



A L F R E D G O C K E L

Alfred Alexander Gockel was born in Ludinhausen, Germany in 1952. From a young age, he was fascinated by the magic of color. His talent and enthusiasm earned him the release of his first work of art by a German publisher at the age of eight years old.

In 1973 he began his studies at the Polytechnic Academy in Munster where he focused on graphics design, typography, and advertising. After graduating in 1977, he continued to lecture at the Academy, and in 1980 made a firm decision to dedicate all of his time to painting, Gockel honed in on his skills and developed his identifiable, signature style known today. In 1983, he and his wife, Ingrid, founded the art publishing company Avant Art — one of the most successful publishers in the abstract art market, with customers in more than 50 countries world-wide.

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With expressive use of rich, primary colors, Gockel has created an exceptional style that is undeniably unique. His fluid strokes on large white canvas backgrounds, described by some as "action painting" have a tremendous universal appeal. It is no wonder that over the last decade, well over 2 million open-edition prints have been sold in the U.S. art market alone. This incredible exposure has created a demand for this artist's original works, spawning high-profile collectors such as Michael Jordan, Shaquill O'Neal, Cristie Kerr, Ludacris and Pat Robinson.

In his travels, Gockel has had the opportunity to meet Salvador Dali and Antonio Tàpies, and has been influenced by the work of Joan Miró and Pablo Picasso. Upon traveling to the U.S., he became aware of the work of Jasper Johns and Jackson Pollock. "It's very important to see the other side of this art. I like the Americans' work because it seemed more open. In my paintings, I try to combine the language of the Old Masters with the language of what we have developed today."

When not painting, running Avant Art, or traveling Gockel keeps active by playing tennis and soccer, going skiing, cooking or riding one of his three Harley Davidson motorcycles.

"An artist of the People"

G o c k e l has developed a signature style that is instantly recognizable and one that reveals

echoes of the 20th Century masters like Picasso, Miro, Dali, and the great abstract master Kandinsky...his work has a universal appeal and is often referred to as "Contemporary Action Painting."

