



Homecoming: IR Flag
Original Lithograph 13" X 20.5"

Ron Kelsey

As I stepped off the plane at Fort Drum to greet my family, the emotions of seeing them again were comparable to the joys of becoming a father. Adrenaline flowed in quantities equivalent to the time I first met my wife. There were shared smiles and many tears of relief and contentment and the phrase *it is finished* repeated in my mind. The realization set in that these happy moments of “mission complete” are pauses within the cycle of ongoing deployments. Although thinking already of leaving again spurs difficult, painful thoughts and emotions, I stand ready for what is to come. This is the kind of experience that feeds inspiration and increases hunger for creativity.

As my paintings are being finished, the easel's silhouette casts a shadow across the smooth cement floor, a dance floor set for the ongoing dance of meditation. Each fluid movement of paint creates an atmosphere inspiring exploration and accomplishment. In this atmosphere, the words *it is finished* take on a new meaning. Inspiration directs the course I take toward the completed work—the refined paintings sit solemnly against the wall, each drip has dried after the final finishing touches. I stand in awe of the silence, the finality of the moment. At the same time, I am filled with desire for further discoveries. Deep within me rises a longing for more moments of reflection.

It is in these times that the busy-ness of life is paused for meditation among works that radiate peace and restoration.

Price: \$500