

SPORTING ART



pigments I use are from the same mines as the ones that painted the Sistine Chapel.” Even the paint has a story to tell.

Inspiration for this latest collection has been gleaned from the beauty of Europe, particularly the French vineyards, which Brown explored with his wife. “I took my fishing rod, but never got the chance to use it. The country was beautiful and we enjoyed exploring it all, particularly Provence and the wine regions, a lot of the pigments I use come from this area. I always have my backpack easel with me, in

case I see something fine to study.” Bottles from the prestigious vineyards of this region find themselves on a canvas, testament to the discipline and craft of the vintners, qualities which this painter can also relate to.

The latest collection similarly pays homage to the Paul’s continued love of the countryside and he will take sporting opportunities when they arise. One such invitation was a day’s stalking on the Fassfern estate, near Fort William. “We’d seen the stag in question fighting in the morning, and a six-hour stalk ensued,” says Paul.

“The head stalker had identified the quarry at the bottom of a bank, resting. The party scaled down the steep incline, which involved silently linking arms to descend a section of the slope on their backs before splitting up. The stalker and I made silently towards the ledge eyeing the stag 20 feet below us, asleep. Silently we moved to another position and prepared to take the shot.” The men steadied themselves, a cough in the keeper’s throat ready to alert the stag. “We lent over again to take the shot and the stag had gone – he must have caught our scent on the wind.”

“I like to think that some of the pigments I use are from the