

Reality vs. Realty



What Is Reality?

André Watts Realtor
4921 Dinklaker Drive
Fort Wayne, Indiana

In 1988, classical pianist André Watts abruptly ceased his busy concertizing schedule to take a real estate licensing exam, telling stunned music critics that becoming a realtor was an ambition he'd had for years. André passed the test easily and straightaway had business cards printed for his new career. And that's when Fate intervened. The card designer misconstrued the pianist's handwriting, and the ensuing text read not "Watts Realty" but rather "What Is Reality?" The still-young pianist interpreted this blunder as an omen, and he forthwith put his license away and returned to the keyboard. Good thing, too, because a month later, André received the Avery Fisher Prize, awarded to outstanding American musicians, and whose added value exceeded any old real estate commission he was *ever* likely to earn.