



*Silhouette  
Cutting*

*from*

*“The Roving Artist”*

# *Intriguing and entertaining* *Just scissors and paper*



*Charles Burns, Silhouettist*

Are you planning a wedding, celebrating an anniversary or birthday, or organising your company party? If so, you'll want your guests to remember you. Or perhaps you're entertaining clients, launching a product, or arranging a stand at a conference? In today's world you need memorable and eye-catching entertainment, as well as uniquely branded souvenirs for your visitors.

Using just a pair of scissors, and extraordinary powers of hand-eye co-ordination, our silhouette artists can craft a cameo portrait of your guests in a little less than 90 seconds. No cameras or pencils involved! By turns flattering or humorous, the black paper silhouettes are then mounted into presentation cards and handed out as mementos of your event.

*"Fascinating to watch and a great talking point; low technology at its very best"*



- ✂ **Treasured keepsakes for your guests at weddings**
- ✂ **Table to table entertainment at formal sit-down dinners**
- ✂ **A crowd-puller on trade show and conference stands**
- ✂ **An authentic touch at period costume balls**
- ✂ **Fund-raising for charities**
- ✂ **A ice-breaker and talking point at almost any kind of event**

*"The best silhouettes are those which seem to capture the character, as well as the physical likeness".*

*Charles Burns*



# Charles Burns



"FINE ARTIST"



*The original Roving Artist, Charles is widely regarded as the finest silhouette cutter practising in the country today.*

*With a love for painting & drawing, he has cut portraits of many of the leading figures of our time. With his astonishingly accurate cut-outs he aims to truly elevate this craft to a fine art.*

# Mike Herbert

"MAGICIAN"



*There is a real sense of magical wonder in cutting an accurate portrait from paper, and one glance at the way Mike uses his scissors will tell how he earned the nickname "Magician".*

*Very much the 'rising star' of the silhouette world, Mike learned to cut silhouettes after a lifetime of studying magic. His cuttings are uniquely evocative and life-like.*

# Roving Artist Weddings

Booking a silhouette artist for your wedding will create an unusual & distinctive touch of elegance which all your guests will remember for many years.

Entertainment and art rolled into one, our artists will cut instant silhouettes of some (or even all!) your guests.

This works well either during the reception, around the tables at a wedding breakfast, or simply as an extra treat during an evening party.



A signed giclée print of all the silhouettes cut on the day is available as an extra



A special portrait of the bride & groom is all part of the fun on their wedding day

Silhouettes are mounted into smart folding wallet cards. As an optional extra these can be personalised with your own names & silhouettes to make a really personal memento of your day.



## A SHORT HISTORY OF SILHOUETTES

Hand-cut silhouettes possess a unique charm all of their own, often seeming to capture the essence of a person, in amazing detail, with a minimum of effort. They are evocative of the “shadow portraits” which were hugely popular throughout England during the 18th & 19th centuries.

The name “silhouette” comes from Etienne de Silhouette (1709-67), the infamous Controller-General of France, who used to amuse himself at drawing-room gatherings by cutting profiles from paper. A popular joke of the day was that he taxed his people so heavily that the only portraits anybody could afford were the cheap paper cut-outs made by itinerant artists of the day. It was initially a derogatory term!

In its purest form a silhouette should be cut freehand, using only the eye as a guide. Any form of drawing out is definitely considered cheating....

The arrival of photography in the late nineteenth century brought an overnight halt to the fortunes of most silhouette artists; shades were suddenly old hat! Yet a few talented artists did manage to continue the tradition throughout the twentieth century, and now *The Roving Artist* looks set to carry it well into the twenty-first.



*An eighteenth century silhouettist in action using a chair and screen to trace the subject's shadow. The modern silhouettist uses just his scissors and a keen eye!*



*“Silhouette artists are available for a wide range of corporate functions, trade fairs, weddings, private parties, fund-raisers, etc.”*