



## **Santiago Pérez (1950- )**

Santiago Pérez is an artist living near Tijeras, New Mexico (close to Albuquerque). He was born in San Antonio, Texas, and lived in many small towns around the south Texas area.

Encouraged by his family and an artist uncle, Santiago practiced drawing and painting, learning mostly by copying from TV cartoons, horse and wildlife magazine, and children's books on the West. He was an elementary school teacher for a short time, illustrated children's materials, and then served in the Air Force for 24 years. He pursued his art interests, practicing figurative drawing and painting, as well as immersing himself in art history. Santiago first exhibited his work when the Air Force stationed him in West Berlin, and he continued to develop his painting in Colorado Springs, Pueblo, and Denver, Colorado.

The picturesque Colorado terrain inspired Santiago to develop into a landscape painter – working in many styles and approaches, from naturalist to symbolic/abstract works. An avid student and open to many forms of creative expression, Santiago also painted on metal, made cutout painted forms, and installed several thematic environments.

Pérez lives in New Mexico and has continued to work in his eclectic styles, focusing on a series of fantastical paintings.

Santiago's work has been purchased by several corporations and many individuals throughout the United States. He is represented by the Sandy Carson Gallery in Denver, Victoria Boyce Galleries in Scottsdale, A Muse Gallery in Columbus, Ohio, Nuart Gallery in Santa Fe, and the Bison Legacy Gallery in Cody, Wyoming.