

IN THE STUDIO with David Halbach

For CA member David Halbach, the serenity and solitude of the High Sierra perfectly mirrors his work style. Halbach lives in Graeagle, Calif., north of Lake Tahoe. This small town, nestled in the valley and protected by pines, is where he both lives and creates.

Halbach's home is situated in this picturesque setting, which is characterized by mountain vistas, a sparse population that shrinks further in the winter, and only four stop signs, without a traffic light for miles.

His studio, which shares a common wall with his home, has aspects of both the front yard and the back. Through its windows he sees a broad array of wildlife and often enjoys views of raccoons, chipmunks, squirrels, deer and the occasional bear. The studio, which is on the small side, has its own entrance.

"Being a watercolor painter, I am not in need of a great room," said Halbach.

The windows through which he enjoys the landscape also provide ample natural light for his work, which he supplements with regular candescent lighting.

In keeping with his surroundings, Halbach works best alone.

"I resist having people in the studio," he explained. "I stay very low-key and prefer solitude while working."

Halbach's days often begin with a morning walk, after which he settles down to work at the studio in the late morning. In a profession dominated by deadlines, he works through the day and into the night, often in his studio until 10 p.m. or later, depending on his work commitments. On those days, work trumps other pleasures, such as dinner with friends or an outing on the lake.



David Halbach in his Graeagle, Calif., studio

Halbach, like other CA members, collects Native American and western artifacts. He relies on those pieces, along with books and photographs, to help him maintain an accurate portrayal of the American West in his work. Though he lives in a rural area, he has access to three libraries in neighboring communities where he can continue his research, as needed.

"I also use models occasionally," he added.

Now and then Halbach relies on the quiet of his studio to get him out of a challenging spot with a painting. "As an artist, sometimes what you are doing goes off in the wrong direction and you have to bring it back," he admitted.

And if his numerous awards are any indication, he has mastered just that.

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"They are designed for limited use, so I never use them," explained Lawson. "They are on display in my studio and



This horse shows off an Ortega hackamore from Lawson's extensive collection.

my house, and I refer to them from time to time when I am working to take measurements or refresh my memory on the details."

At this year's Sale, attendees will enjoy two pieces featuring horses with braided rawhide hackamores modeled after pieces from Lawson's collection: *Partners* and *Full Out*.

There's no doubt that CA members will continue to blend their artifacts with their art for us all to appreciate and enjoy.

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Men's Arts Council
of Phoenix Art Museum
1625 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-1685
www.caashow.org

To the Victor, David Halbach, 2008. Watercolor, 30" x 18.5". Courtesy of the artist.



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Setting the Stage

CA Members Use Artifacts to Ensure Accuracy

Whether it's the braiding on a bridle or the stitching on a moccasin, it's all in the details for members of Cowboy Artists of America. Many of them have vast collections of artifacts that double as reference points for their work. These trappings help CA members as they strive to uphold one of CAA's original objectives: to insure authentic representations of the life of the West.

CA Fred Fellows relies on his extensive collection of Indian artifacts for inspiration, including headdresses, war shirts, tomahawks and bows and arrows. He also collects antique saddles, including a favorite silver mounted Mexican saddle that belonged to the governor of Baja California.

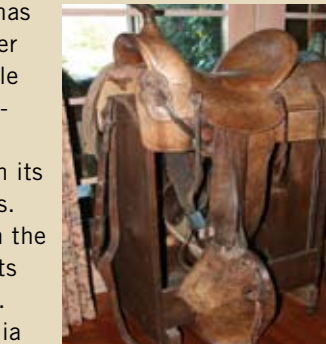
Three other saddles from his collection are featured in *Friends for Supper*, which will be seen at this year's CAA Sale and in the Sale catalog. The horse in the

foreground has a D.E. Walker Visalia saddle that is hand-tooled with tapaderos on its square skirts. The horse in the middle sports another D.E. Walker Visalia with round

skirts and basket stamps. The horse in the background wears a Texas saddle with mochilla housing.

"These saddles are all in my front room at home," explained Fellows, "and I am always looking for new pieces to add to my collection."

CA Mehl Lawson also has a broad rawhide collection. A renowned rawhide braider in his own right, Lawson owns 17 pieces by famed rawhide braider



Friends for Supper, Fred Fellows, 2008. Oil on linen, 24" x 36". Courtesy of the artist.

Louis Ortega – most purchased directly from him. His collection also features works by several others and pieces include hackamores, hobbles and reins.

Lawson's favorites include highly decorate Santa Inez reins and an old, classic California martingale.

Continued on fold-in

An Insider's Look

Whet your appetite for fine Western American art with this sneak preview of works from the 43rd Annual Cowboy Artists of America Sale



The Wary Grey, Bruce Greene, 2008. Oil on canvas, 24" x 48". Courtesy of the artist.



Lives with Honor, John Coleman, 2008. Bronze, 28" x 26" x 14". Courtesy of the artist.



Gibbon Falls, Gary Carter, 2008. Oil on linen, 48" x 34". Courtesy of the artist.



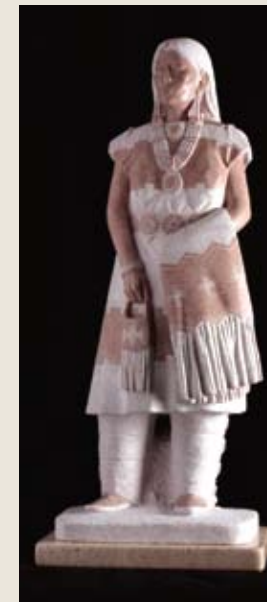
Horse Thief, Bill Nebeker, 2008. Bronze, 15" x 18" x 14". Courtesy of the artist.



Moonlight Warriors, Martin Grelle, 2008. Oil on linen, 28" x 28". Courtesy of the artist.



Crossing the Creek, Tim Cox, 2008. Oil on masonite, 30" x 44". Courtesy of the artist.



Morning Twilight, Oreland Joe, 2008. Tennessee marble, 30" x 12.5" x 18.5". Courtesy of the artist.



Comanche Fury, Dave Powell, 2008. Oil on canvas, 14" x 18" x 14". Courtesy of the artist.



Tranquility, Loren Entz, 2008. Oil on canvas, 14" x 18". Courtesy of the artist.



Cow Boss, T.D. Kelsey, 2008. Bronze, 24" x 9" x 15". Courtesy of the artist.

Keeping Current

If you have a change of address or know someone who would like to be added to the mailing list, call (602) 307-2060.

CAANews

Powell, Brown – Lon's Artists in Residence

Harley Brown and Dave Powell will be the featured artists at the Artist in Residence dinner at Lon's at the Hermosa Inn in Paradise Valley, Ariz., in October.



The Hermosa Inn was originally artist Lon Megargee's home and studio. In keeping with the spirit of Megargee, the renowned restaurant Lon's hosts the Artist in Residence series. Each month brings a different critically-acclaimed artist to Lon's for an intimate evening of dinner and conversation with admirers.

Brown and Powell are featured at the Artist in Residence dinner on Oct. 15, two days before the CAA Sale & Exhibition. Both artists will share their stories and insights into the world of Western American art with

approximately 50 guests. For more information or to purchase tickets for the dinner, visit lons.com or call (602) 955-7878.

Western Art Walk

If you are planning to attend the 2008 CAA Sale, Western ArtWalk is a cannot-miss event. On Thursday, Oct. 16 from 7 to 9pm, the Scottsdale Art District will be bustling with western art lovers and possibly a CA or two.

The Western ArtWalk is held each fall during the CAA Sale Weekend. Aside from visiting the many galleries, ArtWalkers will also find plenty of live music, food samples, prizes and more. You can find the Scottsdale Arts District along Main Street, just west of Scottsdale Road, with plenty of free parking nearby.

This annual event is hosted by the Scottsdale Gallery Association (SGA) in conjunction with Downtown Scottsdale and sponsored in part by Phoenix Art Museum and Arizona Collector's Guide. For more information, visit www.scottsdalegalleries.com.

Schedule of Events 43rd Annual Cowboy Artists of America Sale Weekend

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

Registration
2 – 4pm
The Ritz-Carlton
2401 E. Camelback Road
Scottsdale Galleries
Western ArtWalk
7pm
Downtown Scottsdale

Option #2
Morning at the Zelma Basha Salmeri Gallery of Western American and Native American Art*
9 – 11:30am
Includes breakfast and an opportunity to view the Gallery's collection

43RD ANNUAL COWBOY ARTISTS OF AMERICA SALE*
5 – 9:30pm
Phoenix Art Museum

Sale Doors Open
6pm

Mix 'n Mingle with the Cowboy Artists
12:30 – 2:30pm
The Ritz-Carlton
Includes lunch
Registration Continues
5 – 7pm
Phoenix Art Museum

Intent to Purchase Period
6:30 – 7:30pm

Drawing & Purchasers Posted
7:30pm

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

Registration
8am – 3pm
The Ritz-Carlton
Breakfast & Tour
Option #1
Morning at Phoenix Art Museum*
9 – 11:30am
Phoenix Art Museum
Includes a light continental breakfast and docent tours of the Museum's Western Art collection

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18
Autograph Party
8:30 – 11:30am
Phoenix Art Museum

Awards Banquet
6:30 – 9:30pm
The Ritz-Carlton

* Transportation available

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
www.caashow.org