



King Ali

King Geoff

King Stein

The King Series represents part of an ongoing exploration of the merging of opposites - it is this pairing which speaks to a sense of ambiguity. It is rare, if ever, that life is either happy or sad, for beneath the surface of any moment, a stratum of the past lies quietly informing all experience. In sadness, we recall joy, for instance and in joy, we remember sadness. Thus, feelings, and their expression, are not easily categorized.

*Inspiration:*

It was a Christmas dinner in Spain where a number of friends and acquaintances from various countries had gathered to celebrate. Ali was of British roots but born in South Africa, Geoff was from England, Stein from Norway, and others were from Denmark, Germany, and Spain. A dozen or more of us, generously hosted by Shirley, also from England, sat down to a lovely meal with all the trimmings. There came a time in the evening when Christmas crackers were pulled and everyone donned their fine paper crowns, crinkled as they were, beautiful in their asymmetry, nearly translucent by candlelight. --- And I thought, *this is not a moment to be missed.*

Each of these the guests, and the hosts, as well, kindly sat for me that evening for photographs. Thus, came the *King Series* which combined the festivity of paper crowns with the faces of people who had lived and walked the various roads of life ... as well all do.