

On with the Show

Kirk Thompson and crew prepare for 42nd Sale Weekend

The first buds of spring are barely forming, and already Kirk Thompson has been hard at work in his role as chairman of the 42nd Annual Cowboy Artists of America Sale & Exhibition, which takes place on Oct. 19, 2007.

Learn more about this volunteer who is leading the charge with his enthusiasm and fresh perspective.



Q: How long have you been involved in Men's Arts Council (MAC) and the CAA Sale & Exhibition?

A: Years ago, a good friend invited me to join MAC. I've been a member since 1992, back in the days when new MACs delivered Christmas trees and tended bar. I've participated in all but one of the CAA Sale & Exhibition events since then.

Q: What is it about the CAA that keeps you involved?

A: I really enjoy having the opportunity to work with a group of volunteers on beneficial community goals, contribute something back to the community, watch the museum grow and have fun.

Each of three events MAC sponsors is a successful fund raiser, and they are all different. The CAA event is, in my opinion, one of the most fun because it brings all of the MAC membership into the mix.

Q: What can attendees expect from the 2007 Sale?

A: Attendees can expect great art, as usual, from the best western artists in the world, along with good food and good fun. This year we're going to host a tour and program at Phoenix Art Museum on Friday morning. This will give our attendees an opportunity to see parts of the museum that many have not visited before and to see the Museum's Western Art Collection. The event committee and I really are looking forward to this special weekend.

Q: Are you making any behind-the-scenes changes to the Sale?

A: We intend to promote online ticket purchases and detailed event information on the MAC/CAA Sale & Exhibition website (www.caashow.org). We're also augmenting our event management software to make it more efficient and easier to use.

Q: Do you collect Western art?

A: I have only a small collection of Western art, with two pieces from CAA artists. Both of these are from artists who I have worked with at the Sale & Exhibition over the years. Not only is the art good, but having the opportunity to meet and know the artists who produced the work makes owning it even more special. I think that is what makes the CAA Sale & Exhibition unique. Each of us has the opportunity to see and buy great art and to spend some time with some really fun and competent artists.

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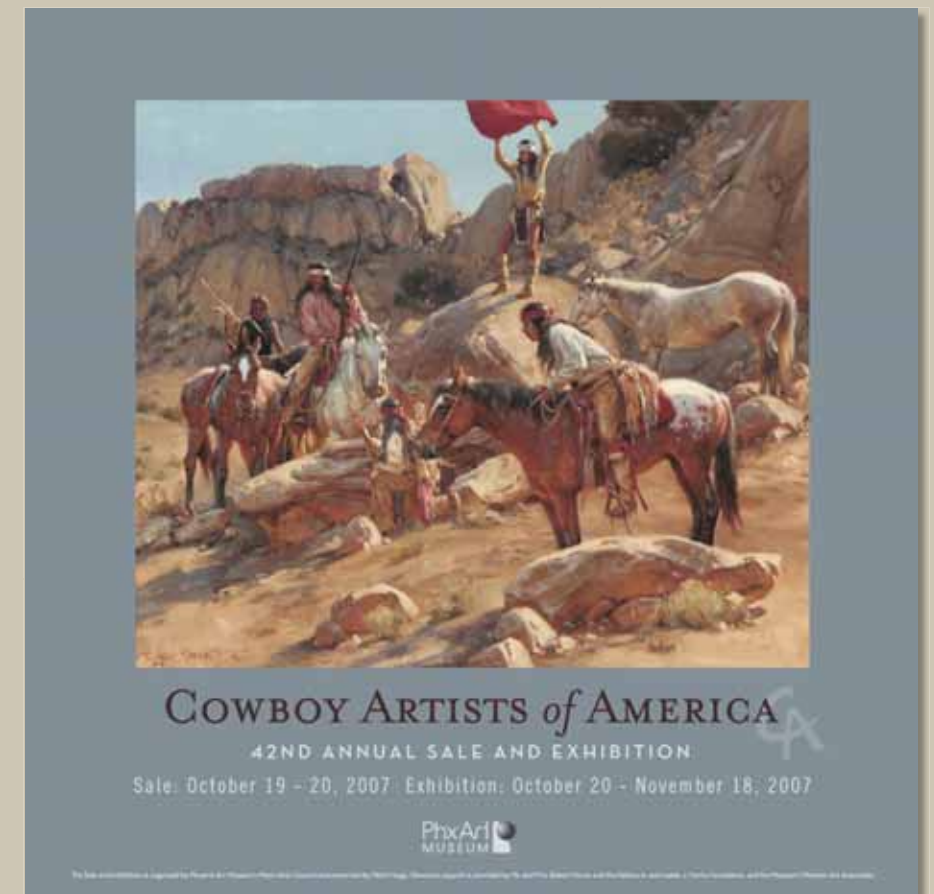
Men's Arts Council

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The work of Gary Niblett, a member of the Cowboy Artists of America since 1976, is featured on the poster for the 42nd Annual CAA Sale & Exhibition. Known for breathing life into the values of the American West through his oils, Niblett also paints in watercolor.

"I have been a member of the Cowboy Artists of America for over thirty years, and I consider the members to be the most outstanding group of artists and men in the world," said Niblett. "For me to be chosen to represent them by using my work as the official CA poster is a tremendous honor."



Sentinel Signal, Gary Niblett, 2005. Oil on canvas, 30" x 36"

The Brand of Distinction

The Brand of Distinction

cowboyartistsofamerica.com



CAA Sale Weekend attendees will enjoy breakfast in Phoenix Art Museum's beautiful Sculpture Garden as part of the 2007 event.

What's NEW with the CAA Sale & Exhibition?

The 42nd Annual Cowboy Artists of America Sale & Exhibition has some changes in store for its attendees. While most of the traditional Sale weekend events will remain the same, this year's Friday morning activity will be held at Phoenix Art Museum instead of the Zelma Basha Salmeri Gallery of Western American & Native American Art.

The change in venue will give attendees the opportunity to explore the newly renovated Phoenix Art Museum. Highlights of the morning will include breakfast in the new Sculpture Garden and tours of the Western American Art Collection, which includes works by many members of the Cowboy Artists of America.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

- Registration at The Ritz-Carlton
- Scottsdale Galleries Western Artwalk

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

- Registration at The Ritz-Carlton
- Breakfast and Tours at Phoenix Art Museum
- Mix and Mingle with the Cowboy Artists
- Cowboy Artists of America 42nd Annual Sale at Phoenix Art Museum

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

- Autograph Party at Phoenix Art Museum
- Awards Banquet at The Ritz Carlton

SAVE the DATE

*42nd Annual
Cowboy Artists
of America
Sale & Exhibition*

at Phoenix Art Museum

Sale Weekend:

Oct. 19 - 20, 2007

Exhibition:

Oct. 20 - Nov. 18, 2007

New Features for 2007 Sale Website



As always, the Men's Arts Council and Cowboy Artists of America strive to provide a wonderful experience for all participants in the CAA Sale & Exhibition. To that end, the Sale website, www.caashow.org, is being updated with more than just a few photos and a review of last year's show.

This year, the website will contain details about the CA Sale weekend events and things to do at Phoenix Art Museum, as well as more information on the Phoenix area and local restaurant information. This will help Sale attendees easily choose the events in which they want to participate. In addition, www.caashow.org will have links to the Museum website so attendees can learn about its history, the permanent Western American Art

Collection and the recently completed expansion

The Sale website is the place to purchase tickets for Sale weekend events. The shopping cart section has been streamlined and is faster and easier than ever to use. All credit card transactions are completed through well-established, secure website technology, making it safe for people to purchase online.

Future plans for www.caashow.org include prior-year catalog and poster sales, along with some unique Cowboy Artist memorabilia. This website is intended to fully serve Sale & Exhibition patrons, artists, Museum members and staff and the Men's Arts Council. Your suggestions and comments are welcome and can be sent to info@caashow.org.

CA NEWS

CA's Exhibit at Autry

Eleven members of the Cowboy Artists of America made a show of it at the 10th Annual Autry National Center Masters of the American West Fine Art Exhibition and Sale at the Autry National Center in Griffith Park, Calif. The 2007 Masters exhibition, which ran from Feb. 3 through March 4, included close to 300 new works by 72 of the country's most celebrated contemporary Western artists.

CA members Harley Brown, John Coleman, Don Crowley, Martin Grelle, Oreland Joe, Mehl Lawson, Herb Mignery, Bill Nebeker, Gary Niblett, Jim Norton and Clark Kelley Price participated in this annual event.

Herb Mignery Sculpture Installed in Colorado

Checkmate, a ten-foot-tall bronze by CA member Herb Mignery, was installed in Golden, Colo., last December. The Golden Public Art Partnership of the City of Golden and Golden Civic Foundation, along with the Golden Rotary Club, purchased this sculpture because it depicts Golden's Western heritage.

While on a business trip in Houston, Rotarian Bob Short spotted the bronze of a cowboy training a young horse while at the Adams Mark Hotel. The Golden Rotary Club and the Golden Public Art Partnership together purchased *Checkmate* and had it delivered to Golden.

Representatives of these organizations were on hand during the installation of the bronze in

the northern gateway of Golden, north of Pine Ridge Road on Colorado 93.


This isn't the only place in Colorado where you can see *Checkmate*. Another cast of this Mignery bronze is on display at the 16th Street Mall in Denver.

Kelsey Wins Bronze at National Western Stock Show's Art Exhibit

Congratulations to CA member T.D. Kelsey on his award for his bronze sculpture in the ranching category of the 2007 Coors Western Art Exhibit and Sale. This event is part of the National Western Stock Show, which was held in January in Denver.

More than 50 fine artists, each known for his or her excellence in portraying the American west, presented at this year's 15th annual exhibit. The exhibit contains works in many media and styles, ranging from traditional to contemporary, with images portraying western life. Proceeds from the Coors Western Art Exhibit and Sale benefit the National Western Scholarship Trust, which benefits more than 60 college students in Colorado and Wyoming.

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 Ka  t (602) 252-8382.

Oreland Joe Sculpture joins Western American Art Collection at Phoenix Art Museum

NEW ADDITION A GIFT

To the renovation and improvements at Phoenix Art Museum last year, visitors can now add one more reason to come: The addition of an **Oreland C. Joe** marble to the Western American Art Collection.

Bentley Dillard donated *Canon Breeze* in memory of her late husband, Roy Dillard. The marble joins several sculptures by fellow CAA members, including Joe Beeler, Herb Mignery, John Coleman and Bill Nebeker. However it is the first singular, stone work by a CA member in the Collection.

While the Museum is delighted to count this Joe work among its Collection, it has yet to be installed. *Canon Breeze* is currently in storage, awaiting exhibition space.

"*Canon Breeze* will be installed at some point, as works in the permanent collection do get shifted out from time to time," said Jerry Smith, Associate Curator of American Art.

Among the hundreds of pieces in the broad-based Western American Art Collection, the art by CA members helps give a broader look at the West. It illustrates that highly skilled artists are still working in the traditions of Frederic Remington and Charles Russell and capturing the spirit of the West. The CA members' paintings, drawings and sculptures provide a connection between the artists working today and those of the past. Many of their works also highlight the continued importance and appreciation for figurative work in the contemporary art world, which has never grown out of favor among lovers of art.

"It is nice to see Joe's work come into the collection as an example of American art," said Smith. "His sculptures, while influenced by and frequently suggestive of American-Indian life, frequently transcend such definitions as 'American-Indian' art and are appreciated foremost as the work of a talented American artist working in the Southwest today."



IN MEMORIAM

Barbara J. Lawson

Oct. 8, 1938-Feb. 13, 2007

Barbara J. Lawson, wife of Cowboy Artist member Mehl Lawson, passed away in February after long battle with cancer. Members of the Cowboy Artists of America and the Men's Arts Council join in expressing their condolences to the Lawson family. Barbara will be missed by all who knew her.