



THE ART OF
PAUL VAN GINKEL

VOLUME ONE: A RETROSPECTIVE

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VAN GINKEL

INTRODUCTION

The inspiration for publishing this book is to recognize my thirty-plus years as a professional artist, and, more specifically, to celebrate twenty-five years as a full-time fine artist (gallery painter). I feel profoundly blessed to have discovered my calling and to be living my dream of working as an artist. My primary motivation in becoming a commercially successful artist is to sustain my career until my last breath. At the beginning, I quickly realized that a successful art career requires far more than just creating a valuable product; I would also have to focus on the art of business. This includes being organized, thorough, determined, and disciplined; striving for excellence with each painting; setting goals and deadlines; following up on every lead and opportunity; and focusing on creative marketing, promotion, and sales. With more than 1,700 paintings to choose from it was difficult to ultimately narrow it down to the 117 pieces published in this book. My objective is to showcase a diverse retrospective of my art career to date.

The most important aspect of being a self-employed artist (with an unknown future) is choosing the right attitude and perspective. I am always inspired, choose to be optimistic and positive, and never take for granted how fortunate I am to absolutely love my career and my life. I am proud of my willingness to change and take risks with my work. Without this initiative no real progress and growth is possible. Of course, not every new direction is equally successful; however, I define failure as not having the courage to even try. One of the toughest and most important lessons is having the ability to deal with rejection or not attaining goals and aspirations. I never find that discouraging, rather I feel that in those experiences lie the wisdom and knowledge of one's true essence and ability. Ultimately, my professional and personal objective is to reach my potential through a balanced, stimulating, and rewarding life.



Tidal Wave, 48" X 72", oil on canvas, 2003. United States private collection.



White Beauty, 40" X 50", oil on canvas, 2005. United States private collection.



Sticking Together, 40" X 60", oil on canvas, 2003. United States private commission.



White Out, 40" X 60", oil on canvas, 2001. Painted in Vancouver. Calgary private collection.



Light Up, 50" X 50", oil on canvas, 2015. Painting available.



On the Horizon, 40" X 60", oil on canvas, 2007. Calgary private collection.



Morning Ritual, 40" X 60", oil on canvas, 2007. Calgary corporate collection.



Morning of the Journey, 40" X 60", oil on canvas, 2014. Calgary corporate collection.



Chuck Wagon Cuisine, 35" X 55", oil on canvas, 2008. Commission for Bocese d'Or Canada (International culinary competition). Calgary private collection.



This Conversation's Over!, 40" X 60", oil on canvas, 2015. Calgary private collection.



Beautiful Break, 48" X 72", oil on canvas, 2014. Painting available.



Stagecoach, 40" X 60", oil on canvas, 2011. Calgary corporate collection.



Crossing the Line, 40" X 60", oil on canvas, 2011. Calgary private collection.



Painted Pony Express, 48" X 72", oil on canvas, 2015. Calgary corporate commission.



Protecting the King, 60" X 40", oil on canvas, 2009. Calgary private collection.



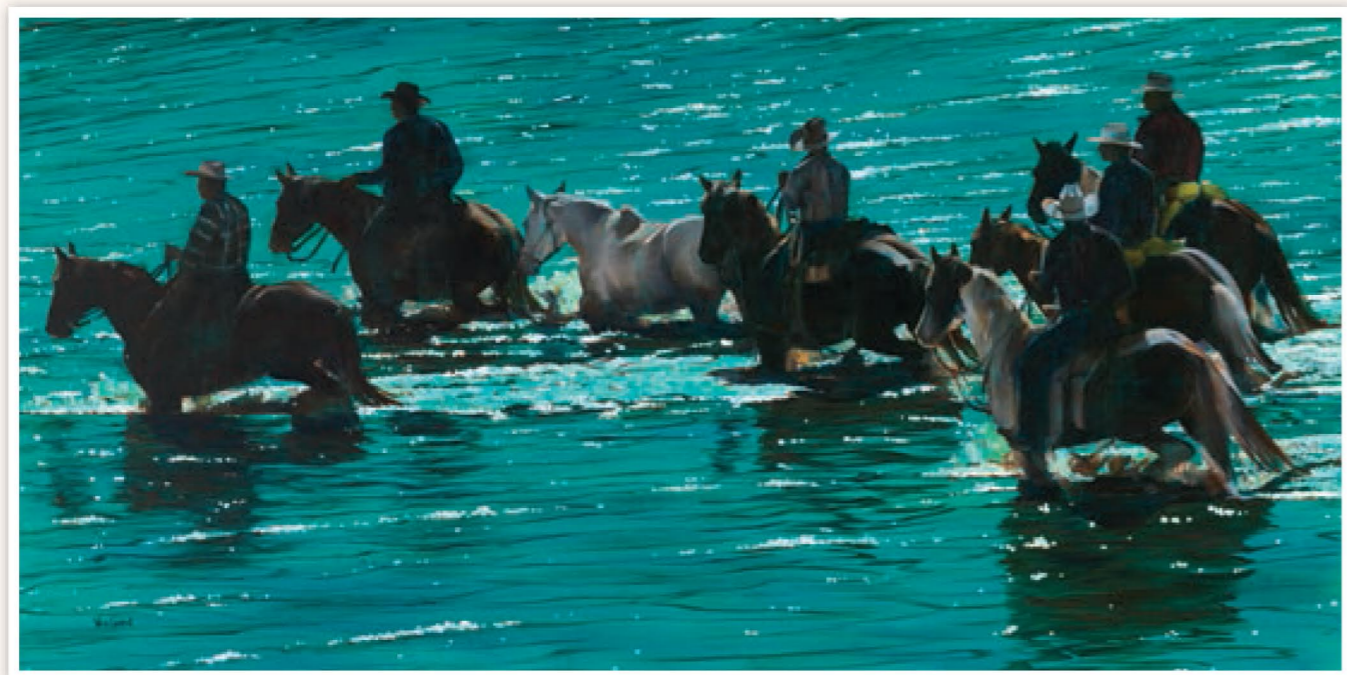
The Poet's Stallion, 50" X 60", oil on canvas, 2009. Calgary private collection.



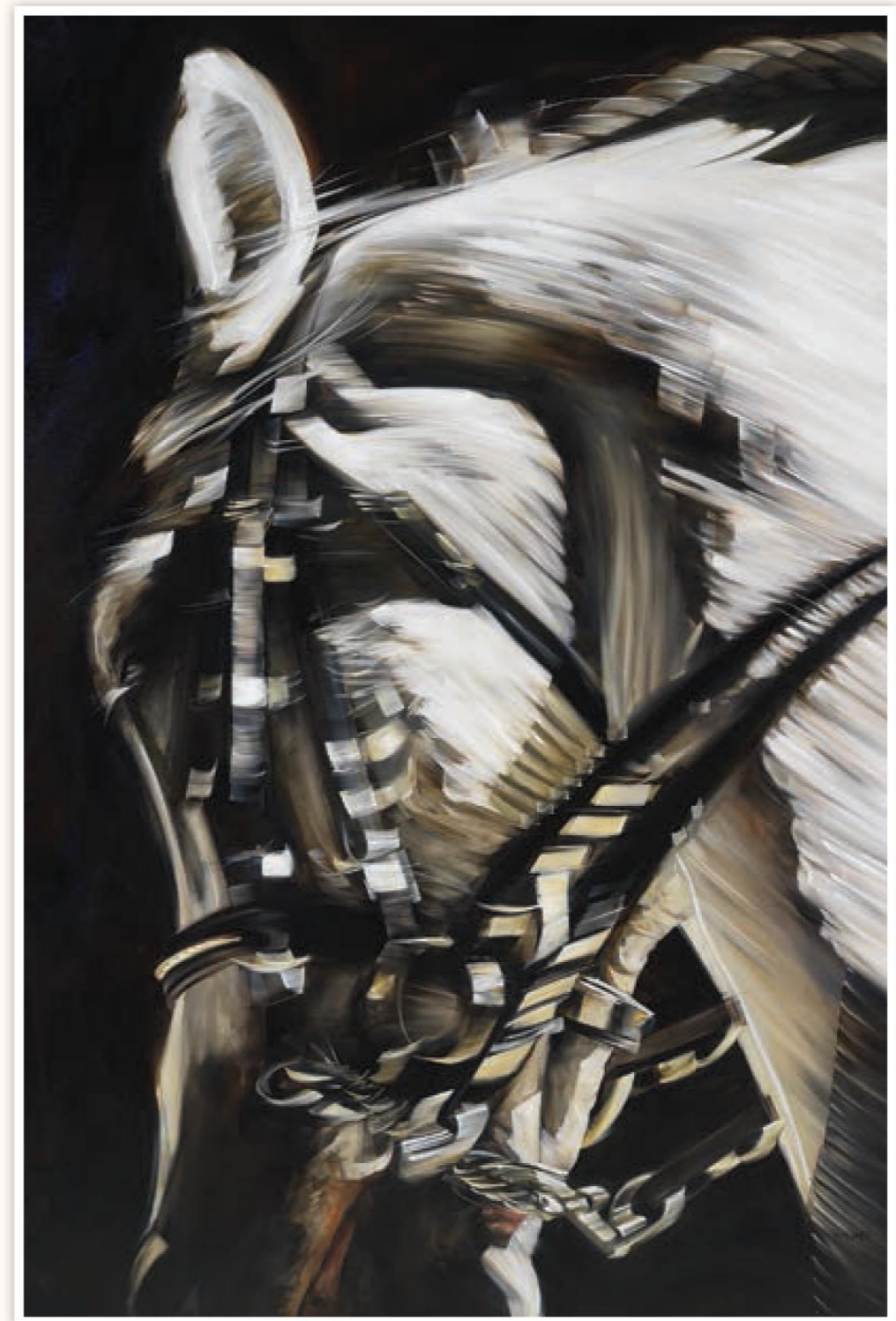
Power & Beauty, 50" X 60", oil on canvas, 2010. Calgary private collection.



The Cowboy Rhythm, 40" X 50", oil on canvas, 2014. Calgary private commission.



Celestial Navigation, 36" X 72", oil on canvas, 2014. Calgary private collection.



Unbounded, 72" X 48", oil on canvas, 2011. Calgary private collection.



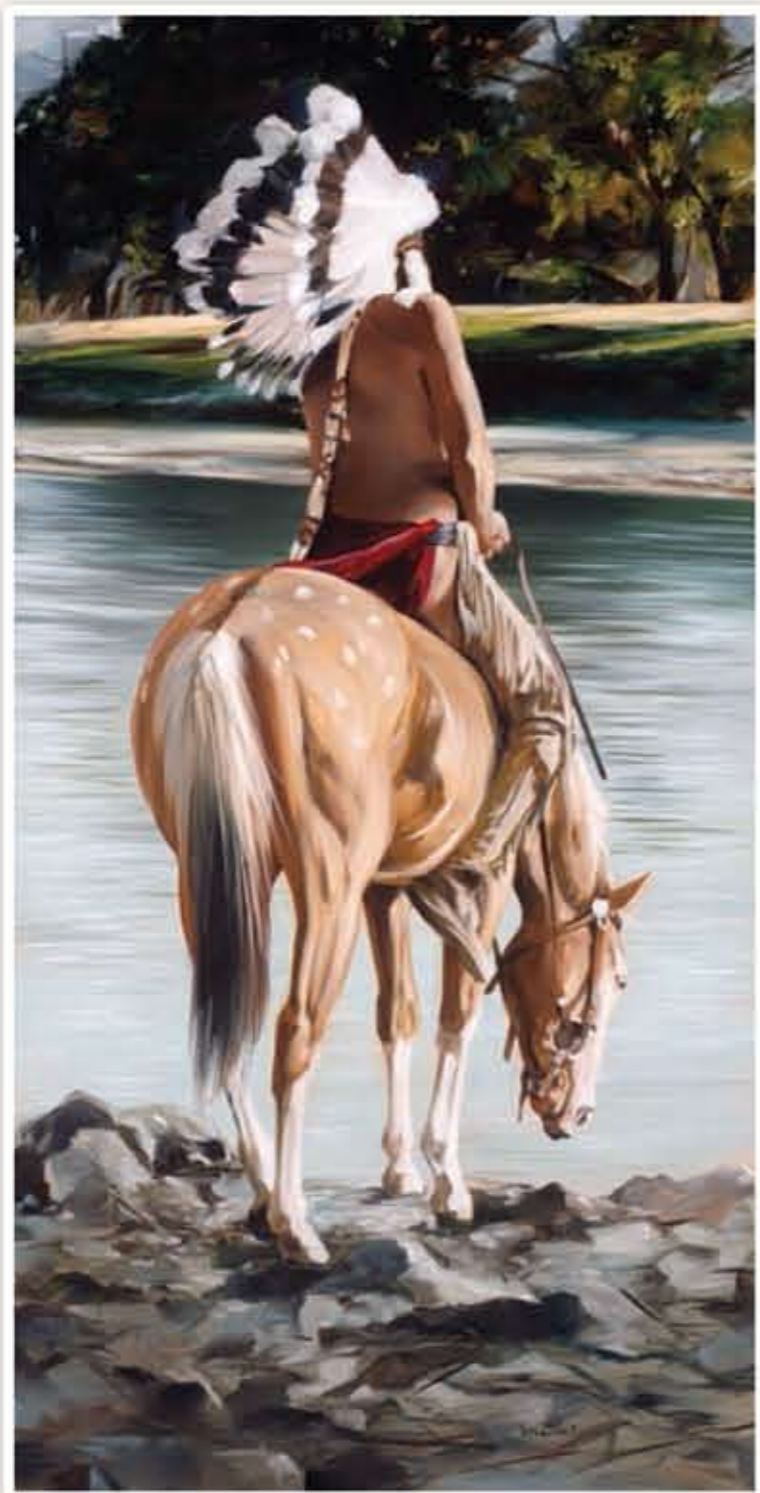
Black Rider, 60" X 40", oil on canvas, 1995. United States private collection.



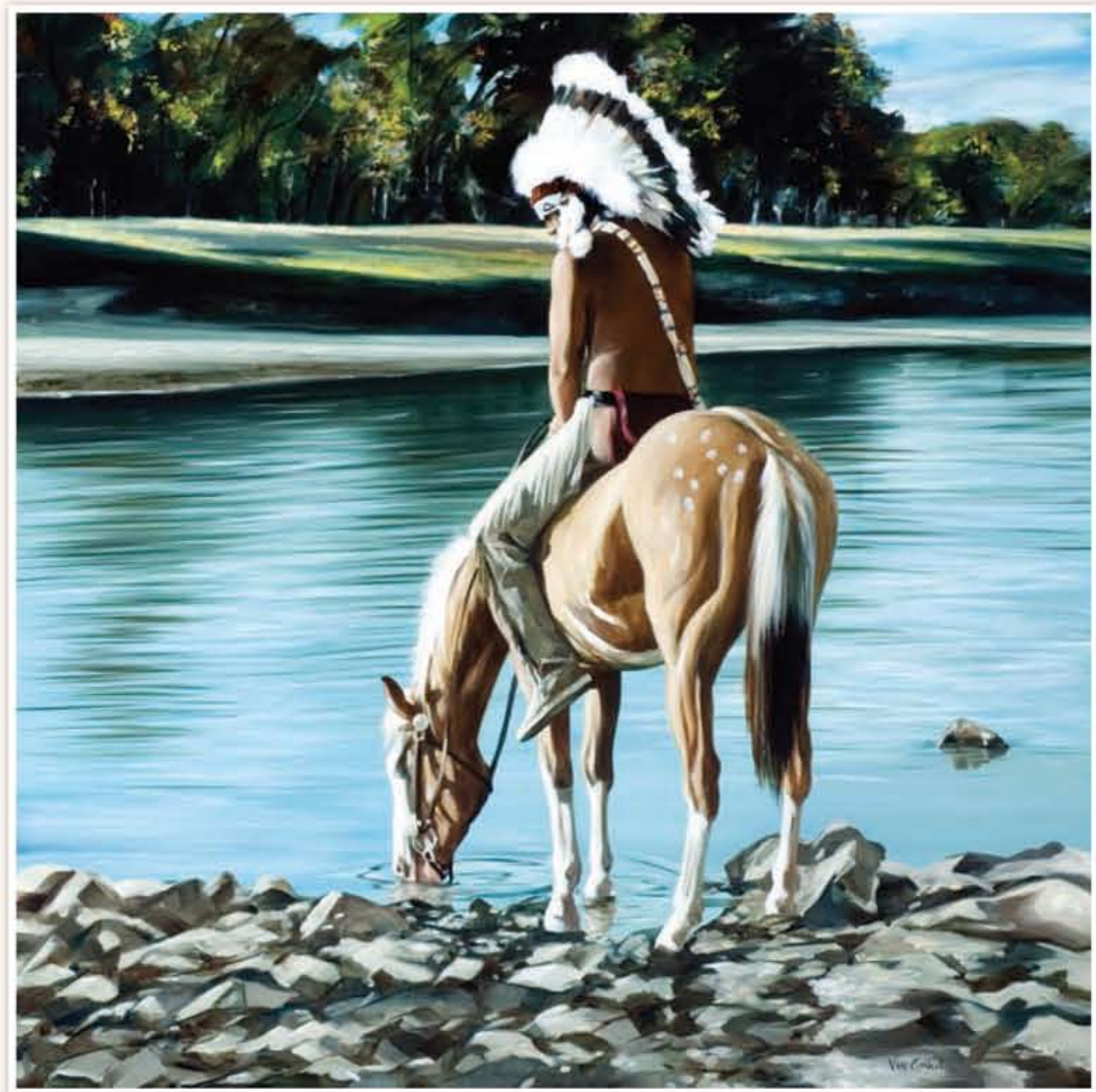
1900, 40" X 50", oil on canvas, 1994. Calgary private collection.



Feather Stick, 40" X 60", oil on canvas, 2000. Painted in Vancouver. Calgary private collection.



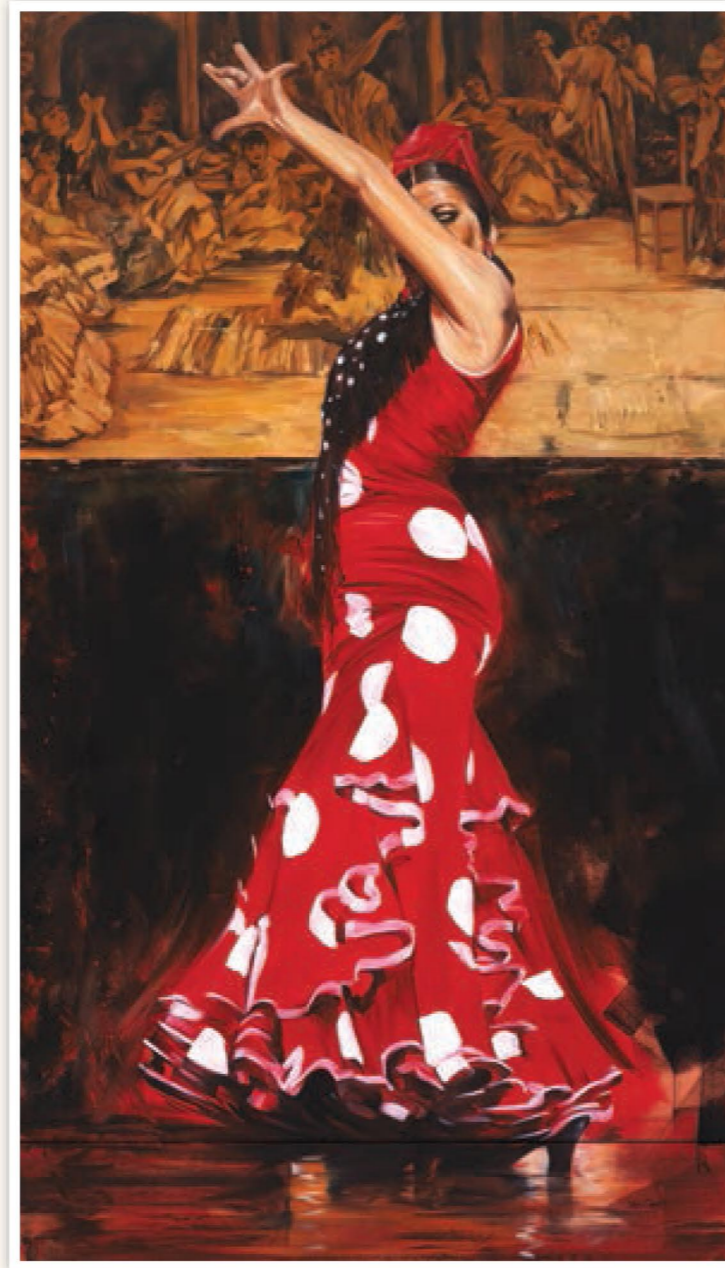
Time to Reflect, 61" X 31", oil on canvas, 2005. United States private commission.



Perfect Moment, 48" X 48", oil on canvas, 2006. United States private collection.



Passion of a Tornado, 70" X 40", oil on canvas, 2008. Van Ginkel collection.



A Rich Tradition, 70" X 40", oil on canvas, 2008. Calgary corporate collection.



The Matador's Mistress, 40" X 40", oil on canvas, 2015. Calgary private collection.



Flesh & Gold, 60" X 36", oil and gold leaf on canvas, 2003. Calgary private collection.



Goddess, 70" X 40", oil on canvas, 2008. Calgary private collection.



Target 2, 40" X 60", oil on canvas, 2007. United States private commission.



Wild Flower, 45" X 68", oil on canvas, 2011. Donated to the Taylor Centre for the Performing Arts, Calgary.



Fantasia, 24" X 39", watercolour, 1987. Calgary private collection.



Smiley, 20" X 20", oil on canvas, 2005. Calgary private collection.



Marrakesh, 23" X 30", watercolour, 2003. Painted in Mexico. Calgary private collection.



The Battle's On, 40" X 60", oil on canvas, 2009. Calgary private collection.



Photograph by Rafal Wegiel, 2012.

ABOUT PAUL VAN GINKEL

Born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, in 1960, Paul moved with his family to Calgary, Alberta, in 1973. In search of change and new stimulation he relocated to Vancouver, B.C., in 1996, however, returned to Calgary in 2001. Prior to earning a Master of Fine Arts degree from Syracuse University in New York (1987 to 1989) Paul studied at the Alberta College of Art in Calgary (1979 to 1983). After working for the *Calgary Herald* newspaper as an editorial illustrator (as well as a freelance commercial illustrator) he has been a fine art painter since 1990.

Part of Paul's growth as an artist has come from extended painting and research trips to major art centres including New York, Santa Fe, Italy, Mexico, and Australia. He also continues to travel the globe in search of new artistic stimulation while expanding his vast archive of photographic reference material. An example of one of these trips was travelling to Seville and Madrid, Spain (2007), to research Flamenco culture in preparation for a new series of paintings.

Primarily focusing on western and dance themes, Paul embraces the challenge of painting many different subjects that inevitably inspire new techniques and styles. In addition to Calgary, the Southwest United States provides a strong market for his western paintings. At one point, Paul had significant gallery representation in Santa Fe, New Mexico; Scottsdale, Arizona; Aspen, Colorado; Jackson Hole, Wyoming; and San Antonio, Texas. Paul feels that galleries provide an excellent vehicle to show and sell his art; however, he has chosen to primarily represent himself because he enjoys the direct contact with new and existing collectors and the friendships that are inevitably made.

In 2006, he and his wife, Kristin (a retired architect), built a 6,000-square-foot Calgary home that included Paul's gallery and studio. Kristin designed the elegant, rustic house to function both as a peaceful and stimulating home and an effective venue to host private art events (in 2004 they travelled to San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, and filled a 55-foot container with "treasures" including 400-year-old doors, light fixtures, and furniture for their new home). Despite this model being successful for seven years, they moved to the inner city and in 2013 Paul opened the Van Ginkel Art Gallery in a (ca. 1912) building in the heart of old Inglewood. His personal gallery is on the main level and his inspiring studio is on the lower level. Paul feels strongly that he is only in mid-career and is confident his best work and years are ahead of him.

Visit PaulVanGinkel.com for a complete listing of Paul's available paintings (and prints) as well as information on his career and gallery.