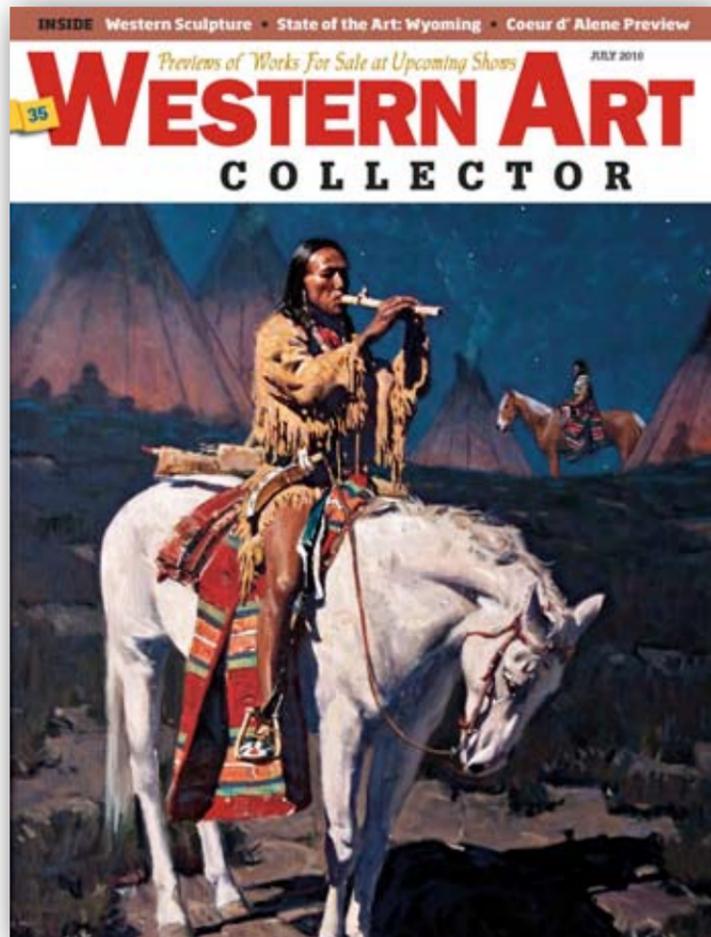


As seen in the
July 2010 issue of

WESTERN ART
COLLECTOR



UPCOMING SHOW

Up to 12 works

July 30-August 15, 2010**Altermann Galleries**225 Canyon Road
Santa Fe, NM 87501
(505) 983-1590**SHOW LOCATION SANTA FE, NM****DAVID MANN***A noble breed*

Just as the Spanish Mustang played prominently in early Native American culture, so too does it in David Mann's new paintings on exhibit at Altermann Galleries in Santa Fe, New Mexico. During this solo show, which opens July 30, one of Mann's paintings will be sold by silent bid with all proceeds benefitting the Spanish Mustang Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to the perpetuation of the breed.

Renowned for historically based compositions documenting Indian culture, in this grouping the Utah artist emphasizes the breed's importance to their culture, dating back to the 16th century when the Spanish Mustang was introduced to North America. The Indian and his Spanish Mustang were inseparable companions, sharing a deep sense of friendship and understanding that has not been equaled since.

"If you paint Indians, which I've done, the horse is so essential to making them into the image that we know so strongly. The Indian horseman and Spanish Mustang is the catalyst," says Mann. "When Indians got on a horse everything changed for them... suddenly they could move and hunt buffalo. It changed their lives."

In preparation for the creation of this body of work, Mann traveled to The Little Cayuse Ranch near Estancia, New Mexico, where a herd of the original, pure Spanish breed has free range.

"It's amazing that after so many centuries that the bloodline of these fast and sturdy ponies still exists," the artist says. "It was a thrill to observe them in an environment much like it was four centuries ago. By including these magnificent animals in some of the paintings in the exhibit, I am expressing my enthusiasm and support of the fine work carried out by the Spanish Mustang Foundation."

Mann's latest depictions of Native Americans and their horses include several works with multiple figures as well as more encampment scenes. His compositions are set in the Southwest without identifying a specific tribe or location.

**Moon Song**, oil on canvas, 30 x 24"

While the Spanish Mustang has a definite set of anatomical traits, experts disagree on their looks, making Mann's task challenging.

"As I painted these I was thinking that I hope they fit everyone's idea of what they looked like, but my goal wasn't to make portraits of the Spanish Mustang; my goal was to show the place of the breed in Indian life," he adds.

In the new work, Mann moved the backgrounds back a bit so as not to compete with the middle ground and foreground, while softening the edges on some of the pieces. *Tribal Wealth*, one of the largest in the show at 40 by 60 inches, represents this direction.

"The figures are strong that are pulled up close yet there's a lot of interest in the



Quiet Farewell, oil on canvas, 24 x 30"

The Collector Says . . .

"The artistic quality of David's paintings is matched with the beauty and dignity with which he depicts his subject matter. Longtime collectors of David's works are patting themselves on the back as that appreciation seems to be infecting more and more Western art fans these days. We always look for his new works at Prix de West with delightful expectation."

– Chuck Schroeder, executive director, National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum



David Mann with a Spanish Mustang—the subject of his new paintings.



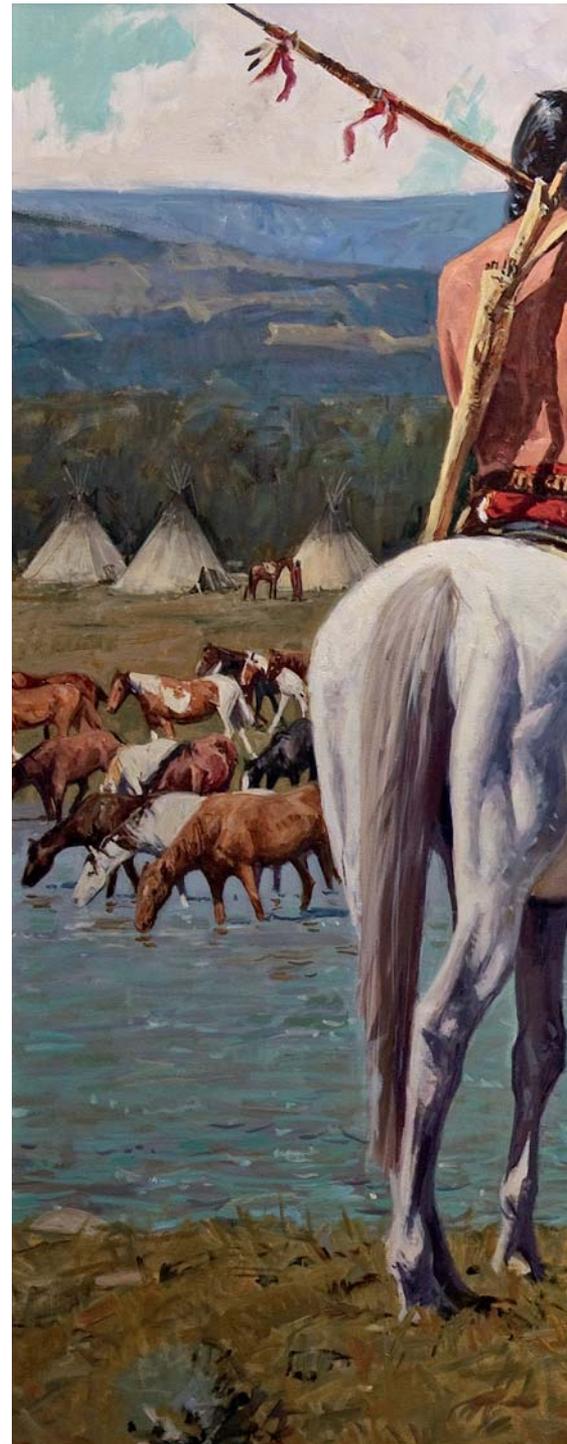
Into Apache Land, oil on canvas, 40 x 60"

background," says Mann. "I like that kind of theme of strong figures in the foreground but something interesting in the background. That picture does that well."

Quiet Farewell continues this theme while introducing another facet in the work: more Plains women. In this painting, the woman on horseback is the central figure as the men ride off.

"I like the addition, it's a contributing theme. It gives a more realistic picture of that life; you can't leave out half the population," says Mann. "We men don't live in our own world. Just like our society today, they're a big part of that world."

Mann's work is influenced by photographic references and history books that he reads fervently.



Tribal Wealth, oil on canvas, 40 x 60"

"Sometimes I'll see something in the old photos that will push a button and take me where I need to go," he adds. "I have ideas that I've had for 20 years and set them aside and think when I have the right answers I'll do them. Sometimes the best ideas come fast, like most of the work here. Most of these are newer concepts that came quickly."

Mann's exclusive representative is



Altermann Galleries, which has handled his work since 1989. The gallery will host a reception for the artist beginning at 5 p.m. July 30. On July 31, 6 to 9 p.m., there will be a fundraising barbecue at the Lanham Ranch featuring live purebred Spanish Mustangs and a presentation by rancher Doug Lanham. Mann also will make a brief presentation about his painting sold in the silent auction.

“On the occasion of the 400th anniversary of Santa Fe, we considered it appropriate to have an event that spotlights the horse, more specifically, the Spanish Mustang that carried the conquistadors and, soon afterward, the colonizers into what was referred to at that time as New Spain,” says Richard Altermann, gallery owner. “David Mann has for decades portrayed in his art the descendants of this

noble breed that were acquired by the Indians immediately after their arrival in the New World.”

For a direct link to the exhibiting gallery go to 
www.westernartcollector.com