Kalinski

Art

**Avalon and Robots** 

John Paul Kirkham

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Front and back cover - Self Portraits Jan Kalinski

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### Jan Kalinski - Remembered 23rd July 1956 - November 11th 2022

Jan Kalinski the Kent based artist died tragically on Remembrance Day 2022.

In 1992 Jan was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) resulting in permanent numbness of his fingers. When he could no longer hold a fine pencil or write his own name he would never let go of a paintbrush and never stopped creating remarkable images and found working in the new digital mediums exciting.

Jan produced hundreds of oil and acrylic paintings and illustrations which globally reside in galleries, private collections and occasionally find their way back into the public domain through art auctions. In fact he was

generous to many by giving away lots of his paintings and featured in this collection are works published for the first time and many that have never been seen before.

I had known Jan for four decades stretching back into the early 1980s and he was a very talented artist who had an intense bond with his easel and brushes but he had a very complex relationship with those closest to him and was searching for something inner that had been lost. When his mother died in Canada and he went to sort out her affairs he was devastated to find she had burnt and destroyed all the family photographs leaving him with no personal visual memories, a lost childhood. When he talked of Canada it was more of what he was missing in England and Canada was literally a wildness to him in his teenage years. And in his last year his unfulfilled longing was to return "home" to Rugby and his early childhood surrounded by things and the places he remembered.

I cannot deny that many of his paintings had a simmering, tormented and in truth a degree of despair as subject matter which was also born out of his fascination with the mystical and cosmic universe.

Towards the end of his life Jan had started to paint a series of bright Canadian - Alberta abstract empty landscapes in different seasons .... another nod to something lost or someone searching for a meaning perhaps in life .... they are strikingly good paintings and hopefully they can be reproduced in a possible future second volume of his contemporary work. It was always amazing that painting with MS did not deter him or in any way seem to hold him back and the attention to detail was in many ways outstanding and yes sometimes tangental.

Jan was always at his happiest painting and when he ran out of creative ideas he would delve into my poetry and books and interpret an image of that particular poem or title and we had so many collaborative projects and ideas whirling around, some started but unfinished and he left me many new pieces of finished artwork and designs for future book covers.

Jan's creativeness caused him to have an intricate and often labyrinthine soul and his final written words to me at 2:16am on that Friday morning from across his own personal universe were:

"And in the end .....

Remember me from time to time old friend .... Jan"

John Paul Kirkham is a poet, writer and photographer living in the city of Liverpool and is the author of twenty three books and collaborations including four volumes of poetry and the autobiography *I Saw Her Standing There*, and is the official biographer of two Italian saints: Clare of Assisi and Gemma Galgani of Lucca. John Paul has written journal editorial, film and book reviews and has appeared both on television and radio.

### Avalon

The sceptred stone sits beneath the snowy peaks ravaged raw waiting for its King to come

For winter mists hasten into spring when a poor sovereign in disguise may pass this way to draw a sword from beneath the skies of Avalon

Fair now fades the phlox cyclamen

winter's old cold flowers

ringed round the rocks

for glinting icy cut steel pulled for a dream

beside the turquoise stream

under a setting sun

stealing shooting stars

before the black nights dawn

of Avalon

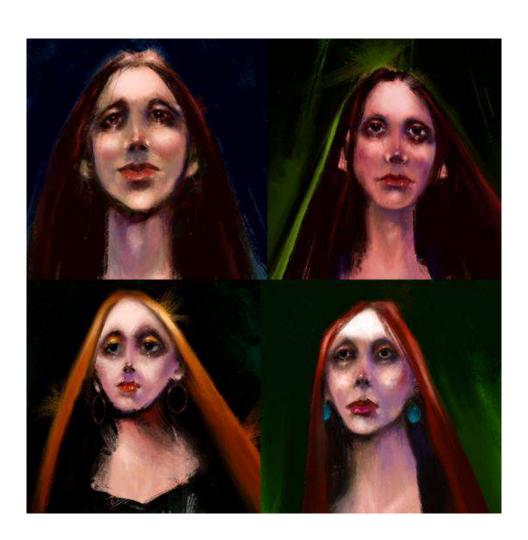
## A barren stone now stands under silent fallow clouds and witch hazels

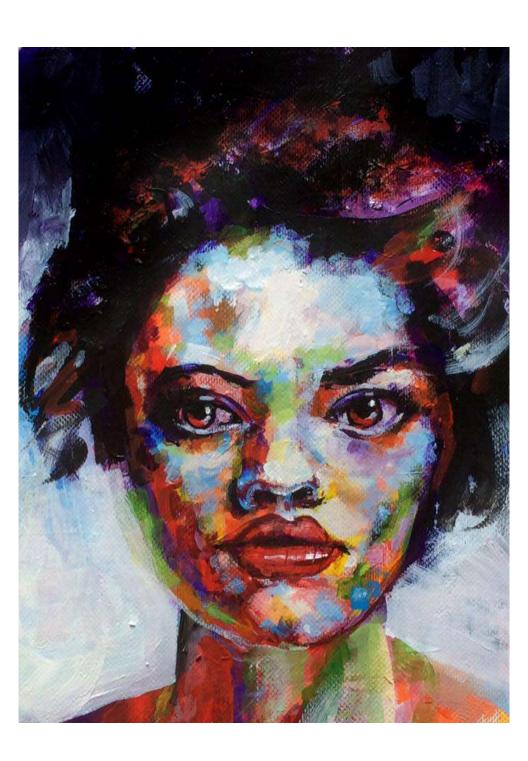
once burst with copper ovate wispy finger blossom
now perfume the new seasons boreal divine air
and the saffron yellow aconites carpet spread
before the King of Avalon











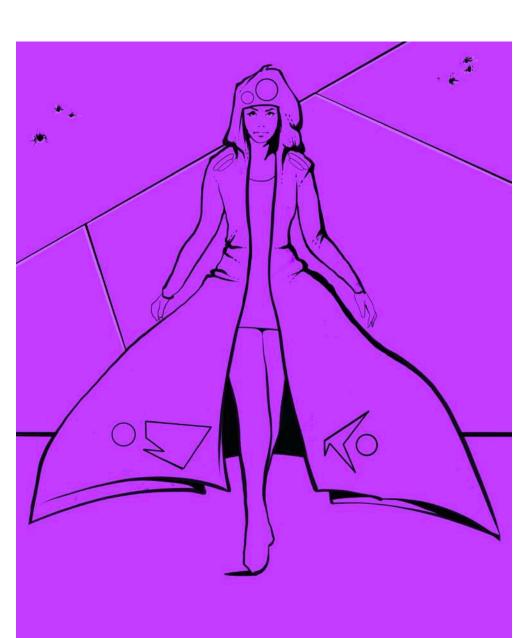


















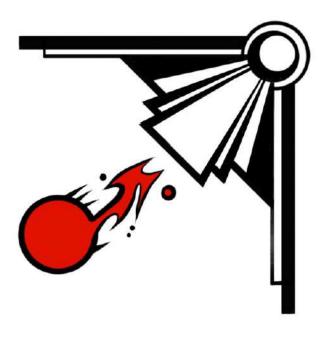


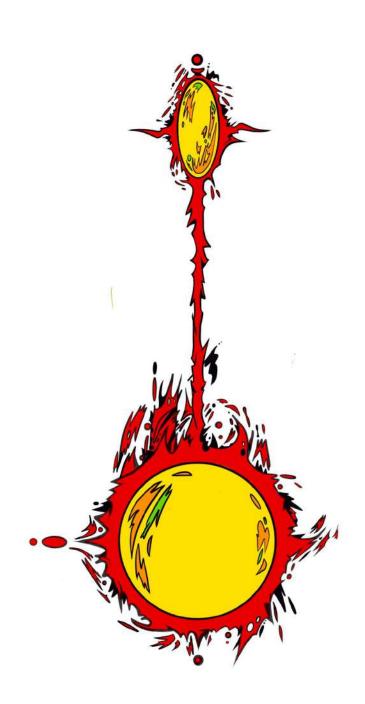


# ◯ 金融を通じた強み







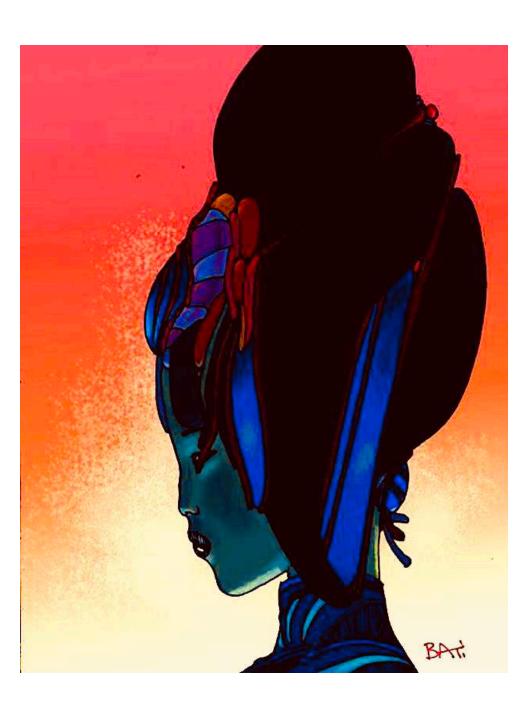


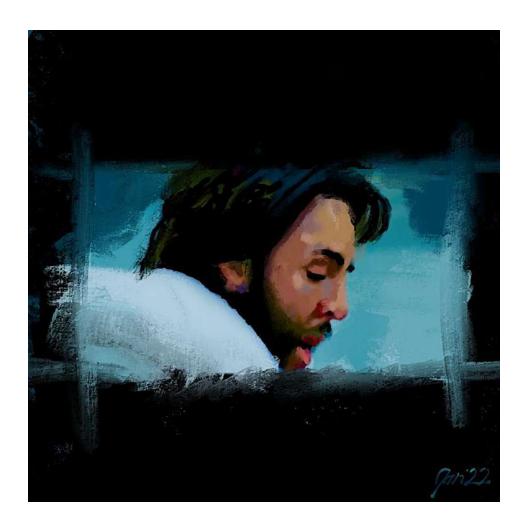


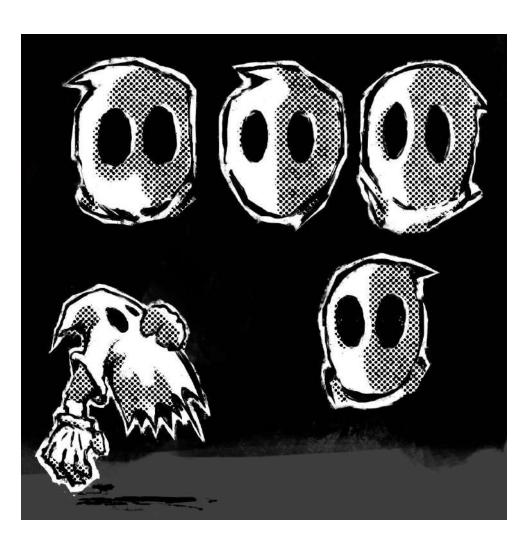


I will grant peace in the land, and you will lie down and no one will make you afraid.

LEVITICUS 26:6





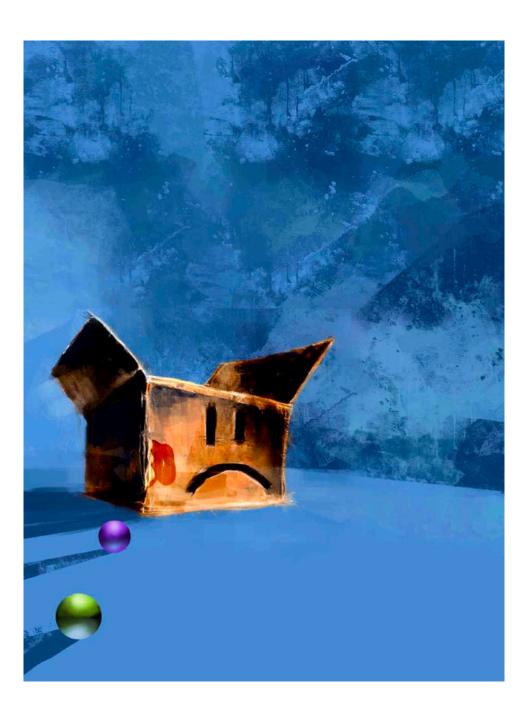






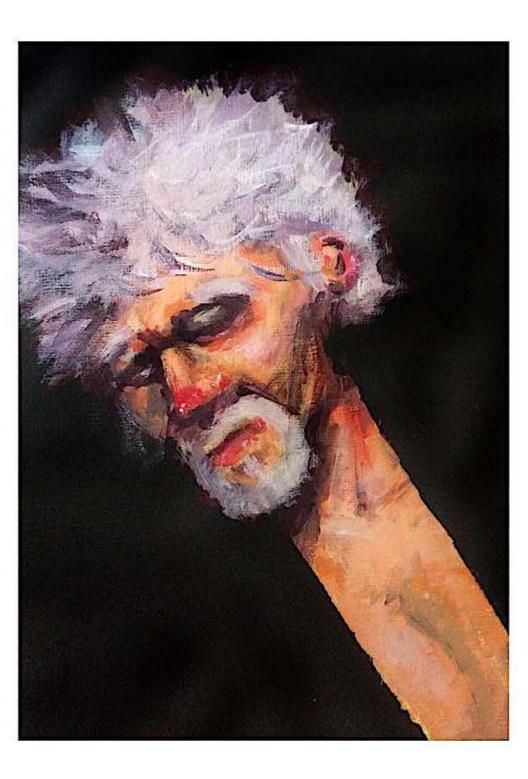












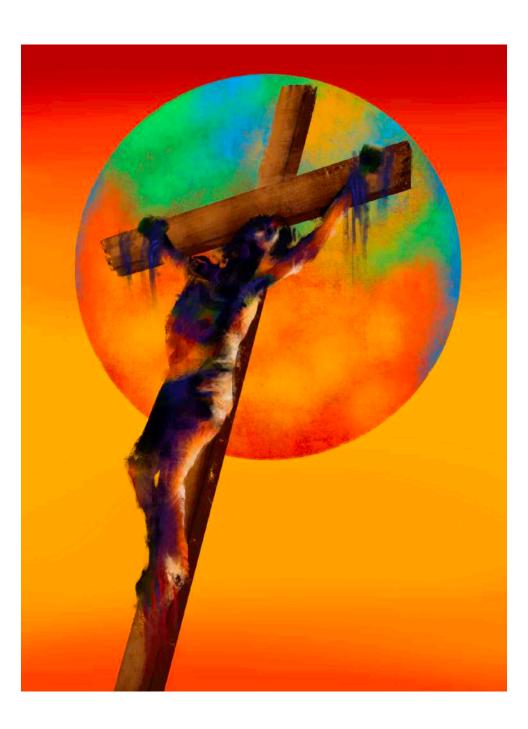


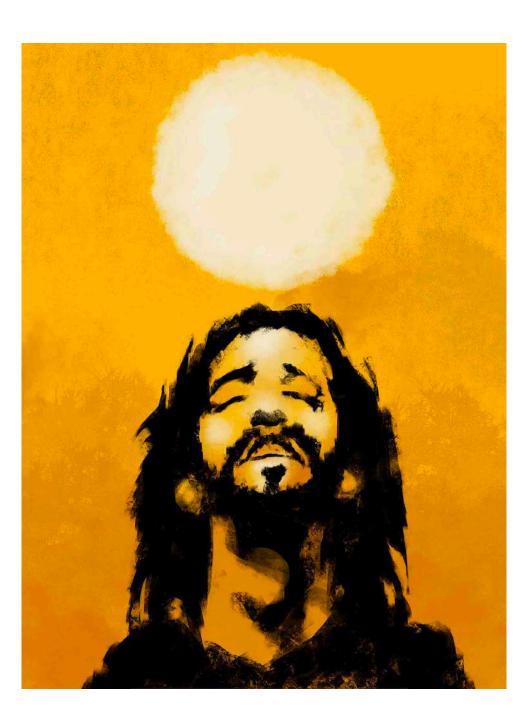


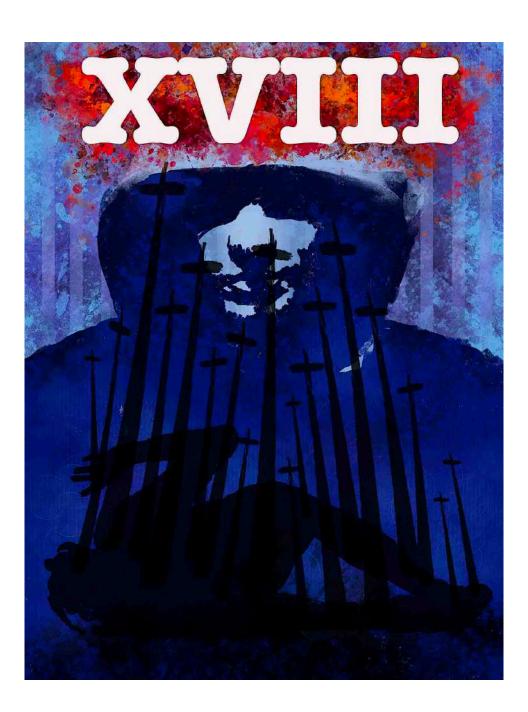


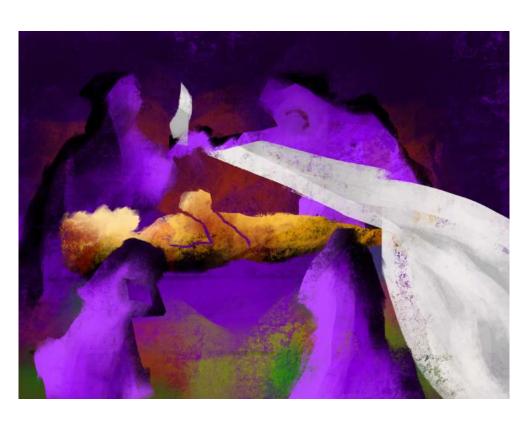


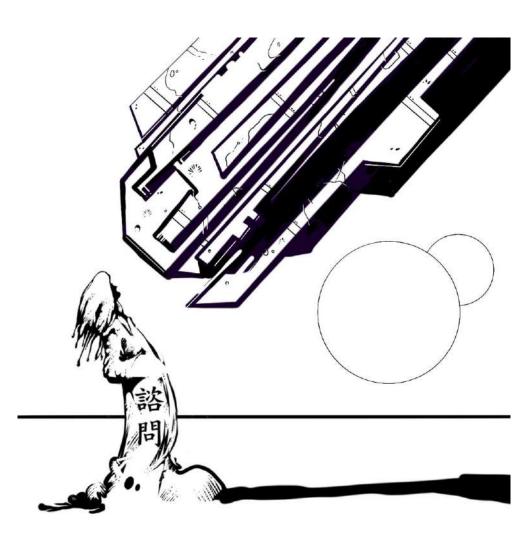








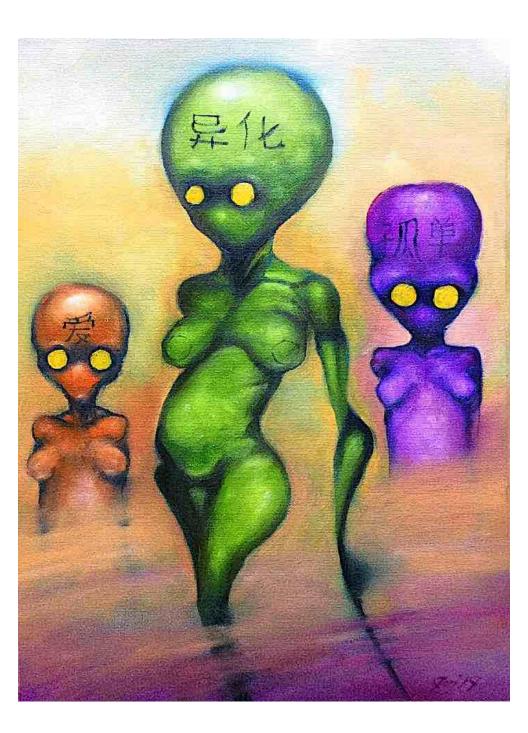








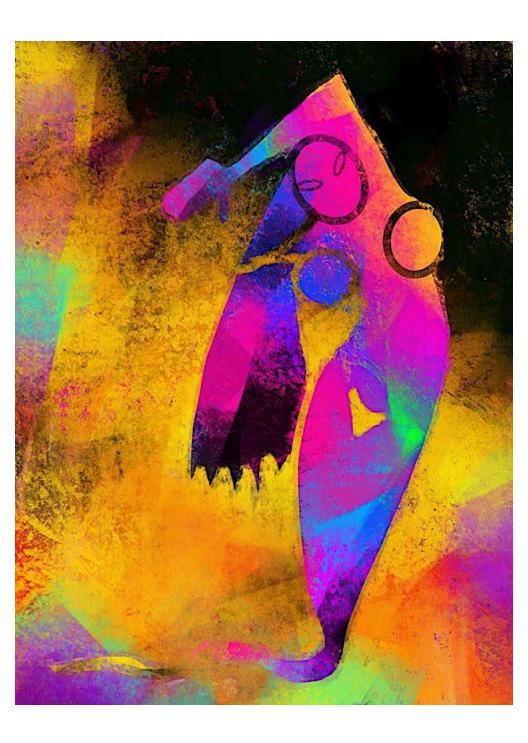


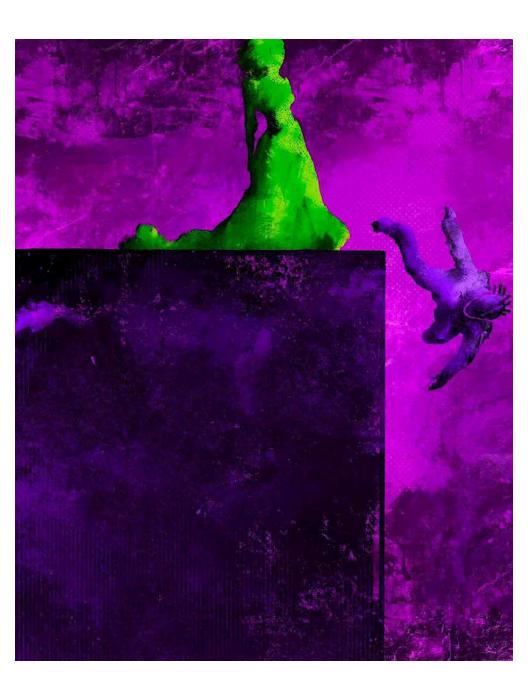














#### The Robot

I saw a robot stall
collapse and fall
and clatter to the ground

Not a groan or whimper or cry for help his universe now silent and dark

His experiences were vast and many his cosmic travels distant far and wide

He expired and died for want of love and just a battery that needed changing

### Credits and Appendix

## Front and Back Cover: Self Portraits (Jan Kalinski)

## Poetry by John Paul Kirkham

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Page 12: Woman in a Green Hat

Page 13: Woman in a Red Hat

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Page 16: Woman with Flame Red Hair

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Page 35: Paul McCartney

Page 36: With The Ghosts

Page 37: Ghost with a Glass of Wine

Page 38: Tap Dancing Ghost

Page 39: Beatles Tattoo designed and worn by Jan Kalinski

Page 40: The Girl From Vietnam

Page 41: Benny The Box

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Page 45: Twin Ghosts

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Page 48: Descent of Sin

Page 49: The Crucifixion

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Page 51: XVIII (an early version)

Page 52: Laid in The Tomb

Page 53: Contact

Page 54: Saint Clare of Assisi

Page 55: Saint Gemma Galgani of Lucca

Page 56: Afterglow of Zephyrs

Page 57: Pregnant Aliens

Page 58: Bolt

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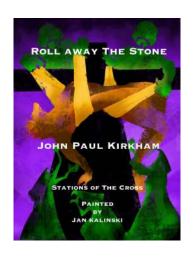
Page 60: Shouting at The Moon

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Page 62: Falling

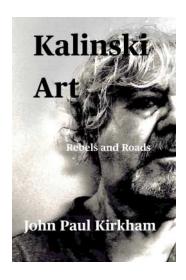
Page 63: Robot

# Jan Kalinski's Sacred Art Paintings can be found in the following illustrated books





# Coming Soon Volume 2 Rebels and Roads



# For further information and help

Multiple Sclerosis Charity www.mssociety.org.uk

Samaritans www.samaritans.org

SP - UK
Suicide Prevention UK
www.spuk.org.uk

# If you would like to know more about

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