

Chris Beckman was born June 12, 1977 in Brockton, Massachusetts, USA. Chris grew up with his mother. The two have remained close his entire life. His parents divorced when he was three, and it is only recently that he has started rebuilding a connection with his father. A recovering alcoholic, Chris regularly attends Alcoholics Anonymous meetings and has been sober for eight months--an accomplishment that he's really proud of.

Chris is an abstract painter and has studied at UMass, Mass Art and Suffolk University. His work has been showcased in several exhibits in the Boston area. His goal is to one day open his own gallery and help others realize their artistic potential.

"My paintings are a reflection of my environment. This progression transcends an abstract plane of emotions, through color and texture.

"I have always admired the raw beauty that this world breathes. The urge to capture this pure essence of life is what moves me to express my visions. I am sure that my mother could tell you the exact age I started to draw portraits. Drawing and painting had become my way to understand and to relate to my surroundings.

"My art changes as I change over time. I decided as I began college that I needed to build a concrete foundation for my future, and leave my creative urges on the side.

"I quickly discovered that I was missing what I loved to do and I needed to explore other options. I decided to follow my heart and go after my true passion. I had been painting at this time and I finally realized that I needed to find a way to make my dream a reality.

"I switched schools and told myself no matter what I would be happy doing something I loved to do. In Boston I have had a studio and space to work in. I have taken some classical courses in Art at Umass and Mass Art and I hope to one day finish my classical training. It has always been a dream of mine to own and operate a gallery, and help others realize their artistic potential."

Since he appeared on MTV The Real World, Chris has embarked on a modeling career with the world famous Ford Agency and is currently touring the country speaking out to young people about the struggles and challenges he has faced in recent years. His college lectures touch on several issues, all of which carry personal weight to Chris. Alcohol awareness, sexual orientation, and diversity are just some of the issues Chris brings to the podium. Audiences are amazed with his genuine personality and life story. Chris is currently writing a book on his life experiences.