



ALAN CLARK

Alan Clark is a prolific and multidisciplinary artist whose watercolors, oils, mixed-media compositions, drawings, and prints hang in collections throughout North America, Europe, and Australia. Depicting a world of nature and imagination, Clark's visual language reflects a lifetime of questioning and discovery, as well as his appreciation for cultural influences — both contemporary and from the ancient past, which he transforms into a very personal present.

Born in Indiana, Alan Clark was raised in Maine. He attended the University of Colorado (Sculpture) and Colby College (English). In the past 15 years, Clark has divided his time between midcoast Maine and Mexico, with recent shows including *Woman by a Pool: Pages from a Book* (2005), and *Blood and Stone* (2004), a solo exhibition at the Farnsworth Art Museum in Rockland, Maine, highlighting a

decade of work created in and influenced by both New England and Mexico. Clark will be participating in the prestigious Maine Printing Project, *Celebrating 200 Years of Printmaking in Maine*, scheduled for October 2006, at the Center for Maine Contemporary Art.

Throughout his 30 year career, Clark has moved with equal passion between painting and writing; he is both poet and playwright. His play for voices, *Guerrero*, and a companion piece, *Heart's Blood*, published in 1999, have been performed in Mexico and in Maine. Clark's poetry was an integral part of his show, *Woman by a Pool*, and recent poetry may be seen in *The Caribbean Writer*, and *The Wolf Moon Journal*.

Defying easy classification, Clark's works have been called visceral, whimsical, surreal, and enigmatic. He creates compositions that offer new ways of seeing into the heart of everything, where boundaries of inner world and outer world are blurred. He seems to imbue inanimate objects with life force — mountains, walkways, rock. And the human form overflows with it, filled with blossoms and vines, suns and stars. The visitor to Clark's world is struck by the powerful interconnections of the physical and the spiritual, and as the artist calls it, "the aliveness in everything," both inside of us, and around us.

Alan Clark takes particular pleasure in depicting woman, and returns to her often, both in poetry and in painting. In her, he finds a special power — the essence of earth and its abundance, and the intricacy of the human organism. Clark's women are sensuous, elegant, and mysterious. He celebrates the vibrancy and strength of the female spirit, presenting woman as a captivating whole. She is the source of life, as well as part of it — fascinating, and always beautiful.

For *Bustique Atlanta 2006*, Alan Clark has created a painting entitled "Lady Blue," filled with symbols of life, growth, and healing. He has also included a specially inscribed series of prints, numbered and signed "for Bustique Atlanta 06." These are *Busto*, *Blue Bird*, *Black Beauty*, and *Little Red House*.

For more about Alan Clark and his work, visit AlanClarkArt.com.