



The Road to Ruin (A Race to Nowhere) Acrylic on canvas 24" x 38"



Right: Chicken Soup Acrylic on canvas 56" x 42"

SLOWINSKI

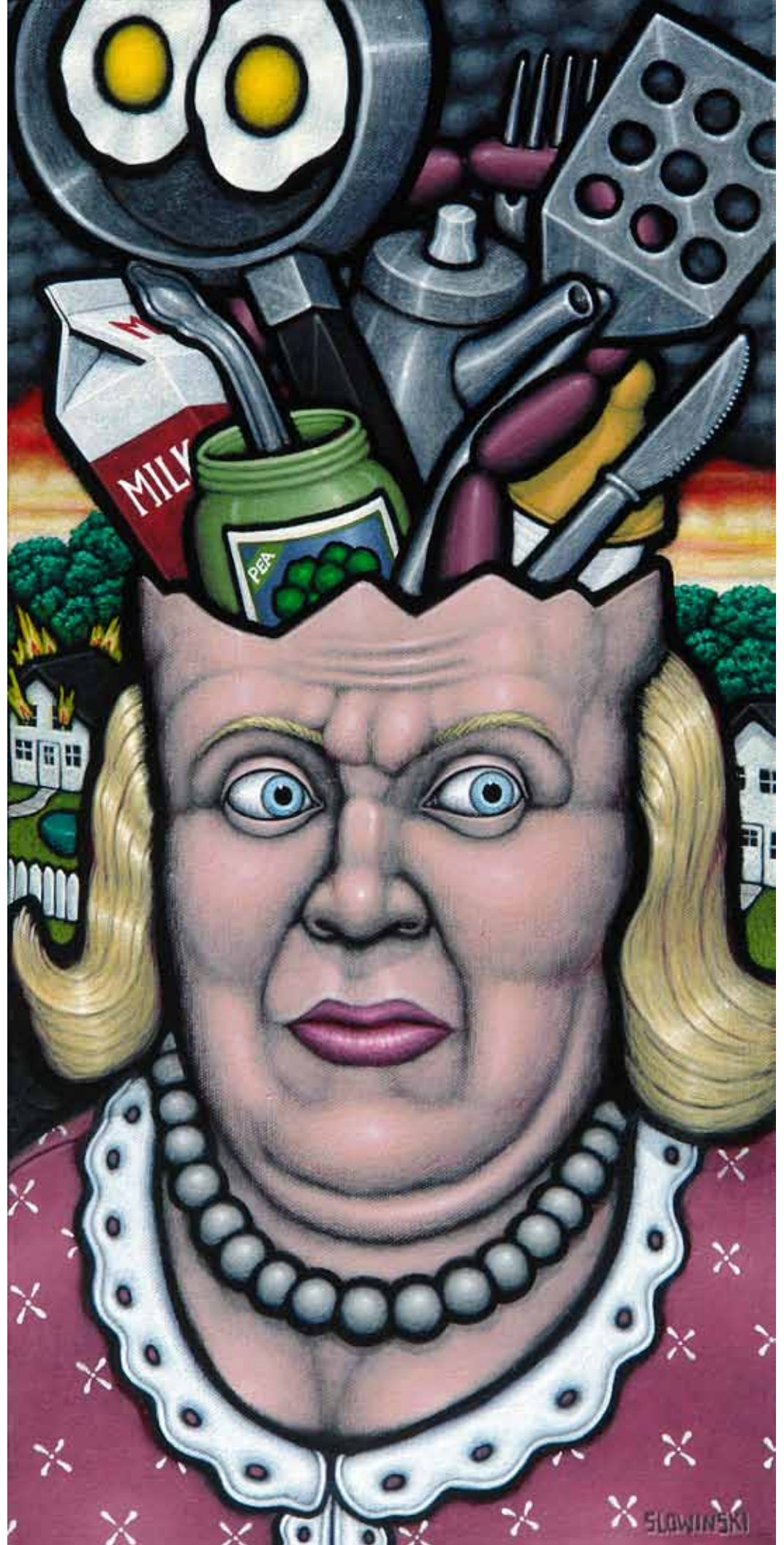
There's a lot of politics in my work, but I never thought of myself as a political artist. My work is more autobiographical, I feel I'm just documenting my life. When I first started painting I used family photos taken by my father as a subject for paintings, then with photographs I took myself of siblings and friends. When I gave up photo based art back in the early 1980s, my subjects were all imaginary, but the paintings still documented my life as they illustrated the world around me. It's unfortunate for my art really, that the life I have lived has been one of continuous killing and wars. My early childhood was lived in the Vietnam era, from there we moved onto covert wars, to Iran-contra, Grenada, Panama, Nicaragua, the Balkans, Iraq, Afghanistan (to name a few) and now we are in the unending, eternal war on terror. I didn't really plan it, but my art, particularly in the past ten years, has been overwhelmingly about these subjects. Perhaps not for the better, and I wonder what I would have created

and what my life would have been like if we lived in a peaceful world. It's sad really, the entire world seems to be a mess, economies crumbling, whole countries seeming apathetic and depressed, and to me it all seems to stem from the killing and wars.

I made a small painting recently, it's on page 13, based on a domestic incident—also a little autobiographical—but not directly war related, at least not one of tanks and guns. It felt quite good to make it. I think I am going to make a conscious effort in the future to avoid these war related paintings. After all, we can choose what we paint to some degree...and I will...just as soon as I finish this huge painting I am working on now, set in Afghanistan, with Mr. Peanut, the Doughman, and Gumby coming out of Alladin's Lamp with guns drawn. The Holy Trinity is looking down from the clouds...oh no...it's actually the Wolfman, Frankenstein and the Mummy. When that's done, for sure...



The Road to Hell Acrylic on canvas 24" x 20"



A Domestic Incident
Acrylic on canvas
12" x 24"