



WESTERN ART PATRONS

Newsletter: Fall, 2020

Tucson Museum of Art and Historic Block  
140 N. Main Avenue, Tucson, Arizona 85701

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## Art of the Virtual West

Pandemic got you down? Climate change bringing you to a boil? Do you think about wildfires when you light your grill or hurricanes when you blow your nose? Are you so inextricably house-bound that MPG has come to mean “months per gallon”? Well, we’ve got the antidote! The (Not So Much) Travel and (Virtual) Events Committee of the Western Art Patrons offers an exciting slate of events to keep you from flying off the rails this fall. Here’s the lineup:

### **Cookies with a Curator: Peter (P. A.) Nisbet (Available Now)**

Glasser Curator of the American West Christine Brindza conducted a virtual chat with **Peter (P.A.) Nisbet**, one of the most highly regarded contemporary landscape painters of the American West. Represented in the TMA collection by the masterwork *Sovereign Sky* (2012, pictured below), his works are highly spiritual and strongly rooted in the realist tradition of nineteenth-century artists such as Thomas Moran and Albert Bierstadt. Click on the following link to access the 45-minute video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zye\\_2fXo8xA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zye_2fXo8xA)



P.A. Nisbet, *Sovereign Sky*, 2012, oil on linen, Collection of the Tucson Museum of Art. Obtained through the generosity of Western Art Patrons, Medicine Man Gallery, and P. A. Nisbet.

**Western Art Patrons Fall Opener: Panel on “The State of Western Art Today” (Available October 18)**

Glasser Curator Christine Brindza moderates a panel of two prominent artists and a well-known gallerist to assess the current state and the future of the contemporary Western art scene from their individual perspectives. The panelists are: **Robert P. “Bob” Brown**, owner (since 1982) of Big Horn Galleries in Cody, Wyoming and Tubac, Arizona, owner and board member of the Buffalo Bill Art Show, and an advisory board member of the Cody Firearms Museum at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West; the celebrated Los Angeles-based artist **Logan Maxwell Hagege**, whose works are included in such prominent collections as the Autry Museum, the Booth Western Art Museum, the James Museum of Western and Wildlife Art, the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, and the Scottsdale Museum of the West; and Texas native **Donna Howell-Sickles**, a member of the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame whose artwork, dedicated to the retelling of women’s stories and myths using the cowgirl as a medium, has appeared in numerous gallery exhibitions and is included in nine museum collections. The event will be pre-recorded and made available exclusively to WAP members on demand starting October 18. Watch your email for the YouTube link. No advance sign-up is required.



Logan Maxwell Hagege, *The Song at Sunset*, oil on linen, 96 x 144 in.

**Tucson 7 Artists: Pillars of Southwest American Art (Available Live, November 6, 6:00 P.M.)**

**Kit Kimball**, TMA Board of Trustee, WAP Member, Docent, and jane-of-all-trades will present a live online presentation via Zoom on the renowned regional artist group The Tucson 7. Watch your email for information on participating.



Tom Hill, *Jalapeno Man, Mexico*, 1987, oil on canvas, 16 x 12 in.  
Collection of the Tucson Museum of Art. Gift of Jackie Manning

**The Lady's Accomplishment: Women Artists of the American West (Available Live, December 2, 5:30 P.M.)**

Glasser Curator **Christine Brindza** will present a live online presentation via Zoom. Inspired by a famous 1971 essay by Linda Nochlin called "Why Have There Been no Great Women Artists?", this lecture puts a Western spin on the essay, focusing on female artists of the American West. WAP members will be provided login information to watch live and participate on their computers. Watch your email for information on how to take part. The talk will also be recorded for viewing at a later date.

## **Membership**

With the laundry list of distractions affecting us all, it is no surprise that many WAP Members have forgotten to renew their membership and pay their dues for the 2020-21 season. Renewals and payments can be accomplished online, by mail or by phone. To renew your WAP membership online now, [click here](#). If you are more comfortable renewing by mail, please email [Ljensen@tucsonmuseumofart.org](mailto:Ljensen@tucsonmuseumofart.org) to receive a paper form. If you prefer to renew by phone, please call the membership office at 520-616-2699. To check your current membership status, please call the membership office or email [Ljensen@tucsonmuseumofart.org](mailto:Ljensen@tucsonmuseumofart.org).

## **Curator's Corner**

### ***A "To-Go Order" of Art of the American West***

With the colossal pivot that everyone has had to do in the year 2020, many personal adaptations center around staying at home with options of to-go, take-out, drive-thru, home delivery, and curbside pick-up. It seems that there are alternative options for just about anything.

Though the Tucson Museum of Art is open, there are currently no in-person activities. Programming is now provided via a virtual format and the curators as well as community engagement and education staff are working toward providing online talks, tours, and discussions. It is more important than ever to stay connected!

I am committed to bringing you a "To-Go order" of Art of the American West whenever possible. For the past few months in the TMA-list (the TMA weekly e-newsletter) there have been releases of "Cookies with a Curator" videos where I chat with arts professionals and artists whose works are in the TMA Art of the American West/Indigenous Arts collection. The premise is to start with a virtual sharing of a favorite cookie, then segueing into art discussions. Recently, an interview with P.A. Nisbet was released (see page 1 of this Newsletter for details and link) and more interviews are to come.

In addition, I have begun to post "Western Art Wednesday" images and descriptions on the TMA Facebook and Instagram platforms using works from the collection. Traditionally, TMA's posts about Western Art often receive the highest amount of "likes" so this is another way to bring this genre into the public eye.

The Western Art Patrons Travel and Events Committee has moved events online for the next few months and has an all-star lineup. It was a pleasure working with this committee as we shifted concentration onto the virtual format. One of the big tasks

was moving the upcoming October “State of Western Art Today” in-person panel to be a recorded Zoom discussion. As a silver lining, we were able to have speakers from across the country participate where we previously did not have that opportunity. More details are provided earlier in this Newsletter and reminder emails will be circulated prior to the relevant events.

Going virtual has taken me out of the ordinary and expanded my knowledge and abilities to bring Art of the American West out of the museum and into your homes. There are certainly learning curves and a bit of patience involved, but it can be exciting. I hope you join in and enjoy what there is to offer.

-- *Christine C. Brindza*, Glasser Curator of Art of the American West

### **Western Art Patrons Board of Directors**

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