



Works of Four Western Masters Premiere

A Wild Past: Celebrating The Pioneer Spirit

September 17 – October 11, 2009

Paso Robles, California — Studios on the Park announces an exhibition that brings together a rare and important group of western art by four Central Coast artists. The exhibition *A Wild Past: Celebrating The Pioneer Spirit* runs from September 17 through October 11, 2009 and also features works by 18 other top California painters, photographers, and sculptors. Admission is free.

“This exhibition illuminates some of the finest Western artists in San Luis Obispo County today,” explains Anne Laddon, president and founder of Studios on the Park. “Drawing upon paintings and sculpture that have defined the Western art scene, the exhibit presents distinctive livestock portraits, classic cowboy themes, vibrant landscapes, and spectacular sculptures by Vel Miller, Ernie Morris, Sparky Moore, and Phil Tognazzini. Collected internationally by horsemen, historians, and art aficionados alike, these acclaimed artists rarely exhibit locally, making this a unique, not-to-be-missed exhibition.

Exhibit curator Tim Anderson of Cuesta College also highlights the work of acclaimed artists Jan Aijian, John Barnard, Nancy Becker, Gary Blackwell, Ken Christensen, Bruce Everett, Dale Evers, Heidi Francioni, Dotty Hawthorne, Judy Lyon, Pam Panattoni, Tom Peck, Shirley Pittman, Denise Schryver, Elizabeth Tolley, Ginger Toomer, Jim Tyler, and Jeanette Wolff. He notes “the work of these artists compliments, addresses, and converses with the work of the four featured artists.” For Anderson *A Wild Past: Celebrating The Pioneer Spirit* visibly demonstrates that “the spirit of the Wild West still lives on in the Central Coast.”

The exhibition reflects not only the excellence of western art in the region but also honors the 79th annual Paso Robles Pioneer Day. Scheduled for Saturday, October 10, 2009, the day features a parade down Spring Street as well as many other events, including a free bean feed and gymkhana.

Presentation of *A Wild Past: Celebrating The Pioneer Spirit* is made possible by the many donors who support Studios on the Park. Additional sponsorship is provided by The Blueprinter.