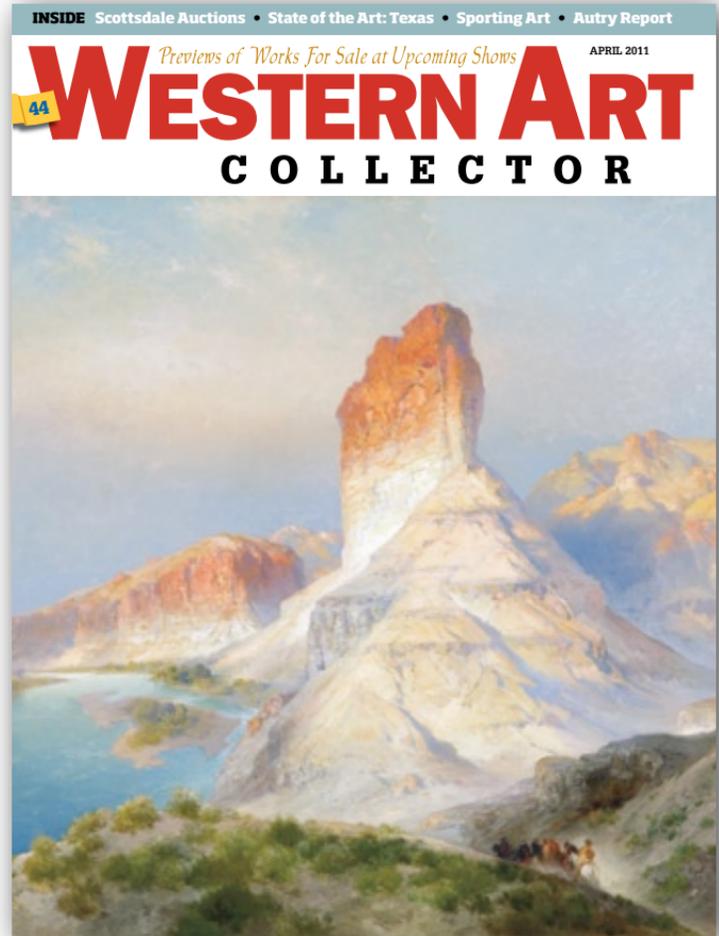


As seen in the
April 2011 issue of

WESTERN ART
COLLECTOR



Scottsdale Synergy

A major Couse oil painting headlines Altermann Galleries' April 1st auction in Scottsdale.

Altermann Galleries will offer more than 240 works spanning the 19th century through 21st century when it presents its fifth auction in Arizona on April 1. Beginning at 1 p.m. at the Doubletree Paradise Valley Resort, the sale marks the first since Altermann's opened a gallery in downtown Scottsdale.

Headlining the April 1st auction is a major oil painting by E. I. Couse titled *The Call of the Flute* with a presale estimate of \$700/900,000. One of the founding members of the Taos Society, Couse is revered for his richly painted scenes of Taos Indian life. Like his colleague Bert Phillips, Couse was particularly fond of

depicting the men of Taos Pueblo playing flutes in idyllic forest glades and grottos.

According to David Clemmer in an excerpt from his book, *Serenading the Light: Painters of the Desert Southwest*, "Couse's *Call of the Flute* is a particularly notable example of this motif: it is a large and highly developed work and is the painting that the artist gave to the National Arts Club in New York in 1913, the year that he was made a lifetime member of the prestigious organization."

Other northern New Mexico artists represented in the sale include E.M. Hennings, O.E. Berninghaus, Joseph H. Sharp, Nicolai Fechin, LaVerne Nelson Black, Fremont Ellis,

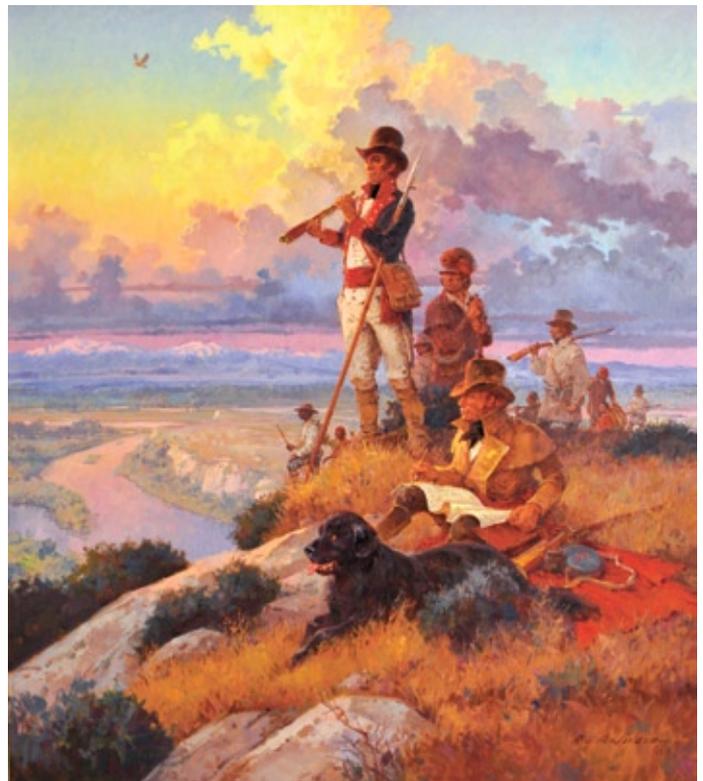
Emil Bisttram, and Gerald Cassidy. Another top lot in the deceased masters category is an exquisite small work by W.R. Leigh titled *The Pottery Maker* (est. \$40/50,000).

Renowned realist painter Clark Hulings, who recently passed away, will have four works in the sale, including *Arroyo Chamisa, Santa Fe* (est. \$70/80,000). Noted Western artist Maynard Dixon will be represented by an oil painting titled *Yellow Mesa* (est. \$40/60,000). He created the work in 1923 during a three-month stay with the Navajo.

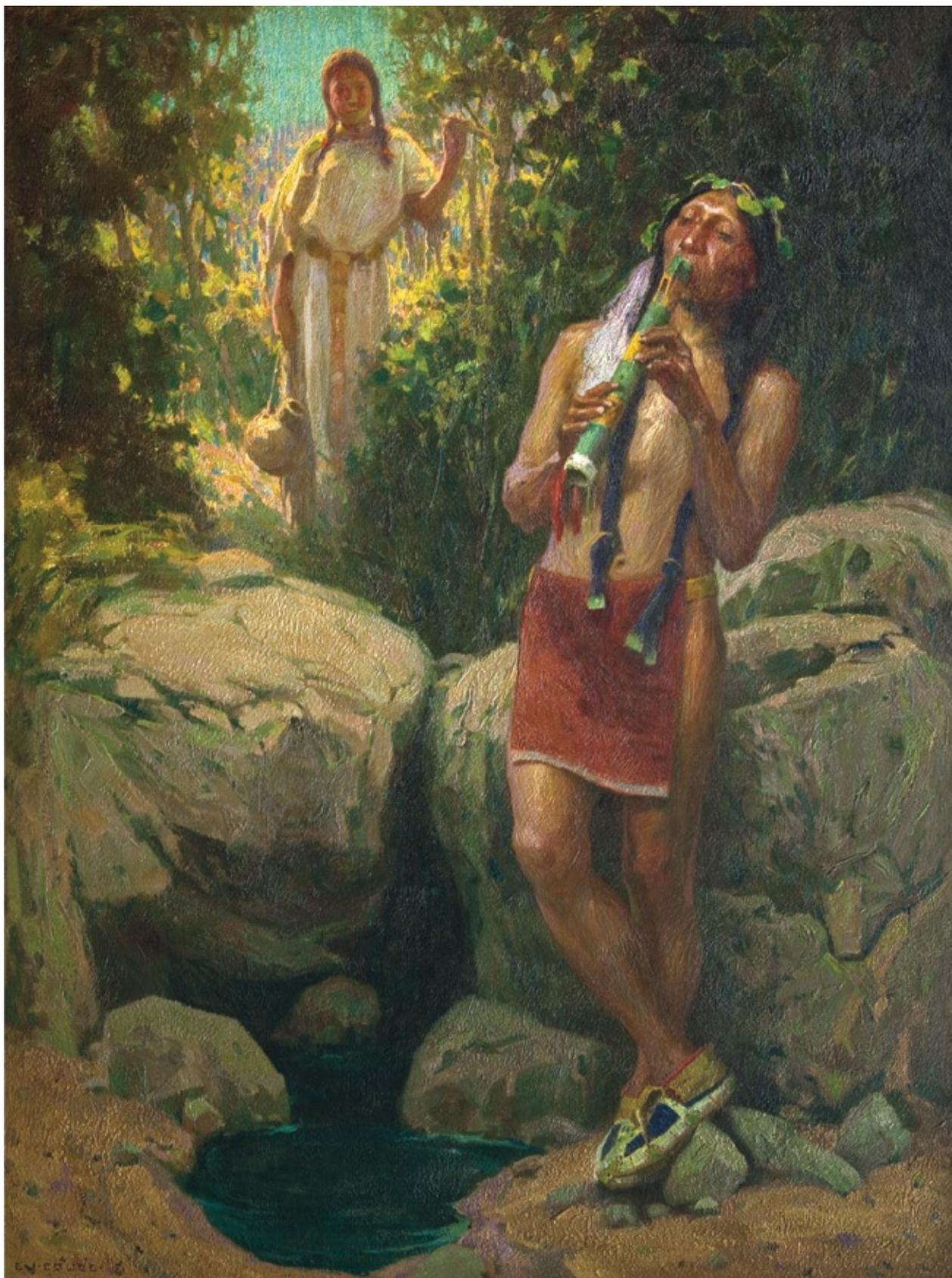
Altermann's also will offer numerous works by past and present members of the Cowboy



Mian Situ, *Balloon Man of Chinatown, San Francisco, 1904*, oil, 38 x 32"
Estimate: \$75/100,000



Roy Andersen, *Toward the Shining Mountains*, oil on canvas, 48 x 42"
Estimate: \$45/55,000



Eanger Irving Couse, *The Call of the Flute*, oil on canvas, 46 x 35"
Estimate: \$700/900,000



William Robinson Leigh, *The Pottery Maker (Zuni)*, oil on board, 12 x 10"
Estimate: \$40/50,000



Clark Hulings, *Arroyo Chamisa, Santa Fe*, oil on canvas, 25 x 36"
Estimate: \$70/80,000



Maynard Dixon, *Yellow Mesa*, oil on canvas, 16 x 20"
Estimate: \$40/60,000

Altermann Galleries Art Auction

When: April 1, 1 p.m. Previews,
 March 31, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.,
 April 1, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Where: Doubletree Paradise Valley

Resort, 5401 N. Scottsdale Road,
 Scottsdale, AZ 85250

Information: (888) 810-5446,
www.altermann.com

Artists of America, among them Martin Grelle's oil painting *Cold Winds* (est. \$55/65,000). There will be five works by Bruce Greene, the most important of which is *Loyalties*, a 36-by-24-inch oil with a patriotic theme, estimated to fetch \$19/21,000. The painting comes from the collection of former Dallas Cowboys quarterback and TV sportscaster Troy Aikman. The successful bidder will be presented with a personalized NFL football inscribed by Aikman.

Many of the top artists who participate in the *Prix de West* and *Masters of the American West* juried exhibitions also will be represented at auction, including William Acheff, Tony Eubanks, John Fawcett, Z.S. Liang, Morgan Weistling, Jason Rich, David Mann, Cyrus Afsary, Michael Coleman, Gerald Balciar, George Carlson, Tim Cherry, Glenna Goodacre, Tim Solliday, Patricia Dobson, Curt Walters, Jim Wilcox, and Veryl Goodnight.

One of the most coveted works being offered is Mian Situ's *Balloon Man of Chinatown, San Francisco, 1904* (est. \$75/100,000). Altermann's will also have a strong showing of works by G. Harvey including four cityscapes with the largest at 34 by 28 inches, titled *Harbor Fog, Victoria B.C.*, estimated at \$75/95,000.

In the print section of the sale are works by Gustave Baumann, Gene Kloss, Andrew Wyeth, Norman Rockwell, and Thomas Hart Benton. In addition to the prints by Benton, there are twin figurative drawings by the artist. Both the prints and drawings come directly from the Benton family.

"We are very pleased with the wide range of material we have for this auction," says owner Richard Altermann. "Our last two auctions have been up substantially from the year before. The 'big ticket' items will lead the pack out of the recession. The lesser priced works will have a slower recovery. The exception will be new artists with quality works that are reasonably priced."

This sale kicks off a weekend for fine art collectors who converge on this popular arts destination each April for the Scottsdale Art Auction. Richard Altermann views these back-to-back auctions as creating a synergy that maximizes sales.

"It's a tradition in the art auction business for events to take place within time and geographic proximity of each other," says Altermann. "The collectors appear to like it and that is what is most important." 🍷