

## Take a Visual Journey into History This Fall at the Tucson Museum of Art

Tucson, Ariz – History, perseverance, and the vast area once known as the Louisiana Territory are the elements that shape this fall's major exhibition – ***The Journey of Lewis and Clark***, on view at the Tucson Museum of Art October 23, 2010 – January 23, 2011.

This monumental exhibition has been created from three different areas to give a more rounded understanding of the people and landscapes that shaped that time in our country's history. All the objects on view are drawn from one private collection.

The largest portion of the exhibition is ***Charles Fritz: An Artist with the Corps of Discovery – One Hundred Paintings Illustrating the Journals of Lewis and Clark***. The Montana artist completed his first Lewis and Clark painting in 1998 and his last one in 2008. The one hundred oils he created chronicle the explorers' journals from their first sighting of the Great Falls of the Missouri to a buffalo hunt to the Pacific Ocean and back. Fritz's own journey following the journals of Lewis and Clark began through a collector of western art who was seeking an artist to paint a scene based on Lewis' description in 1805 of the Yellowstone River from a bluff on the Missouri. As Fritz began to work on the commission he became more determined to complete the whole expedition as if he was the artist with the Corps of Discovery. His paintings take the viewer from the beginning of the journey to its triumphant end and all the hardships in between.

***Michael Haynes – To the Western Ocean: Portraits of the Lewis and Clark Expedition*** contain fourteen watercolor portraits that bring the people behind the Corps of Discovery to life. Lewis, Clark, York, and Sacagawea are portrayed in individual portraits while the other thirty members are shown in group portraits including hunters, soldiers, blacksmiths, interpreters, cooks, and musicians. His "*Uniform and Dress of the Corps of Discovery*" paintings were selected as guides for the uniforms in the National Geographic's *Lewis and Clark* IMAX production.

Included in ***Thomas Jefferson's West: At the Confluence of Art and Exploration*** are selections of paintings and drawings that illustrate Lewis and Clark's Corp of Discovery expedition. He selected the works himself, paying close attention to the content of each piece to tell the story of their adventures in narrative form. This grouping includes works by William Ahrendt, James Ayers, Jim Carson, Todd Connor, Curt Delano, John Demott, Frank Hagel, Mort Kunstler, Ken Laager, Dan Meiduch, Clark Kelly Price, Don Spaulding, and David Wright. Each artist has established a distinguished career as painters and illustrators in the romantic and historic depiction of a fascinating era in American history.

### ABOUT THE TUCSON MUSEUM OF ART

Embracing the traditional with the inventive, the Tucson Museum of Art presents exhibitions with a focus on Art of the American West, Asian Art, Latin American Art, and Modern and Contemporary Art, and boasts a permanent collection of more than 8,000 works. The Historic Block features five distinctive houses built between c.1850 and 1907 that provide a unique look into Tucson's past. The Museum is open Tuesday – Saturday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm and Sunday 12:00 noon – 5:00 pm. The first Sunday of each month is free. It is located at 140 North Main Avenue in historic downtown Tucson and can be found on the web at [www.TucsonMuseumofArt.org](http://www.TucsonMuseumofArt.org).

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