

Rope Burns

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2008 Prix de West Opening Sold More Than \$4 Million In Western Art

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK — The National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum® 35th annual Prix de West® Invitational Art Exhibition and Sale played host to 99 artists and more than 1,200 guests and sold more than \$4 million in art during opening weekend June 13 and 14, 2008. The exhibit includes 310 Western paintings and sculpture by the finest contemporary Western artists in the nation and remains on display through September 7. During the weekend guests took part in art seminars, receptions and an awards banquet that rounded out the exhibition's opening events.

The minimum-bid sale, which is only in its second year, started off Saturday's sale and contained works from artists such as Martin Grelle, Oreland C. Joe Sr., William Acheff, Dennis Doheny, Gerald Balciar and many more. Any Prix de West patron with a registered ballot book could participate in the minimum-bid sale. With 14 Artists having works in the minimum-bid sale it alone grossed \$727,688. High bids in the 2008 show included \$406,000 for Martin Grelle's *Trappers In The Wind River*, \$82,501 for *Design Painter* by William Acheff and \$65,189 for *Tiers of the Merced* by Dennis Doheny.

In addition, for the fifth year, a live auction of art was featured during the banquet. An auction of 12 works by Prix de West artists raised \$222,750, the second highest total sales of any Prix de West live auction to date. Two of the artists who placed works in the live sale generously donated 100% of the proceeds to the Museum. Those two pieces were *Evening Light from Hopi Point* by Curt Walters and *Babbitt Ranch Cowboy* by Shawn Cameron.

During the fixed price sale buyers select the works of art that they would like to purchase and await a starter's signal. When the sale had come to a close, more than \$3 million dollars of art was sold in the fixed price sale. This year the combined total of Minimum-Bid, Live and Fixed Priced sales reached more than \$4 million, with a percentage of that total benefiting the Museum. The top honor is the Prix de West Purchase Award winner. The artist receives the purchase price and a cash award of \$5,000. Morgan Weistling was honored for the second time in his career with the prestigious Prix de West Purchase Award medallion.

Weistling's painting titled *Indian Stories* makes a significant addition to the Museum's priceless acquisitions. He also will be recognized with a special tile in the Edward I. Gavlord

The Express Ranches Great American Cowboy Award is given to the artist who exhibits the best cowboy subject matter. Carrie L. Ballantyne captured the true cowboy essence in *Jackson Wald*.

The Nona Jean Husley Rumsey Buyers' Choice Award was given to Craig Tennant for *A Distance Bugle*.

This year's exhibition will run through September 7.

For information about Prix de West opening weekend or to make reservations call (405) 478-2250 or visit www.nationalcowboymuseum.org. Commemorative catalogs and collector's bolos are available for purchase from The Museum Store.

CD MUSIC REVIEW:

The Tumbling Tumbleweeds

Just finished listening to "The Tumbling Tumbleweeds" and their brand new debut CD this is a must listen to CD if you like the close harmonies style of music that has always been so popular. The album includes their original song called "Golden Grizzly" and it's a very well put together song for this group. Other tracks that I liked were "My Saddle Pals and I", "San Antonio Rose", "Old Pinto" and "Little Patch of Heaven", but just about every song on this CD is a must listen for me. Here is more info on this group that has already secured a nomination for the 2008 Western Music Association "Traditional Duo/Group Award" and the "Crescendo-Most Promising Talent Award"

The Tumbling Tumbleweeds consist of founder and creator Rob Wolfskill baritone, Cade Parenti, baritone, Chris Acuff, tenor and R.J. Mills, guitarist.

Based in Sierra Madre, California, the Tumbling Tumbleweeds are comprised of four men, all from various and divergent backgrounds yet all sharing the same love of the music of the old west. As their name suggests, The Tumbling Tumbleweeds pay homage to The Sons of the Pioneers whom they consider to be the "masters of cowboy music."

Contact
Info: www.CDBaby.com
<http://www.thetumblingtumbleweeds.com/index2.htm>

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The country is in a st election looms on the l nally lost my sense of l yammer on and on abc slightest idea what the have been repeatedly z to support and though sonal choice and no on I will share my decisior day readers I am going sonal political opinion r affiliations and fad statu

I am not going to vote would be the first time person to be president' because of party affiliati anyone based on how TV or radio. And I am who does not display tism. If they want this , better uphold all those founded on and they mcial interest groups. Tl mon sense and know l hammer, screw-driver a tive they have a good willing to listen to all t real world each day; v paycheck, crop to crop rise.

I intend to keep resea backgrounds, opinions, right up to the day I vote

Book Review

The Misadventu Cartoonist: The Secret -Tom Gill with

Five Star Legends/ Five S

You've seen Tom Gill's the cartoonist who dre comics for two decades (135 of the 145 *Lone Ran* he also did the *Hi Yo Sil* of the *Cheyenne*, *Bona* books. But *The Lone Ra* place in history. This new in time for the 75th anniv of The Lone Ranger char