

"Longhorn Storm" Ragan Gennusa, Artist

"Longhorn Storm" symbolizes the beginning of the Mack Brown era. The thunderstorm symbolizes the building (could we substitute growing or rising) support of the fans, as the new longhorns pour out of the painting towards you.

Ragan Gennusa

Ragan was born in Rosebud, Texas in 1944 and grew up in Port Arthur, Texas. As a young boy, he loved the outdoors, athletics and art. At an early age, Ragan knew that he wanted more than anything to be an artist.

Ragan was All-State in track and an All-State quarterback for Port Arthur High School. He attended the University of Texas at Austin on a football scholarship where he studied art. Ragan credits his training as an athlete for teaching him the values of courage, tenacity, and discipline, and the importance of character in pursuit of life as well as an artistic career. He graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 1968.

In 1986, Ragan was honored by the Texas Legislature as the 1986-87 Texas State Artist. In 2005, he was a recipient of the Stars of Texas Award from the Gillespie County Historical Society. In 2006, Ragan received the John Ben Sheppard Jr. Award from the Texas Historical Foundation for his outstanding achievement in historic preservation. His paintings hang in private and corporate collections nationwide, including New York Life Insurance Company in New York City and the national office of the Texas Longhorn Breeders Association of America in Ft. Worth. Several of his longhorn paintings are prominently displayed in the University of Texas at Austin Alumni Center and he has done longhorn paintings for the UT Austin football program.

Ragan has owned longhorn cattle since 1984 and uses them as models for his paintings. Today, Ragan lives with his wife, Susan, in the hill country outside of Dripping Springs, Texas in a house he built and paints in a studio filled with a sense of the West.