

RALPH J. NAGEL

Ralph Nagel began painting seriously prior to the conclusion of over two decades as Founder and President of Meridian Retirement Communities. Educated as an architect and city planner, Nagel continues to pursue business and philanthropic projects in parallel with a full painting schedule.

Nagel paints in the classic *en plein air* style, and the landscapes of Thailand, Spain, France and Croatia are featured prominently in his collection. As an active member of the Paris group *Les Rats de Champ*, Nagel spends several months a year painting and exhibiting abroad.

The spirit of Nagel's paintings is seen in the spontaneity of his brushwork and his keen observation of ever changing atmospheric qualities. His oils and watercolors exude the powerful essence of place and time, and his personal reaction to color, light and form.

Nagel's paintings are in private collections in the United States, Australia, France, Italy, Brazil, Thailand and New Zealand. He is co-founder of the professional Colorado artists group "Studio 208".

"Truly seeing the subject of my art only takes place once the painting begins. It's about that day, that moment. And as in life, painting is about having the courage to take risks towards an outcome that is unknown."

-Ralph J. Nagel

The painting before you entitled "Glendale Farm" was inspired by one of the largest parcels of historic farmland in East Jefferson County Colorado. Glendale Farm is still in active agricultural use has been a productive farm since 1857, with a long history of dairy and cheese operations. The farm was originally 880 acres until 1909, when Glendale sold 700 acres.

Painting Value: \$7,500