



MOVING ON, OIL, 48 x 72.

Paul Van Ginkel

At 13 Paul Van Ginkel was an enthusiastic fan of his hometown rodeo, the Calgary Stampede, one of the largest events of its kind in the world. "Seeing the horses at the Stampede sparked my interest in them," he recalls. These days Van Ginkel has moved from the sidelines to the frontlines of the yearly Canadian event. He regularly shows his paintings in an art exhibit that is part of the July rodeo.

"I am continually drawn to the horse because it represents strength, freedom, and passion and because I am interested in the horse's history. It has been around as long as civilization," he explains. Van Ginkel notes that from an artistic point of view the horse is also complimentary to his style of painting. "I like sweeping brush strokes, and that works well with the big graphic shapes of the horse and its muscle groups," he says. He also enjoys capturing the creature's wild mane and tail.

Van Ginkel travels from Calgary regularly to explore his subject matter in depth. "I will travel the world to get references," he says. "I view my art as the process of creating powerful, thought-provoking statements on subjects to which I feel drawn and [that] I think are important." Van Ginkel is represented by McLarry Fine Art, Santa Fe, NM. —BG