



Press Release

The Autry's *Masters of the American West Fine Art Exhibition and Sale* Sets a New Record **Exhibition runs through Sunday, March 4, 2007**

Los Angeles (February) — The 2007 *Masters of the American West Fine Art Exhibition and Sale* held on Saturday, February 3, 2007, set a new record for the Autry National Center and recognized outstanding contemporary artists and their works. With \$4.4 million in total sales and over 700 in attendance, the *Masters* cocktail reception and sale exceeded expectations. Particularly exciting was the sale of Howard Terpning's *The Shaman and His Magic Feathers* for over \$1.3 million.

Major collectors from across the United States and several foreign countries were in attendance on Saturday night. Among the highlights was the Masters of the American West Purchase Award presented to Clyde Aspevig for his painting *Raindrops and Dragonflies*, which was purchased by the Autry's Museum of the American West. Aspevig's painting and the Trustee Purchase Award-winning painting, Tucker Smith's *Aspen Draw*, will be added to the museum's collection. From among the high-caliber Western art works in the show, seven of the most popular paintings by the top Western artists were auctioned via a silent, sealed-bid process, raising more than \$2 million.

Top Artists' Silent Sealed Bid Auction

William Acheff, <i>Cooking Pots and Anaheim Peppers</i>	\$61,000
Martin Grelle, <i>Paradise Lost</i>	\$105,075
Bob Kuhn, <i>A Gathering of Elders</i>	\$226,126
Bob Kuhn, <i>A Cat for All Seasons</i>	\$81,000
Mian Situ, <i>Ten Miles in One Day / Victory Camp, Utah / April 28, 1869</i>	\$251,200
Howard Terpning, <i>The Shaman and His Magic Feathers</i>	\$1,310,000
Morgan Weistling, <i>The Quilting Bee, 19th Century Americana</i>	\$162,600

Earlier in the day, awards were presented at the Chuck Wagon Luncheon and Awards Ceremony in the categories of painting, sculpture, watercolor, and wildlife, along



Autry National Center

Press Release

with the John J. Geraghty Award, which is given to an individual or individuals whose work has served to bring recognition to American art and Western heritage. Autry National Center trustees, members, sponsors, and *Masters* Special Advisor John J. Geraghty joined many of the exhibiting artists in a day of art appreciation.

2007 Masters Award Winners

Masters of the American West Award

Clyde Aspevig, *Raindrops and Dragonflies*

Thomas Moran Memorial Award for Painting

Howard Terping, *The Shaman and His Magic Feathers*

The Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation Award for Sculpture

Walter Matia, *Promise of Spring*

Autry National Center Award for Watercolor

Dean L. Mitchell, *Green Bay Waterfront*

Autry National Center Award for Wildlife

Bob Kuhn, *A Gathering of Elders*

Artists' Choice Award

Morgan Weistling, *The Quilting Bee, 19th Century Americana*

David P. Usher Patrons' Choice Award

Morgan Weistling, *The Quilting Bee, 19th Century Americana*

Trustees' Purchase Award

Tucker Smith, *Aspen Draw*

John J. Geraghty Award

Peter and Elaine Adams, for their devoted stewardship of one of the oldest arts organizations in the West, the California Art Club



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“The continued success of the *Masters* show is not only a nod to contemporary artists in the Western genre but also a gift to the arts community who can view the works at the Autry and share the experience of this true American art form,” said *Masters* Special Advisor John J. Geraghty.

Images of the winners are available upon request. Visit the Masters Web page at autrynationalcenter.org/masters2007.

About the Autry National Center

The Autry National Center is an intercultural history center that includes the Southwest Museum of the American Indian, the Museum of the American West (formerly the Autry Museum of Western Heritage), and the Institute for the Study of the American West. Each institution maintains its individual identity; however, the convergence of resources allows us to expand our understanding of the diverse peoples of the American West, connecting the past with the present to inform our shared future. The Autry National Center’s executive offices are located in Griffith Park.

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