Colin Starkevich

Artist Colin Starkevich strives to portray the beauty of the Canadian Grasslands region in his artwork. After a 3-day trip to the Alberta Grasslands in 2009, when Colin was 19, he fell in love with the region and knew then that he would spend much of his life painting this place and its wild inhabitants. This has turned into what has now become *The Grassland Series*.

Since learning how to start painting in high school when Colin was 16, he has grown his artistic practice to an outstanding level and has some tremendous achievements to date. When Colin just turned 21 years old he attended a prestigious Master Artists Seminar taught by world renowned wildlife artist, Robert Bateman, who personally invited Colin to attend. Awarded artist's residence at the Wallace Stegner House in Eastend, Saskatchewan for the month of June 2015 is one of Colin's most memorable awards. Colin's largest artistic achievement to date was when he had one of his life dreams come true, a 2500 square foot solo exhibition at the Royal Alberta Museum in Edmonton, Alberta as a Feature Exhibit. The exhibition took place during the spring and summer of 2015 when Colin was just 25 years old.

Colin has been awarded signature membership of the highly ranked and international, Artists For Conservation Foundation (AFC) in 2017. The AFC represents the world's leading collective of artists focused on nature and wildlife. Colin is also a juried professional member of the International Guild of Realism (IGOR), a collective of some of the world's top realist artists today. Most recently, in 2022, Colin became juried in as an Associate Member with the Federation of Canadian Artists (FCA). Colin has exhibited with all of these artist groups numerous times in exhibitions within Canada and some abroad.

Colin's goal with *The Grassland Series* is to raise the awareness of the beauty of this fragile ecosystem while supporting conservation efforts within this region. Most importantly to Colin, his biggest goal with this growing series, is to inspire people of all ages globally to search within themselves to discover their deepest passions and unique abilities, and to put the two together to make a positive difference in the world around them in a way that is very unique.

As an artist who always continues to push the boundaries with his artwork, Colin feels he can make his largest contribution to our society and the conservation of our natural world in his life through his artwork as he feels his artwork is his unique gift and intends to continue to develop and use it to the best of his ability.

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