

For Immediate Release
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Contact: Seth Spillman, Chief Marketing Officer
sspillman@nationalcowboymuseum.org
(Office) (405) 478-2250 ext. 269



Prix de West Award Winners Announced

*National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum announces
2020 Purely Proxy Prix de West award winners and virtual tour.*

The sale of the **48th Annual *Prix de West Invitational Art Exhibition & Sale*** isn't the only aspect of the nation's premier Western art exhibition and sale that's gone virtual: In a format befitting of 2020, the *Prix de West* committee presented the 2020 awards virtually to the winning artists this afternoon, August 14, via video conference.

"We wanted the thrill and excitement of announcing this year's winners to come through even if we were hosting the announcement virtually," said Natalie Shirley, The Cowboy's president. "These winners are truly deserving, and it was wonderful to gather and celebrate them, even if it was from a safe distance this year."

In addition, The Cowboy is pleased to offer a fully virtual tour of the entire *Prix de West Invitational Art Exhibition*. The virtual tour, produced by 3D Scans Plus, allows Western art enthusiasts from around the world to tour the entire *Prix de West* exhibition and view each piece of art as if they were standing in the gallery. View the virtual tour and online catalog at nationalcowboymuseum.org/prixdewest.

48th Annual Prix de West Invitational Art Show Winners

Prix de West Purchase Award

Bill Anton received the top-honored *Prix de West Purchase Award*, which is given to the artist whose work of art is selected by the *Prix de West* Committee and purchased for the Museum's permanent collection.

Anton won for his painting titled *Makeshift Ambulance*. In addition to the purchase price, Anton will receive the *Prix de West* medallion and an award of \$5,000 sponsored by Roberta M. Eldridge Miller.

"I've done this show for 23 years and it's been a joy in my life," said Anton. "It's an honor just to be in the same building as the other *Prix de West* artists."

In 2009, Anton won both the *Prix de West* Robert Lougheed Memorial Award and the Express Ranches Great American Cowboy Award. He captured the Express Ranches award again in 2011 and 2018.

“We want to congratulate Bill on his exceptional work and the recognition of the Purchase Award this year,” Shirley said. “He is an exceptional talent in the Western Art world, and we are honored to add this piece to the Museum’s permanent collection.”

Other 2020 *Prix de West* award winners:

Donald Teague Memorial Award

An award of \$3,000 for exceptional artistic merit for a work on paper, sponsored by Scottsdale Art Auction.

Winner:

Scott Burdick
Ponca Nation

Express Ranches Great American Cowboy Award

An award of \$3,000 for best cowboy subject matter, sponsored by Robert A. Funk and Express Ranches.

Winner:

Carrie L. Ballantyne
Young Hand

James Earle Fraser Sculpture Award

An award of \$3,000 for exceptional artistic merit for a sculpture, sponsored by the Charlie Russell Riders in honor of Steve Rose.

Winner:

Harold T. Holden
Strike Lightning

Major General and Mrs. Don D. Pittman Wildlife Award

An award of \$3,000 for exceptional artistic merit for a wildlife painting or sculpture, sponsored by the Estate of the late Major General and Mrs. Don D. Pittman.

Winner:

Andrew Peters
Pleistocene Messengers

Wilson Hurley Memorial Award

An award of \$3,000 for exceptional artistic merit for a landscape, sponsored by Rod Moore.

Winner:

Ralph Oberg
A Remnant of Wildness

Robert Lougheed Memorial Award

An award of \$3,000 for best display of three or more works chosen by Prix de West exhibiting artists, sponsored by Barbara and Roger Simons in memory of Faydra and George Simons, true Western enthusiasts.

Winner:

Matt Smith

North Fork Creek, North Wash Autumn, Point Lobos and The San Miguel in Winter

Frederic Remington Painting Award

An award of \$3,000 for exceptional artistic merit for a painting, sponsored by Donna Holt, Jan Provine and Terri Sadler in loving memory of their parents, Russ & Dortha Sadler, lifetime members and docents.

Winner:

Kyle Polzin

Buffalo Drum

View the collection and bid

All art remains on display through September 13, and all but the Purchase Award winner are available for purchase in this year's proxy-bid-only virtual sale. Proxy bids for the fixed-bid sale will be accepted until the night of the sale Sept. 12, when the typical in-person sale will be replaced with an exciting virtual experience. To view the virtual tour and online catalog, as well as more details on submitting proxy bids, visit nationalcowboymuseum.org/prixdewest.

Prix de West Sponsors

The 48th annual *Prix de West Invitational Art Exhibition & Sale* is made possible by the Presenting Event Sponsor, Eskridge Lexus of Oklahoma City and The Burnett Foundation.

About the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum

Nationally accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM), the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum is located only six miles northeast of downtown Oklahoma City in the Adventure District at the junction of Interstates 44 and 35. For more information, visit nationalcowboymuseum.org.

For high-resolution images related to the National Cowboy Museum and *Prix de West* award winners, visit nationalcowboymuseum.org/media/prix-de-west.