COLLECTOR'S FOCUS WILDLIFE









oak tree in their pasture. Longhorns aren't too common in my area, and their majestic stature and calm demeanor made for perfect painting subject matter. After several sketches and observing them for a while, I decided to feature the grand dame of the herd in an

iconic portrait format, hoping to convey the nobility of these beautiful beasts."

Elizabeth Mordensky, like many artists in this section, has loved wildlife since a young age, leading her to a career as a wildlife guide in Yellowstone National Park for many years. The ability to observe wildlife in a natural setting on a daily basis provides her with endless inspiration for her art. "I spend hours in the field, watching these magnificent creatures, and taking note of their movements and personalities," she remarks. "This gives me the confidence to capture the







16. Elizabeth Mordensky, *The Golden Eagle: A Witness to Change*, oil finger painting, $36 \times 24^{\circ}$ **17.** Victor Blakey, *Perfect Landing*, oil on canvas, $30 \times 40^{\circ}$ **18.** Victor Blakey, *Head of State*, oil on canvas, $46 \times 36^{\circ}$ **19.** Nikita Coulombe, *Your Time Will Come*, oil on canvas, $40 \times 40^{\circ}$ **20.** Patsy Lindamood, *Take Flight II*, graphite on cradled Ampersand Claybord sealed with acrylic, $24 \times 26^{\circ}$ **21.** Victor Blakey, *Eagle's Nest*, oil on canvas, $24 \times 36^{\circ}$ **22.** Nikita Coulombe, *Fresh Powder*, oil on canvas, $24 \times 24^{\circ}$

true essence of the animal when I get back to the studio." Mordensky's unique oil finger painting style gives her pieces a fresh appearance that is loaded with texture and movement that brings the animals to life.

Cindy Sorley-Keichinger is a primarily selftaught Canadian artist whose subjects of choice are landscapes and wildlife—finding the genre calming, which she then projects in her work. "In today's busy world," she says, "a little bit of calm and peace is a necessity." Keichinger continues, "Over the years my style has evolved to where it is now. The main point of my work is that we are not the only ones on the planet, and I would like people to see and enjoy images of our neighbors. To see and know

something is to take an interest in it. Urban life, and to a lesser degree rural life, insulates us from the world...I hope to introduce people to what they do not see every day, and to see beauty in what they do see."

Keichinger will be part of the *Artists for Conservation* show in Vancouver for the month of September and is shortlisted for the David