

November 6, 2016 through January 15, 2017

# *From the Smoky Valley To the Alaskan Tundra*

paintings by Chip Brock of  
Wassila, Alaska



*Combat Fishing*

## **Statement**

Sighting Dall rams while hiking above barren slopes and craggy rocks, watching a giant moose sway to a challenging rival, watching caribou bulls prance across the red autumn tundra . . . these are memories that inspire my creativity. Wildlife grabs everyone's imagination at one time or another. Ask anyone visiting Alaska what they hope to see and you will get an answer that includes wildlife sightings. As a representational oil painter whose primary focus is North American wildlife, I work hard to share the animals and my experiences in the wild through my art.

My passion for art, a fascination with wildlife, and a sporting lifestyle have been a part of me since childhood. Ideas are sparked from my experiences in the field. I then combine these ideas with solid reference material obtained from my photography and outdoor sketches. Wildlife is not conducive to life painting, therefore reference gathering is taken seriously. Putting forth great effort, time and travel to place myself in position to observe and photograph my subjects in the wild is a labor of love and crucial to my work. Once I decide to pursue an idea and have the required reference, the hard work of designing and creating the visual story I want to tell can begin. The goal is to convey that story in a thoughtful and beautiful way that will "read" correctly to the casual observer but be a rich, visual experience for those who observe with a more critical eye.

The challenge and struggle of creating fine art and the endless stories the wild offers is what drives me to keep creating art. I am so blessed to do this for a living. I strive for my very best with each piece and work hard to continually improve. My favorite compliments are when a kindred outdoor spirit is "taken back" to their own experience by my work.

## **Biography**

Chip Brock was born and raised in rural Kansas. In 1993 he received a B.F.A. from Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kansas. While in college he met and fell in love with his wife Kimberli. As his biggest supporter and fan, she has always encouraged him to pursue his passion for the outdoors and art. Their beautiful daughter was born in Kansas, but her name McKinley seemed to have prophesied the exciting direction their lives were heading.

Chip and Kimberli's lifelong dreams of the West resulted in many trips to the Rocky Mountains and six years living in Southeast Idaho. A belated honeymoon to Alaska some years back planted the seed of "The Last Frontier" and they now reside in the beautiful Mat-Su Valley just outside Wasilla, Alaska. Each day brings a new and exciting view of the Chugach mountain range, which serves as the ultimate backdrop to "live the dream" as a wildlife artist. For Chip, a fascination with North American wildlife, love of fine art and the challenge of creating a beautiful painting based on his own reference and experiences are the perfect combination for a fulfilling career.

The love and respect Chip has for both wildlife and art began at a very young age and continues to grow stronger. His passion and talent for depicting God's creations is a blessing not taken for granted. "I never tire of spending time in the field and love that each painting presents a completely new challenge. I'm very blessed to be able to make a living at something I never want to retire from."

Chip's work has been included in the prestigious Art For Alaska's Parks, Art For the Parks competition, Paint the Parks Competition, C. M. Russell Art Auction, Kansas Wildlife Art Series and has helped raise money for many conservation groups and private charities. Chip works exclusively in oils – striving for a realistic yet painterly approach. "My efforts are focused on capturing a unique moment in nature without getting lost in unnecessary detail. I love the texture of paint and want the viewer to enjoy each painting as a beautiful work of art. My primary art goals are to continue to learn and push hard to get even better. I strive to make each new painting my best with the understanding that perfection is always going to be just out of reach."

#### EXHIBITIONS:

- Featured Artist, Stephan Fine Arts, Anchorage, Alaska - April 2016
- Lester Raymer Society Artist in Residence, Lindsborg, KS, November 2015
- Joint Show, Stephan Fine Arts, Anchorage, AK - December, 2014
- Lester Raymer, Society Artist in Residence, Lindsborg, KS, November 2014
- Featured Artist, Stephan Fine Arts, Anchorage, AK - July, 2014
- Featured Artist, Stephan Fine Arts, Anchorage, AK - July, 2013
- Featured Artist, Picture Alaska Art Gallery in Homer, AK - June 2013
- Featured Artist, The Gallery in Palmer, AK - April, 2013
- Featured Artist, Shane Lamb Gallery, Palmer, AK - March, 2013

#### HONORS:

- Selected into the Top 30 for Alaska Arts For the Parks Competition 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015.
- Named Alaska Chapter of Safari Club International Artist of the Year for 2015.
- Won Wildlife Award, Arts for Alaska Parks Competition in 2014
- Featured on KTUU Channel 2's "Alaska's Story- History of Moose" in August, 2014.
- Artwork selected for display on the United States Navy's USS Anchorage, May, 2013.
- Selected into the annual C.M. Russell Art Auction in Great Falls, MT 2010.
- Selected into the Top 100 in the National Paint the Parks competition and traveling gallery tour 2009.
- Art was used for the cover of a national shooting sports catalog 2008.
- Selected into the Top 200 in the National Arts for the Parks competition 2007.
- Finalist in Kansas Wildlife Art Print competition.

#### EDUCATION:

- B.F.A. in Graphic Design - 1993 - Fort Hays State University - Hays, KS
- David Leffel Workshop - Fechin Art Workshops 2007
- Greg Beecham Workshop - Scottsdale Art School 2011
- Greg Beecham Workshop - Triple D Game Farm 2012 and 2014
- Studied and painted with other accomplished artists including Dave Wade, Scott Tallman Powers, Brent Cotton and Cynthia Rowland.



*Birger Sandzen*

- MEMORIAL GALLERY -

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Gallery Hours: Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.