



18 x 24

"1992 America's Cup"

Born in Hull, England, in 1951, Tim Thompson spent his childhood living on the tiny Channel Island of Herm. It was while there, living on the water that Tim developed a deep love and respect for the sea. It also was the beginning of his love for painting. Tim remembers creating his first image when he was 6 years old - a watercolor of the majestic Queen Mary.

Although Tim pursued a career in horticulture for a brief time, he never strayed far from his paint brush and pallet. At age 27 he left his job at the Parks Department in England and began painting full time. This decision proved to be a positive step for Tim who is recognized as one of the world's leading marine artists of today.

Tim married in 1973 and moved to Southern England, where he lives with his wife Sharon, and daughters, Holly and Gemma, in a Victorian house on the banks of the river Tamar. It is not surprising that Tim's paintings focus on marine settings, particularly battle scenes and boats that span the centuries from fighting ships of Drake and Nelson's eras to the epic journeys of clipper ships.

A turning point in Tim's career came in 1982 when he met media mogul and sailing enthusiast, Ted Turner at a regatta in Cowes, England. Turner commissioned him to paint a number of his yachts, and since then, a great deal of Tim's efforts have been directed toward painting these modern racing vessels. The growing popularity of this genre, coupled with Tim's inimitable style, has earned him worldwide recognition. He has co-authored two books, *The Paintings of the America Cup* and *The Story of Yachting*. He was the official artist to America 3, the winning yacht of the 1992 America's Cup race and he has been appointed artist for the Dawn Riley crew scheduled to compete in the 1995 America's Cup.

Tim creates his portraits from sketches and photographs that he takes on location. "Photos are best because I can get a better idea of the technical details," Tim says. Color and movement are vital components in my work. It is important that I see exactly how the sails of a yacht are formed when she is rounding a mark or how the ocean appears during a storm.

Tim has exhibited his work throughout the United States and worldwide including London, Paris, Italy, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, Monaco and Australia.

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