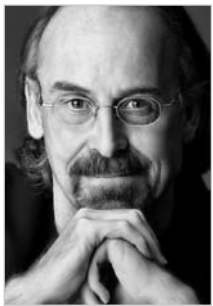


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HIS SHIRT *(detail)*



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STEVE HANKS

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BY STEVE HANKS



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Her Domain



Casting Her Shadow

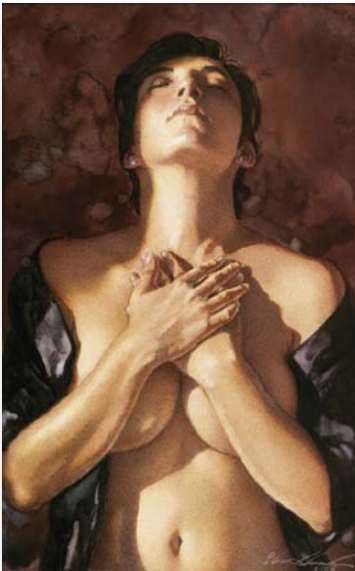


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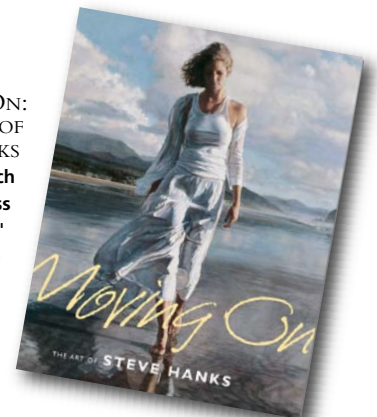


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ABOUT ARTIST STEVE HANKS



Although teachers often cited his artistic ability, Steve Hanks' main interest while growing up around San Francisco was sports. "Surfing had a strong influence on my paintings," he says. "The ocean often appears in my work, because I have such strong feelings for it."

After high school, Hanks enrolled in summer session commercial art courses at the Academy of Art in San Francisco. "The only way I could convince my parents to let me go was to say I was going into commercial art," he says. "I didn't even know what that was!" He did well in his commercial art classes, but it was a life drawing class that captured his interest. He focused his energy on the study of anatomy and figure drawing and transferred to the California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland, California. He graduated in the 1960s with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree and then moved back to New Mexico in search of a home art gallery.

Initially, he drew in pencil and painted in oils. His paintings were impressionistic while his drawings were more realistic. Eventually, an allergic reaction to oils forced him to

experiment with watercolors. Using the techniques learned from other mediums, he found he could create watercolors as "finished" as oils.

Steve's paintings are much more than endearing images of women and children. Rather than conveying a specific message through his paintings, Hanks prefers to explore memories and emotions. "My paintings speak to the vulnerability that we all feel from time to time. They evoke nostalgia, transporting us back in time," Hanks says. "All art is an escape to somewhere you want to be or a feeling you want to have. People see different things in my paintings because we all have diverse backgrounds and feelings."

Steve's award list is extensive: the Arts for the Parks Marine Art Award of Excellence (1990 and 1994); one of the Arts for the Parks top 100 artists since 1989; the National Watercolor Society Merit Award (1991); the National Academy of Western Art Gold Medal (1992); he has been one of *U.S. Art* magazine's top ten American artists since 1993; Pacific Rim Artist of the Year (1999); 2000, *U.S. Art* Hall of Fame (2000); top 25 selling artists of *Decor* magazine (2002); The 7th Annual Andre Agassi Grand Slam for Children (2002).

For more fine art by Steve Hanks visit: www.greenwichworkshop.com/hanks

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