



THE NEW PHOENIX ART MUSEUM DEBUTS during the 41st Annual Cowboy Artists of America Sale & Exhibition

Both Phoenix Art Museum and the annual Cowboy Artists of America Sale & Exhibition have grown through the decades. Over the years, the annual CAA event has become one of the most prestigious Western American art exhibitions and sales in the world. And, those years have also witnessed the expansion of Phoenix Art Museum into one of the nation's leading art museums, and the largest in the Southwest.



Phoenix Art Museum is continuing to grow and is celebrating the Grand Opening of its \$41.2 million expansion on the weekend of November 11 and 12, right in the middle of this year's 41st annual CAA show. From this weekend on, visitors to the exhibition will begin their Phoenix Art Museum experience in the spectacular new glass-enclosed lobby on the north side of the Museum, with a convenient drop-off drive at the lobby's outdoor entry plaza designed by the local firm of landscape architect Christine Ten Eyck. The new four-level Ellen & Howard C. Katz Wing for Modern Art will provide an additional 25,000 square feet of gallery space to house the growing collection of modern, contemporary, and Latin American art, and

provide a larger and more flexible gallery space for the Museum's renowned fashion design collection. The building's architecture, designed by New York architects Tod Williams/Billie Tsien & Associates, continues the sweeping spaces and vistas one experiences in the Great Hall. A 40-foot high, light-filled rotunda and a flying staircase will provide views of all of the galleries from every level. Unique design features, such as two upper-level enclosed balconies and a sub-ground light well with a tranquil water pool, provide creatively new ways to view the sculpture garden and downtown Phoenix.

More than an acre of the Museum's outdoor spaces are being transformed into a spectacular urban oasis by Reed Hilderbrand Associates of Watertown, Mass. Dorrance Sculpture Garden, with over 100 trees and a unique ground-level water feature, is an environmental gallery space for sculpture, an active space for events and festivities, and a contemplative and inspirational place for Museum visitors to relax.

Phoenix Art Museum has a special feeling for the life, spirit and history captured in the art of the West, which is evident as one strolls through its Western American galleries. On view in those galleries are many select works by members of Cowboy Artists of America that have been made part of the Museum's Western American collection throughout the years.

The annual Cowboy Artists of America Sale and Exhibition and Phoenix Art Museum have come a long way together. The Museum looks forward to bringing the best in Western American art to Museum visitors and collectors from around the world for many years to come.

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PHOENIX ART MUSEUM

Men's Arts Council

1625 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-1685
www.caashow.org



A Welcome Sight, Clark Kelly Price, 2006. Oil on Canvas, 30" x 40". Courtesy of the artist.

 **The Brand of Distinction**



Long-time Friends Basha and CAA bond spans decades

A love of Western art has always been part of life for local businessman Eddie Basha. Basha's Aunt Zelma imbued in him a deep appreciation for art in his youth that he took with him into adulthood.

Basha and his Aunt Zelma visited galleries and art shows regularly, adding knowledge of Western art to his appreciation of history of the American West. In 1971, he purchased his first work of art, and he hasn't stopped since.

When CAA moved its annual Sale & Exhibition to Phoenix Art Museum in 1973, Basha and Aunt Zelma had the opportunity to get to know the artists behind the works they so admired. The pair forged friendships with the artists over the years, sometimes visiting them in their studios and learning more about their inspirations. Many of these friendships span decades, and the relationships grew to be as important as their collecting.

As Basha's collection expanded, he decided to open a gallery so he could share it with the public. In 1992, he opened a gallery that housed a portion of his extensive personal and corporate art collection. Over the following years, he expanded and renovated the gallery multiple times in order to create more space and display the works of art to their best advantage.

When Basha's beloved Aunt Zelma passed




CA Sale patrons enjoying a look around the Bashes' Gallery

away in 1997, he wanted to create a tribute to her that was befitting the nature of their relationship. He dedicated the gallery the Zelma Basha Salmeri Gallery of Western American & Native American Art. Today it houses two distinct collections – Contemporary Western American Art and Contemporary Native American Art – and there are 3,000 works on display. The Contemporary Western American Art collection primarily features art by CAA members.

Basha continues to be a supporter of CAA and the annual Sale & Exhibition. In fact, his gallery has hosted CAA Sale weekend events for the past several years, providing fellow admirers of CAA the opportunity to share in his treasured collection.

This year, CAA Sale attendees again will enjoy the hospitality of the Bashes' Gallery as part of the Sale weekend's events. For more information on the gallery, call (480) 895-5230 and select option 2.

 **The Brand of Distinction**

cowboyartistsofamerica.com

Masters of Media

Diverse materials keep artwork interesting

From alabaster to acrylic and charcoal to canvas, members of CAA use many

materials in their works for the Sale each year. Even the uninitiated know what most of them are, but from time to time attendees will see something interesting that is new to them.

At this year's Cowboy Artists of America Sale & Exhibition, guests will see pastels, gesso and gouache in various pieces.

Pastel a misnomer for this rich material

While most people have heard of pastels, many don't realize that the name refers to the material and not the shade of color. Pastel is an art medium that has a high concentration of pigment that is mixed with a binder and rolled into a stick.

While pastels do come in pale shades, they also come in vibrant colors. And while they come in stick form, they are used similarly to oils in that the artist can build up color with them. CA member Harley Brown enjoys working with pastels for the rich, long-lasting colors and the ability to create lights, shadows and a strong picture.

"I USE PASTELS BECAUSE I LOVE DRAWING, AND WORKING WITH PASTELS IS VERY CLOSE TO THAT," said Brown. "I CAN LOOK AT MY OLD PASTELS, AND THEY LOOK AS FRESH AS IF I MADE THEM YESTERDAY."

Gesso a prime material

Gesso is another material that guests might see at the Sale. Gesso is essentially a primer, and some artists use it to prepare their canvases so they grab paint, charcoal or other materials more easily. It creates a stiffer, less porous support surface so less paint is absorbed. It can



Heritage, Harley Brown, 2006. Pastel, 27" x 29". Courtesy of the artist.

be applied to canvas, wood or virtually any other material that is used as a base for a work or art.

Gouache a tricky medium

Gouache is similar to watercolor, but it has a higher concentration of pigment in it and it is opaque. Gouache pieces must be framed under glass in order to prevent damage to the water-based paint. Because it is a water soluble material, it can be as difficult to use as its cousin. In addition, it is extremely difficult to match a color if it has already dried.

"You have to get used to working with it," said CA member Gary Niblett. "Dark colors dry lighter than when you apply them, and lights dry darker."

However, the fact that gouache dries so quickly is one reason so many artists like to work with it. Where oil paint might take a few days to dry, gouache only takes a couple of minutes. An artist who wants to build more color on a painting can do so almost immediately with gouache.

Many CA members use gouache in their works, including Ron Riddick, Gordon Snidow, Dave Powell, John Moyers, Fred Fellows and Niblett.

Members of CAA employ diverse media in their work, and the Sale & Exhibition is the perfect time to enjoy viewing some common – and some not-so-common – materials up close.

CA NEWS

Fellows Named AWA Artist of the Year

The Academy of Western Artists (AWA) recognized CA member Fred Fellows as Artist of the Year as part of the Will Rogers Cowboy Awards program.

AWA is a group dedicated to preserving and perpetuating the traditions, values and heritage of the American cowboy. Each year, they honor individuals who keep that spirit alive through their writing, poetry, art, music, artisan cowboy gear and chuck wagon cookery, among other things.

Past CA recipients include emeritus member Grant Speed and active members Wayne Baize and Bill Owen. CA honorary member Red Steagall also won for Entertainer of the Year in 2000.



Herb Mignery sculpted this commission to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the NWSS.

Mignery Monument for Denver

The National Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver is celebrating its 100th anniversary in a big way. The non-profit organization, which is committed to preserving and educating the public about Western heritage, commissioned

Herb Mignery to sculpt a larger-than-life cowboy monument. The sculpture, which represents a cowboy holding a saddle and looking to his left, will be installed in its new home in downtown Denver in October.

"In addition to commemorating our 100-year anniversary," said NWSS President Pat Grant, "this sculpture honors a symbol of our Western heritage – the cowboy."

Mignery was selected for the commission from a pool of candidates to create this sculpture, which he conceptualized. The bronze will feature the NWSS anniversary logo on the saddle and the cowboy's belt buckle.

Mehl Lawson Sculpts Perfect Quarter Horse for AQHA

The American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) commissioned CA member Mehl Lawson to sculpt the perfect quarter horse for the organization. Lawson, a CA member since 1982, is sculpting a small piece to be used as the model for AQHA world championship trophies. He also is sculpting a life-sized piece that will go on display at the American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame in Amarillo this fall.

Lawson came by his knowledge of horses through 20 years as a full-time horse trainer. While he began his career in art as a painter, he began sculpting in 1977.



Mehl Lawson sculpts the perfect Quarter Horse for AQHA.

Keeping Current

If you have a change of address or know someone who would like to be added to the mailing list, call Kelly Whitton at (602) 307-2007 or Ruth Kaspar at (602) 252-8382.



From the Top of Dutch Canyon, Bruce Greene, 2006. Oil on canvas, 24" x 48". Courtesy of the artist.

COWBOY ARTISTS of AMERICA 41ST ANNUAL SALE AND EXHIBITION

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

Registration
2 – 4pm
The Ritz-Carlton
2401 E. Camelback Rd., Phoenix

Scottsdale Galleries
Western Artwalk
7pm

Downtown Scottsdale

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

Registration
8am – 3pm
The Ritz-Carlton

Basha Gallery Tour
9:30am

Zelma Basha Salmeri Gallery
of Western American and Native
American Art

Mix and Mingle with
the Cowboy Artists
12:30 – 2pm
The Ritz-Carlton
Panel Discussion:
"Rememberin' Joe Beeler"

Registration Continues
5 – 7pm
Phoenix Art Museum
Central Avenue & McDowell
in downtown Phoenix

Cowboy Artists
of America
41st Annual Sale

5 – 9pm
Phoenix Art Museum
Sale Doors Open
6pm

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

Drawing and
Purchasers Posted
7:30pm

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

Autograph Party
8:30 – 10:30am
Phoenix Art Museum

Awards Banquet
6:30 – 9:30pm
Arizona Biltmore Resort & Spa
2400 E. Missouri Avenue, Phoenix

TICKETS & SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

If you've dragged your feet, have no fear. There's still time to purchase tickets or be a sponsor for the 41st Annual Sale & Exhibition and help keep Western representational art alive for future generations. Call Kelly Whitton at (602) 307-2007 or Ruth Kaspar at (602) 252-8382 to find out more about ticket sales and sponsorship opportunities. You can also purchase tickets and get more information at www.caashow.org.

ATTENTION Sale Attendees!

Only cash and checks are accepted at the CA Sale. Please remember to bring your checkbook or wallet on the night of the Sale, since credit cards are not accepted. You will need one check per work of art purchased.

CA Poster for Sale

The CAA 41st Annual Sale & Exhibition poster features the oil, *Caught in the Open*, by CA President John Moyers that won both the Gold and Kieckhefer Best in Show awards at last year's Sale. The posters cost \$25 each plus \$5 for shipping and handling. You can order a poster by calling Ruth Kaspar at (602) 252-8382.

You can see a sneak preview of works of art that will appear at the Sale at www.caashow.org.