

COWGIRL UP!
ART FROM THE OTHER HALF OF THE WEST
2006 INVITATIONAL EXHIBITION & SALE
FACT SHEET

The Exhibition & Sale:

Cowgirl Up! Art From the Other Half of the West, Desert Caballeros Western Museum, 21 North Frontier Street, Wickenburg, Arizona, April 9-30, 2006 (closed Easter Sunday). Reception, Preview & Sale at 5:30 pm on Saturday, April 8.

The Artists:

- Fifty six (56) women artists working in the Western genre from Arizona, Colorado, Minnesota, Montana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Washington State and Wyoming.
- More than a dozen Arizona artists are represented including Arizona's Shawn Cameron, Cynthia Rigden, and Sherry Blanchard Stuart. Cameron's paintings are shown at Legacy Gallery in Scottsdale. Stuart's work is carried by Scottsdale's Open Range Gallery as well as The Gold Nugget in Wickenburg. The sculptures of Cynthia Rigden are shown at Scottsdale's Trailside Galleries.
- A special tribute will be paid to Arizona painter Rogue Simpson, who was killed in an automobile accident last fall.
- In addition to world-famous Glenna Goodacre, the distinguished roster of painters and sculptors includes Veryl Goodnight, whose 14,000 pound bronze monument to freedom, *The Day the Wall Came Down*, is a highlight of the George Bush Presidential Library. Reflecting a diverse array of styles, the exhibit also features *Soul Searching* by Donna Howell-Sickles, who has re-glamorized the cowgirl of the West.

The Awards:

Awards will include a "Best of Show" cash award of \$2,000 accompanied by the *Cowgirl Up!* Commemorative Boot; the "Governor's Choice" cash award of \$1,000 chosen by the Office of the Governor of the State of Arizona; "First Place" cash awards of \$1000 for both two-dimensional and three-dimensional art; a "Museum Purchase" award chosen by the Desert Caballeros Western Museum for its permanent collection; and a "People's Choice" cash award of \$1000 for the most popular work of art chosen by *Cowgirl Up!* patrons.

The Judges:

Members of the *Cowgirl Up!* panel of judges are: A.P. "Abe" Hayes, Arizona West Galleries, Inc.; Jerry N. Smith, Associate Curator of American Art, Phoenix Art Museum; Betsy Fahlman, Professor of Art History, Arizona State University; Donna H. Fleischer, Co-Founder and Former Director of the Fleisher Museum.

The Cowgirl Up! Catalogue:

A 68-page catalogue with four-color reproductions of each artist's work accompanied by a biography will be available at the exhibit.

Cowgirl Up! Fact Sheet/2222

A Little History about Women Artists in Arizona:

The first annual *Cowgirl Up! Art From the Other Half of the West Invitational Show & Sale* is another milestone in Arizona's rich history of women artists. This proud tradition began back at the turn of the 20th century when artists such as Kate Thomson Cory, Jessie Benton Evans, Lillian Wilhelm Smith and Marjorie Thomas first celebrated the beauty of the West.

In the Words of Arizona's Governor:

The Honorable Janet Napolitano, a strong patron of the arts, has been invited to the opening gala. "'Cowgirls' have been an important asset in the development of the West, and through your paintings, sculptures and drawings, this tradition is kept alive," says the Governor in a letter to the artists included in the new catalogue.

About the Museum:

The Desert Caballeros Western Museum is *Arizona's Most Western Museum* serving more than 40,000 visitors a year by preserving and exhibiting the art and history of the Southwest and desert frontier. The Museum is known for its innovative programming and has an extraordinary collection including Western art and Native American arts, along with the Hays' *Spirit of the Cowboy Collection*, one of the most complete collections of Western artifacts on display in the country. The Museum's entire lower level is devoted to a re-creation of life in Late Territorial Wickenburg and to an exciting permanent exhibit called *Out on the Ranch* which has been especially created with children in mind. The Museum is located at 21 N. Frontier Street in Wickenburg. For information, call 928-684-2272, or visit www.westernmuseum.org