

Galleries West

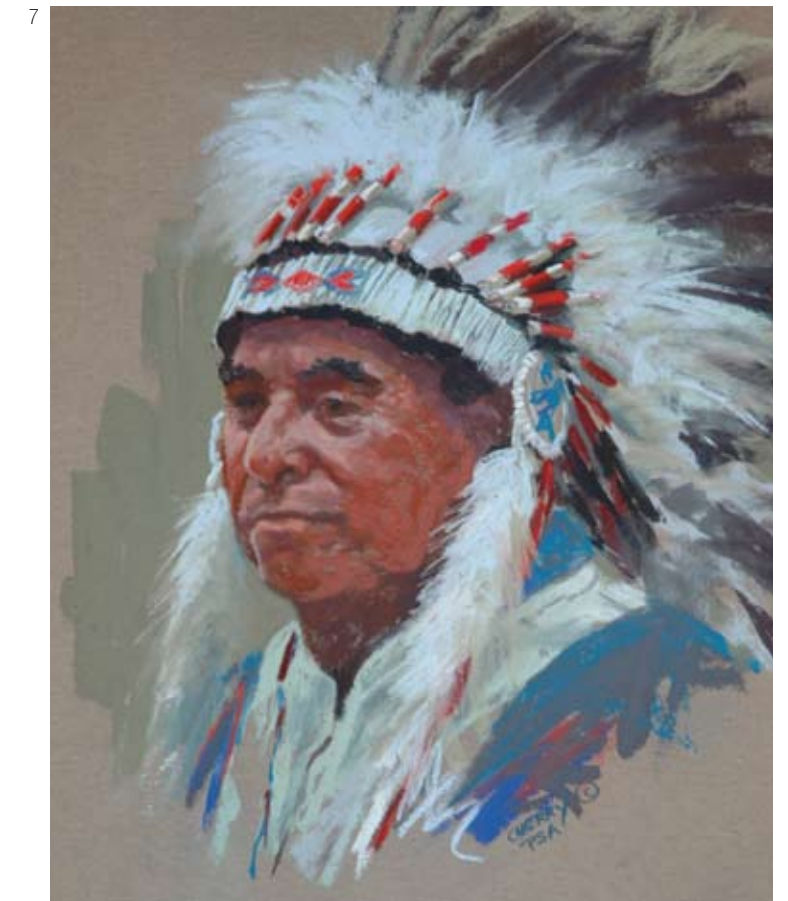
Find exceptional art of the West and beyond at Galleries West Fine Art. Whether a seasoned art collector or a first-time buyer, you'll find a broad range of traditional to contemporary sculpture, paintings, pottery and basketry by nearly 40 emerging and established artists. Don't miss the opportunity to visit with resident sculptor R. Scott Nickell in a casual, friendly atmosphere. Located one block west of Town Square on South Glenwood; open nightly until 8 p.m. in the summer.

Gallery Location:

70 S. Glenwood
307-733-4412
www.gallerieswestjacksonhole.com



- 1. Dinah Jasensky, Killer, oil, 24"(h) x 12"(w)
- 2. Hubert Wackermann, Sitting Bull Reaches Greasy Grass, oil, 24"(h) x 36"(w)
- 3. John Cogan, Evening Glory at Taggart Lake, acrylic, 24"(h) x 36"(w)
- 4. Marilyn Salomon, My Story in Dance, batik, 20"(h) x 24"(w)
- 5. John Potter, Illumination, oil, 18"(h) x 24"(w)
- 6. Kate Ferguson, First Loop, oil, 20"(h) x 30"(w)
- 7. Mary Ann Cherry, Sioux Chief, pastel, 14"(h) x 14"(w)



Respecting Roots



Galleries West

has a knack for discovering talent. Boasting walls adorned with top contemporary representational artists from across the United States, the space offers art for a range of collectors. It's also no wonder that the gallery has a special connection with art unique to Jackson Hole. Three of the gallery's notable artists, sculptor R. Scott Nickell, and painters E.C. O'Connor and Jennifer L. Hoffman, have been showing their creative labors at Galleries West Fine Art since the gallery opened its doors 6

years ago and have garnered a national following as a result.

Nickell, who founded Galleries West with wife Marsha and partners Bill and Debbie Bunch, began showing his work in Jackson as a resident artist 17 years ago. "I was one of the first artists to sculpt in the galleries and interact with the clients," Nickell recalls. Each summer since, he's been a staple in the Jackson gallery scene, meticulously sculpting and beading clay figures. Always happy to pause and explain the bronze casting process, history of a bead pattern, or the tribal traditions of his subjects, Scott's affable nature encourages dialogue. Originally a geophysicist from Texas, he has been inspired by the history and art of Native American cultures since childhood. His carefully researched and precisely detailed sculptures pay homage to the proud Native American history he so admires.

Longtime Wilson resident E.C. O'Connor paints plein air landscapes that capture the spirit of a scene in her uniquely recognizable style. Mentored by local giant Greg McHuron, O'Connor's paintings go beyond the literal and tap into the instinctual connection with wild and desolate places. Simultaneously bold and sensitive, solid and floating, grounded and ethereal, her work has been compared to Maynard Dixon, the Taos School painters, and Howard Post. "I hope that my paintings can inspire an understanding and appreciation — from both artists and collectors — of the beauty of wild places, especially those places overlooked as barren or empty," O'Connor adds. A recently awarded artist-in-residency at Joshua Tree National Park will give her the opportunity to do just that. The residency will be followed by a solo exhibition at the gallery this summer.

Jennifer L. Hoffman came to Jackson Hole from Pennsylvania 13 years ago in a quest to paint landscape from life. "I thought I'd be here for a year or two," she recalls, "but the West is such a compelling place. I got hooked." Now a regular exhibitor in the National Museum of Wildlife Art's annual Western Visions show and a signature member of the Pastel Society of America, Hoffman's career has skyrocketed in the last few years. Her plein air and studio works are created in pastel, oil and graphite. Hoffman's style is quiet. The colors and values are subdued, and the subjects are rarely bold. "My landscapes are most often of locations here in Jackson Hole, but I love when a painting makes someone think, 'Oh, that reminds me of a place I used to go when I was a child,' or 'looks like that special spot we visited.' I want my work to transcend that specificity and move toward a sense of place. I hope to translate that magical connection I feel with nature."

All three artists display wildly unique styles coupled with an appreciation for diversity that fuel Galleries West's efforts to deliver an eclectic yet approachable mix of western art.

- 1. R. Scott Nickell, Chief of Acquisitions, bronze edition of 24, 32"(h) x 13"(w) x 10"(d)
- 2. Jennifer L. Hoffman, Snowbound, oil on mounted linen, 12"(h) x 16"(w)
- 3. E.C. O'Connor, Follow the Shadows, oil on mounted linen, 8"(h) x 10"(w)



E.C. O'Connor, R. Scott Nickell & Jennifer L. Hoffman in front of a collection of their work.