life, but I was in the music industry,” Barclay said. “I didn’t care about that world, the visual arts or the wall arts.”

That all changed when Barclay heard tell of Redwood while sipping java at Better Living Through Coffee. Eventually, B made his way into Milo’s studio.

“It was like walking into Pablo Picasso’s studio before Picasso was Picasso.”

B knew he had stumbled on something special, and was taking the first steps onto the road of the next great adventure in his life.



# Milo: A Luddite and a wizard of hype team up

continued from page B1

for the modern hyperconnected world of social media.

"Milo doesn't even email," B said.

"I have never texted in my life," Redwood added. "I don't know how."

If B needs to get into contact with Redwood, he must rely on somewhat outdated technology.

"I have to call him on a landline and leave a message," B said incredulously. "He actually returns messages from a message machine, which is great."

Since B is a millennial, and has many years of experience in the music industry, he knows how to network and build hype.

With B as his manager, Redwood is able to focus on his art.

"Don't worry about the destination," B told Milo. "Create. I got the destination. You just keep doing what you do."

## 'FREEDOMING'

Before becoming a full-time artist, Redwood bounced around from job to job, living an average white collar life.

"I was a realtor. I worked a desk in a bank. I made decent money on and off, but I was living someone else's life. It wasn't my life."

Being in the 9 to 5 rat race just wasn't fulfilling Redwood on an intrinsic level, he said.

Then, in 1996, Redwood landed in Port Townsend. Roger Neal Hager became Milo Redwood. It was a breakthrough, a new beginning, he said.

"It was a rebirth. I managed to become free from the chains I myself had invented and put on myself. Because I am a hard-headed man, I had to try them and let them burn up."

That acceptance of freedom was just the beginning, Redwood said.

"It continues. Life is a verb. Freedom is a verb. It is hard to explain. I am freeing."

That life philosophy is embedded in Redwood's latest project, "Windows of Liberation."

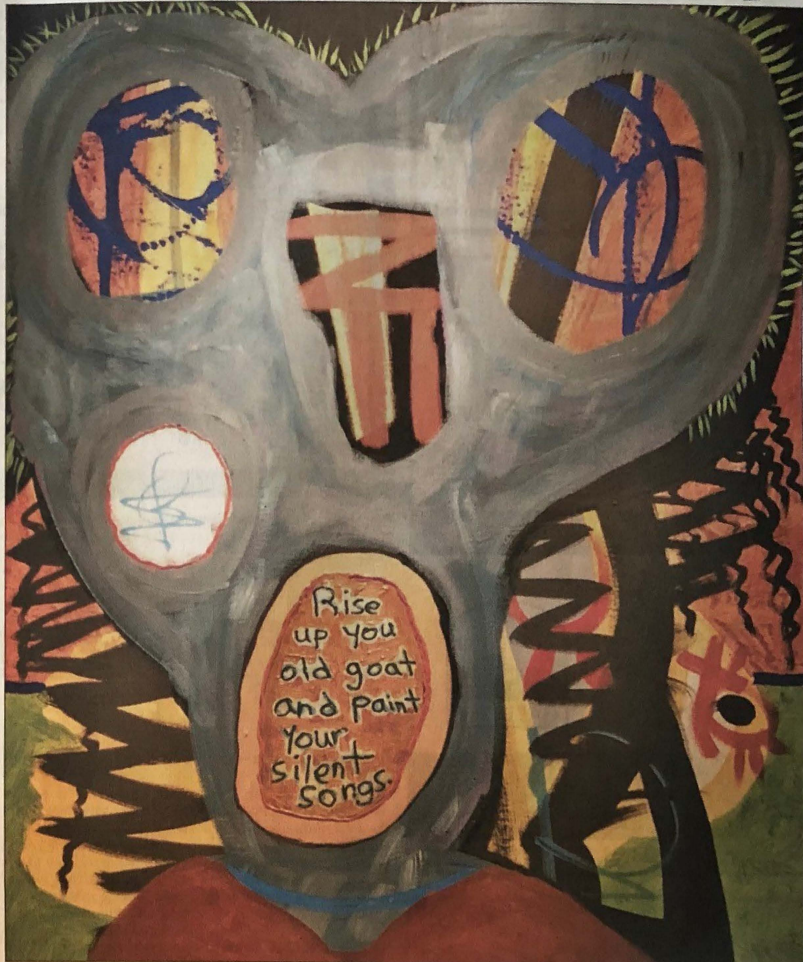
"I look at life itself as flow," Redwood said. "Every time your heart beats, you are different. This is a classic Heraclides line; 'you don't step in the same river twice.'"

With that in mind, no two paintings can ever be the same because the Redwood creating the art is himself not the same from moment to moment.

"I don't have a typical piece," he said. "They are so different. One is six months and it still is not finished whereas this I started last night, and it could be finished today."

Redwood paints near continuously, always in seclusion. His body of work continues to grow exponentially.

The only constant in his work is the presence of music, he said, both auditorily and theoretically.



This painting was given as a gift from Milo to B, and represents their joint mission. Courtesy photo

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	1			4			8	
2	9			3			6	
		5	7			1		3
	6		9			2		
5				7		3		
4	9		8					7
1			3	2	4			
	7			4			1	
		4			9			2

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

## DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

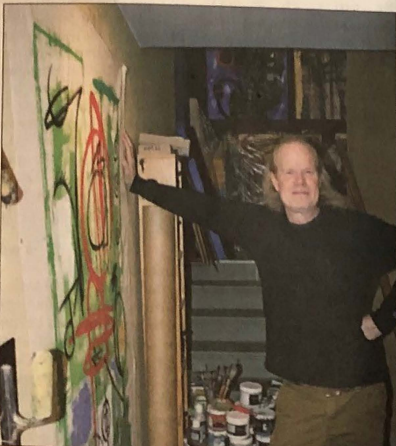
© 2019 King Features Synd., Inc.

"I can't really explain it but it has something to do with clarity, energy receptivity," Redwood said. "It gets to be musical. If you are in a band or have been in a band, that feeling of timelessness when you are in the zone, that's it. If I am in the zone, that has a lot to do with how the painting comes through. The more pure the zone, the faster the painting."

There is a ritual for the process, although none have seen it save Redwood.

Over the last year, part of that ritual has been listening to Bebop jazz from the late 1930s through the mid-1940s.

see *Liberation*, page B5



Milo paints in seclusion, part of his ritual for getting into the zone. Leader photo by Chris McDaniel

## Building Momentum

MILO REDWOOD HAS PARTNERED WITH THE CODA GALLERY IN PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA TO DISPLAY HIS NEW SERIES. CODA DESCRIBES HIM AS "THE 5TH MYSTIC," AND OFFERS HIS CANVASES FOR \$7,500 EACH.

THIS MARKS THE FIRST OF MANY MAJOR PARTNERSHIPS OF THE KIND TO COME FOR MILO REDWOOD ART, SAID WYETH "B" BARCLAY, REDWOOD'S MANAGER.

"A PARTNERSHIP OF THIS CALIBER IS NOT ONLY A TESTAMENT TO MILO'S TRUE ARTISTIC MASTERY, BUT AN EVEN GREATER TESTIMONY TO MILO'S RAPIDLY GROWING MODERN MASTER APPEAL."

CODA GALLERY WAS RECOGNIZED BY AMERICAN ART AWARDS AS ONE OF THE NATION'S 25 BEST GALLERIES AND MUSEUMS AND IS KNOWN FOR BEING A PALM DESERT LANDMARK, LOCATED ON THE "RODEO DRIVE OF THE DESERT," B SAID.

FOR MORE, VISIT [MILOREDWOODART.COM](http://MILOREDWOODART.COM) OR [WWW.CODAGALLERY.COM](http://WWW.CODAGALLERY.COM).