
From China to Sitting Bull: Z.S. Liang's Journey to the top of Western American Art

Seymour, CT --Greenwich Workshop Press has just published the first ever, fine art, hardcover retrospective of the paintings of Z.S. Liang, who began his life as the son of a woodblock print artist in Communist China, and has now achieved prominence in the U.S. as one of the top painters of the Native American experience, and is a friend of Sitting Bull's grandson.

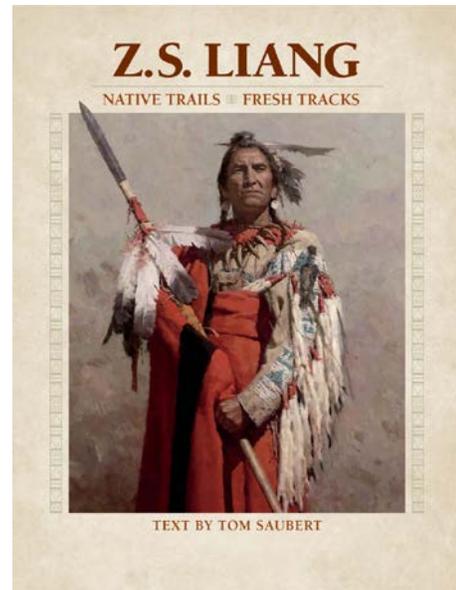
Z.S. Liang was born and raised in China but the arc of his life follows the iconic American dream. The son of artistic parents (his father a woodblock print artist, his mother an ethno-musicologist) he began drawing at a young age. But like many boys, he was interested in mechanical things--planes, trains, ships and weapons--so he thought he might study transportation.

Eventually, Liang trained to become an art teacher but he quickly left teaching to pursue a career as a professional artist and illustrator. He studied at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing, and then at the Guangzhou Academy of Fine Art, dominated by the influence of western European painting styles from Russian emigrant artists and instructors. When travel restrictions between China and the US eased, Liang applied and was accepted into the Fine Arts program at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. In 1989, he received an MFA from Boston University. He worked as a successful portrait and commercial artist in Boston during the 1990s. Then, in 2001, a chance encounter with a Massachusetts Turnpike sign for the Plimoth Plantation and Wampanoag Homesite changed his artistic career forever. Liang visited the Homesite and was immediately entranced by the life and culture of Native Americans.

“Painting is the most satisfying thing I do,” Liang says. “I can very much relate to the Indians in their daily life, their family structure, and their respect for their elders. I’m using my skill, my understanding, and my imagination to make art and to help preserve Indian culture, to keep alive stories that might otherwise vanish.”

Liang has devoted the past fourteen years to the study and portrayal of Native Americans across the country. He moved his family to California to be closer to the Plains Indians that are the subjects of most of his work. Liang’s meticulous research and commitment to historical accuracy has earned him the trust of Native tribes and their leaders.

“I have met and known many artists,” says Ernie LaPointe (Crowfoot), Great-Grandson of Sitting Bull, “but Z.S. has the ability to tell the stories in detail with his brush, and bring them to life. I am delighted to have met Z.S. and I am proud to call him my friend.” **Over →**



Liang has received awards from many of the preeminent exhibitions including the Master of the American West, the Oil Painters of America, the American Society of Portrait Artists, and the Society of American Illustrators.

“He has clearly struck a chord with collectors and he is creating timeless historical narratives that will resonate for years to come,” says John Geraghty, a Trustee at the Autry National Center for Western Art.

Liang’s paintings are in major collections across the country and grace the homes and offices of wealthy, top Western Art collectors.

Liang’s new book, *Z.S. Liang: Native Trails, Fresh Tracks* contains over 70 full color paintings, personally selected by the artist, as well as photos of 18 Native American artifacts from his personal collection. The informative text, by writer and painter Tom Saubert, discusses the historical period as well as the artist’s approach to his work. This volume, long-awaited by Liang fans and Western art collectors, is available from Western art museums and Greenwich Workshop authorized art dealers.

Z.S. LIANG
Native Trails / Fresh Tracks
With text by Tom Saubert

Published by Greenwich Workshop Press • September 2014
Over 70 full-color paintings • 18 artifacts from the artist’s personal collection
144 pages, 9" by 12" • Hardcover, jacketed \$60

To see pages from the book, go to: <http://www.greenwichworkshop.com/liang/book.asp>
Contact: Wendy Wentworth at Wentworth@greenwichworkshop.com for a review copy

The Greenwich Workshop® Inc., based in Seymour, CT, is a leading publisher of limited edition fine art prints and canvases, three dimensional art and visual books. Fine art editions of many of Z.S. Liang’s paintings can be viewed at www.greenwichworkshop.com/Liang

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