

# BONE CREEK

MUSEUM OF AGRARIAN ART

575 E Street | David City, NE 68632

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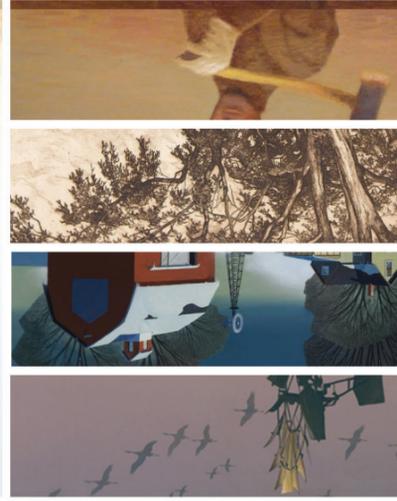


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## Harry Orlyk: NEW YORK RURAL

bonecreek.org



CONNECTING  
PEOPLE TO THE LAND THROUGH ART

BONE CREEK  
MUSEUM OF AGRARIAN ART

AGRARIAN ART  
NEWSLETTER

FEB  
2018  
VOLUME, ISSUE I

When Bone Creek opened its doors ten years ago we were impressed with the phenomenon of daily painting, at that time by V...Vaughan, a now dear Bone Creek friend. She painted scenes of her family farm every day for a project called The Last Year on the Farm.

This fall I met another daily painter whose accurate use of gesture and color can only come from the daily practice of seeing and responding. Orlyk has been painting every day for more than 35 years. He vividly paints the landscape as he sees it from the dashboard of his van. He drives the countryside until he finds a scene that excites and inspires him. He sets up his canvas on the steering wheel and arranges his palette beside him.

Orlyk received his MFA in painting from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and moved to upstate New York in the 1980s. Since then he has been building a lengthy resume of exhibitions across the country.

When I met Orlyk at an artist reception last October, he shared with me some personal

stories of his artistic journey. As a student, he was searching for a style and subject that would keep him excited. Fellow student Keith Jacobshagen was jolly and carefree as he would load up his supplies to go paint outside. Harry thought he needed some of that. He started painting outdoors and everything changed.

Years later, at a Sundance festival in South Dakota he had another revelation about his calling to paint the landscape. He recounted that at that time everyone was obsessed with the human figure and the face. I know man has a significant role to play, but I was more interested in putting man in perspective with the rest of the world, said Orlyk.

Take for instance this plowed field with a skiff of snow cover, one might look at that and see a pure landscape. I see the trace and the impact of a farmer, as he has plowed the field. My idea of the figure is there, but not physically painted, he is in and a part of the landscape, said Orlyk.

Orlyk has a wonderful passion for painting and a heart for the land.



“A quarter century of painting has been an act of the imagination to determine who and what I am with respect to the earth and sky.”

He writes on his website. “Process, rather than product oriented, searching for the daily painting, has become a way of living in relationship with the earth.” As we enter the new year of 2018, the idea of a daily “practice”, whatever it might be: painting, writing, yoga, might be a way to explore the world around you in a creative and deeply meaningful way.

### IMAGES

- Top photo, page 1: Harry Orlyk, #5523 *The Cabbage Patch*, 11/10/2017, oil, 18" x 22"
- Photo in text: Harry Orlyk, #5522 *A Meadow with House and Moon Rise*, 11/25/2017, oil, 15" x 16.5"
- Lower left image: Harry Orlyk, #5520 *Remnants of a Milk Barn*, 10/31/2017, oil, 14.25" x 19"
- Lower right image: Harry Orlyk, #5524 *The Tree Line*, 11/05/2017, oil, 12" x 25"



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 08** Harry Orlyk: New York Rural  
JAN Jan. 8 – April 15, 2018
- 31** Coming Home: Permanent  
JAN Collection  
Jan. 31 - April 15, 2018
- 18** Michael Morris Music  
MAR Sun., March 18, 2018, 4:00 pm
- 05** Worthy Rivals:  
MAY Dale Nichols and Terence Duren  
May 2 - Sept. 23, 2018  
Opening Reception, Sat., May 5th
- 08** Save the Date -  
JUL Sunday, July 8, 2018  
10th Anniversary Gathering
- 09** Save the Date -  
SEP Sunday, Sept. 9, 2018  
CornFest

## BONE CREEK MUSEUM OF AGRARIAN ART

### Museum Hours

Wed, Fri, Sat 10am-4pm  
Thursday 10am-8pm  
Sunday 1pm-4pm

Appointments and tours available

FREE admission

402.367.4488  
www.bonecreek.org

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# NEWS & EVENTS

## MUSIC AT THE MUSEUM

Butler County Arts Council partners with the art museum by donating funds for educational activities and for entertainment at some events. Mike Morris is an outstanding musician who will present a 45-minute time of music in the museum on Sunday, March 18th at 4:00 pm. Visit <http://butlercountyarts.com/event/michael-morris/> to learn more about this performer.

## 2018 IS BONE CREEK'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY

### SAVE THE DATE

The museum board of directors invites you to set aside two dates on your 2018 calendar. Leaders will be working toward a special **10th Anniversary Celebration and Fundraiser** on Sunday, July 8th. The 3rd Annual **Corn Fest** has been set for Sunday September 9th at the Butler County Event Center. More information will be shared about these events as they are planned. We encourage you to plan to join us for these events.

### RECOGNITION CONTINUES IN 2018

Bone Creek Museum will be presented with the 2018 Nebraska Association of County Extension Boards Outstanding Business/Business Person award presented February 8th at the NACEB annual meeting in Lincoln, NE. Louise Niemann submitted an application nominating Bone Creek for this recognition. Anna Nolan and Allen Covault have accepted the invitation to attend and bring as their guest Gabrielle Comte who organized, taught and presented the projects with 4-H youth in recent years.

### GRATEFUL FOR LOCAL SUPPORT

Bone Creek Museum has received a number of grants which will partially fund the upcoming major exhibition "Worthy Rivals: Dale Nichols and Terence Duren." An Arts Projects grant awarded by the Nebraska Arts Council was made possible by appropriations from the State of Nebraska and the National Endowment for the Arts and earnings from the Nebraska Cultural Endowment. An additional grant from BCAFF, the Butler County Area Foundation Fund, is for educational materials, shipping and installation of the art for this summer exhibition. Butler County Visitors Funds also have been awarded for a portion of the project.



## PERMANENT COLLECTION EXHIBITION

Visitors to Bone Creek Museum's South Gallery early this year will experience a rare glimpse of some of the newest or never before exhibited works of art from our rapidly expanding permanent collection in the show "Coming Home."

Throughout the last ten years, promotion by visitors, members and volunteers has been a significant part of the museum's success. A growing community of art donors has helped provide countless educational experiences through their contributions. In 2017 alone, the museum has accessioned **24 new works of art**, the majority of which were gifts.

As the collection grows each year, it becomes ever more important to show our gratitude toward those generous art donors who are responsible for giving Bone Creek Museum some of our most



Charles Fritz, *Second Cutting*, oil, Gift of Gerald Wempner in memory of Paul Christian Wempner, 2017.4.4



Elizabeth Peak, *Intersection looking South*, 2010, color etching, 2012.21.2

treasured artworks. With that in mind, "Coming Home" will allow visitors the opportunity to appreciate many of the gifts of recent years, including works such as "Second Cutting" by Charles Fritz donated by Gerald Wempner or "Intersection looking South" by Elizabeth Peak donated by the artist.



## DALE NICHOLS CORNER



*A Hunter Coming Home* a serigraph by Dale Nichols from 1942 is the latest acquisition to join the permanent collection. See it this spring in the "Coming Home" exhibition.

## MEET THE MAKERS

This summer, Bone Creek Museum will be completely immersed in the philosophies and styles of two prolific painters from the Platte River Valley area, Dale Nichols and Terence Duren, in the exhibition "Worthy Rivals". While the names Nichols and Duren are not unfamiliar to lovers of Regionalist art or even residents of Butler and Polk counties, the upcoming exhibition will introduce a new name to all—that of the museum's guest curator, Cole Sartore.

A native of Lincoln, Nebraska, Sartore's interest in strong narrative imagery began in his youth. After studying art history and anthropology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and pursuing work with private art collectors and American art dealers such as MME Fine Art and Meredith Ward Fine Art, his interest in narrative imagery developed into a passion for 20th century American Art. As his knowledge of the inner workings of the art world grew, so did his aspiration to create his own art business, Lincoln Art Company.

Curating an exhibition for a museum which often promotes the very niche art movements which interest him was a natural fit for the budding art professional.

**"I was particularly drawn to curate this show because of the extraordinary style and skill each artist had. They were both able to elegantly capture the pulse of the regionalist and social realist movements of the time, and in my opinion, have been somewhat overlooked in American Art history."**

The exhibition is framed around the narrative of the documented feud between Duren and Nichols, which came to light in the summer of 1945 in a *Time Magazine* article titled "War in the Corn". That summer, both Nebraska born artists were showing art in their hometowns, Nichols in David City and Duren 18 miles further west in Shelby. While both artists adopted vastly different styles and artistic philosophies through their careers, their shared personality traits—the desire to prove superiority and an inane outspokenness—led

to their famously noted, heated exchange of words.

Nearly 73 years later, Sartore is approaching the artists' relationship in a different way. Though framed by the article of the feud, he hopes to present the 30-40 drawings, paintings and prints by Duren and Nichols in a manner which exemplifies their pure talent and stylistic brilliance. "While many artists have strong, technical proficiency, both Duren and Nichols had their own artistic theory as to why one should create art. And because of this, their work stands out above the rest. It is my hope that through this exhibition, their creative processes and theories will shine brightly," said Sartore.



Guest Curator Cole Sartore