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APRIL 2025

WESTERN ART

ISSUE 212

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Roundup!



Matthew Sievers, *Overflow*, oil on wood panel, 48 x 72 in.

April 25-May 6

*Nature & Emotion:
Sculpting the Elements,
Painting the Light*

BLUE RAIN GALLERY

April 5-19

*Thomas Blackshear II:
Portraits*

MAXWELL ALEXANDER GALLERY
Pasadena, CA -
(213) 275-1060
maxwellalexandergallery.com

April 5-July 25

*Marsden Hartley:
Adventurer in the Arts*

NEW MEXICO MUSEUM OF ART
Santa Fe, NM -
(505) 476-5063
www.nmartmuseum.org

April 8-19

Desert Muse

ALTAMIRA FINE ART
Scottsdale, AZ -
(480) 949-1256
www.altamiraaart.com

April 11-12

Scottsdale Art Auction

SCOTTSDALE ART AUCTION
Scottsdale, AZ -
(480) 945-0225
scottsdaleartauction.com

April 12

*The A.P. Hays Collection
of Maynard Dixon*

SCOTTSDALE ART AUCTION
Scottsdale, AZ -
(480) 945-0225
scottsdaleartauction.com

Through April 13

*The Art of David Wright:
Historian with a Brush*

BOOTH WESTERN ART MUSEUM
Cartersville, GA -
(770) 387-1300
www.boothmuseum.org

Through April 19

*Western Spirit
Art Show & Sale*

CHEYENNE FRONTIER
DAYS OLD WEST MUSEUM
Cheyenne, WY - (307) 778-7290
www.oldwestmuseum.org

April 24

*Modern Native
American Art & Jewelry*

BONHAMS
Los Angeles, CA -
(323) 850-7500
www.bonhams.com

April 25-May 6

*Nature & Emotion:
Sculpting the Elements,
Painting the Light*

BLUE RAIN GALLERY
Santa Fe, NM - (505) 954-9902
www.blueraingallery.com



ON VIEW NOW

Through May 11, 2025

Night of Artists

BRISCOE WESTERN ART MUSEUM
San Antonio, TX - (210) 299-4499

www.briscoemuseum.org

Through May 25, 2025

*Cowgirl! Up! Art from the
Other Half of the West*

DESERT CABALLEROS WESTERN MUSEUM
Wickenburg, AZ - (928) 684-2272
www.westernmuseum.org

Through May 31, 2025

Legacy in Line:

The Art of Gene Kloss
COUSE-SHARP HISTORIC SITE /
HARWOOD MUSEUM OF ART

Taos, NM - (575) 758-9826
www.harwoodmuseum.org

Through June 22, 2025

*Kermít Oliver & Hermès:
Storytelling on Silk & Canvas*

THE BRYAN MUSEUM
Galveston, TX - (409) 632-7685
www.thebryanmuseum.org

Through May 31, 2025 Taos, NM

A Spiritual Sensitivity

Two concurrent Taos exhibitions honor the work of painter and printmaker Gene Kloss.

Gene Kloss (1903-1996) was an accomplished watercolorist and oil painter but it was her distinctive “painted etchings” of Southwestern scenes that defined her legacy as one of the most important printmakers in American art history. Kloss was born in Oakland, California, and earned her degree at UC Berkeley, but her first visit to Taos, New Mexico, in 1921 (her 60-pound printing press in tow) had a profound impact. “I was a New Mexican from then on,” she said, even though she and her husband did not move to Taos permanently until 1960.

Through May 31, two Taos museums, the Couse-Sharp Historic Site and Harwood Museum of Art, will host *Legacy in Line*, complementary exhibitions that celebrate Kloss’ deep connection with and her sensitive renderings of the region and its rich, diverse cultures. The exhibition was inspired by a recent gift of Kloss prints and archival materials to both institutions by Joy and Frank Purcell.

“Kloss possessed a unique artistic sensibility and technical virtuosity that combined to create a singular vision of the ‘other’ in New Mexico,” explains Davison Koenig, Couse-Sharp Historic Site executive director and curator. “During her time in Northern New Mexico, Kloss spent time with Native friends attending pueblo ceremonials. She was a faithful observer of the

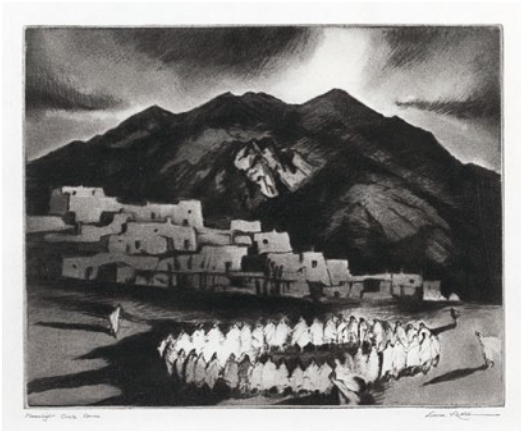


Morning Worship, 1939, etching, drypoint and aquatint, ed. of 30, 14 x 10½ in. Couse-Sharp Historic Site, Gift of Joy and Frank Purcell.

Catholic traditions of the Hispano people nestled in the valleys of the Sangre de Cristo mountains. In her prolific career, Gene created an iconic body of work that is synonymous with the people,

landscape and culture of New Mexico.”

One highlight in the show is *Morning Worship* from 1939, which recently set a new artist record when it sold for \$60,000. The piece, created using a



Moonlight Circle Dance, 1956, etching, drypoint and aquatint, ed. of 125, 7 1/4 x 9 1/4 in. Couse-Sharp Historic Site, Gift of Joy and Frank Purcell.



Untitled, ca. 1930, watercolor, 9 1/4 x 14 1/16 in. Gift of Ila McAfee Turner. Harwood Museum of Art.

combination of etching, drypoint and aquatint, depicts the interior of the iconic Ranchos de Taos Church (San Francisco de Asis) that Kloss created from memory after attending a Sunday mass. In a letter she wrote, “I was in a way an outsider as I am not a Catholic, so the ritual was not familiar nor understood by me. However the ‘feel’ of a church, whatever the creed or its expression, can be experienced by anyone of a basically, what we call a ‘religious nature.’ Art is what I call plastic

thought—hence in depicting this church interior everything was used to convey the mood—the heights, the light, the decorations, and above all, the kneeling congregation. I found that even if a single head was raised, the spirit was gone.”

Koenig explains, “*Morning Worship* represents the epitome of Kloss’ unique abilities in rendering from memory the cultural practices of her adopted home in Northern New Mexico and translating them into a universal visual language

appreciated by all.

“The body of her works has a consistent harmony in its balanced concern for the subject and for abstract principles of design,” Koenig continues. “Working from memory and quick sketches, Kloss produced remarkable images of life in Taos and the surrounding areas. Her work captures moments of Pueblo ceremonials, secret Penitente pilgrimages, quiet vistas, and daily life, cementing her memories as lasting images.

“Kloss’ work in New Mexico represents her maturity both as an artist and a technician, but more importantly her life in New Mexico allowed her to elucidate the spiritual profundity of our region in graphic form.”



Centuries Old, 1979, etching, drypoint and aquatint, 12 1/2 x 19 1/4 in. Anonymous Gift. Harwood Museum of Art.

Legacy in Line: The Art of Gene Kloss

Through May 31, 2025

Couse-Sharp Historic Site

146 Kit Carson Road, Taos, NM 87571
(575) 751-0369, www.couse-sharp.org

Harwood Museum of Art

238 Ledoux Street, Taos, NM 87571
(575) 758-9826
www.harwoodmuseum.org