

# *Shaun Peterson*

## *First Fisherman*

### *Artist's Statement*

First Fisherman is part of a series of prints that explore the relationship between the first peoples of the Pacific Northwest coast and the salmon. This particular print is partly based in an existing theme of a bird catching a marine animal; in some cases it is the Thunderbird catching the Whale. However, in this print it is Eagle catching Salmon. I grew up on the Puyallup River spending much time there with my grandfather and though the sight of an Eagle was not common, it made the experience that much more significant when you did. I used to ride my bike along the river in the summertime when the sun was setting a lot. One particular evening when the sun was going down, I could just begin to make out the moon in the distance I looked down to the sand bar. I could see this massive Eagle feasting on a salmon. It seemed momentous and being that I was only ten or eleven at the time made the Eagle seem that much bigger when I see it in my mind now. I think about the Salmon and what it has long provided for our people, not only as food, but as a source of art and appreciation of life. This particular design was used in a different version for a Pendleton blanket that the Puyallup tribe produced to represent the people and what seemed most appropriate as a theme was this very idea. Eagle is honored for his power and skills as he is the First Fisherman.

### *Certificate of Authenticity*

This print is a limited edition original serigraph. Working with Shaun's original artwork, Paul created a stencil for the blue color of *First Fisherman*. This print is one of an edition of 95 hand printed on Arches Cover Black paper. In addition, 3 printers proofs and 10 artists proofs were printed on Arches Cover Black, for a total of 13 proofs. The paper size of the Arches is 21.5 inches wide and 22.5 inches tall. The image size is 19 inches in diameter.

This edition was printed by Paul Nicholson of Bellevue, WA in 2004 with the assistance of the artist, Shaun Peterson.

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