

David Boxley

Salmon

Artist's Statement

There are five species of Pacific salmon: chinook, coho, sockeye, pink, and chum. All five species hatch in fresh water, mature in the sea, then return to their freshwater homes to spawn and die. They differ in migratory and feeding habits, length of life cycle, size, appearance and flesh quality.

Salmon are honored and celebrated by all coastal people; the fish serves as a powerful symbol of regeneration, self-sacrifice and perseverance.

Shortages of salmon are traditionally attributed to human disrespect and refusal to listen to and live by the wisdom of the elders. Many legends express the importance of appreciating the Salmon and observing traditional rites of respect, such as placing Salmon's bones back into the river or sea after eating. If the ritual is not observed, Salmon will not return, or return dismembered and deformed. Salmon once ran in nearly every stream and river along the Northwest Coast. Certain species have drastically fallen in number, and all are threatened by human encroachment.

Certificate of Authenticity

This print is a limited edition original serigraph. Working from David's original drawings, I cut rubylith stencils for the black and red colors. The colors are then hand-printed onto archival paper. The paper size is 14.5 inches wide and 11 inches tall. The image size is 12 inches wide and 8 inches tall. The inks used were black and red.

This print is one of an edition of 200 made on Arches Cover Cream paper. In addition, 20 artists proofs and 6 printers proofs were printed using on Arches Cover Cream.

This edition was printed by Paul Nicholson of Bellevue, WA in 2008 with the assistance of the artist, David Boxley.

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