



*The idea for this painting started with a laugh. I was driving back to the coast last summer in the hot, humid South Texas sun when I passed a group of cows cooling themselves in a tank. Needless to say, the cattle egrets appeared to be much annoyed at the interruption of their meal tickets. They had positioned themselves at the water's edge, glaring at their hosts, and I could imagine them thinking, "when are those damn cows going to get out of that tank and get to kickin' up grasshoppers? I'm hungry."*

**AL BARNES**

Resides: Fulton, Texas  
b. 1937, Texas, USA

*Out of Work Egrets*  
Cattle egrets  
Oil on canvas, 26 x 48