Bone Creek Museum has partnered with the Lougheed Studio at Claggett/Rey Gallery of Vail, Colorado to present an exhibition and catalog of the late Robert Lougheed (1910-1982) with the support of the Nebraska Arts Council and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment.

The bucolic exhibition “Before Cowboys, Fields of the Heart” runs May 23 through August 26, 2012, with an opening reception Saturday, May 26, 2012, 1-4pm. We are very glad to welcome special guests Bill Rey of Claggett/Rey Gallery and his father, accomplished Nebraska painter, Jim Rey.

This exhibition is unlike other retrospectives of Lougheed’s work because it looks at the artist and his work through the lens of agrarianism. The family farm of his youth sparked the artistic urge in Canadian born Robert Lougheed. Mostly known today as a Western artist, this assembly of Lougheed’s work embodies the impressionist tradition with an aptitude for illustrative realism.

The plein air subjects range from Canadian winters, to the hot South and Southwest summers, Hawaiian fields, and French villages. For Lougheed, his time late in life painting quaint French villages most poignantly reminded him of his childhood among the small towns and wildlife of Canada. The technical consistency of his work matches his unmistakable passion for painting outdoors. In “Before Cowboys…”, Lougheed’s skill and devotion is clear to paint in the outdoors; scenes of animals, wildlife, people, and landscapes in the tradition of his great teachers and mentors.

A special 50 page catalog book has been created to commemorate this exhibition. The book includes full color images of all of the artworks in the show and photographs of the artist at work on location. Also included are insightful essays by guest authors focused on the agrarian nature of the acclaimed Western artist’s roots. It will be available at the museum and the Bone Creek online shop.

Images: Top: The Sawmill Bay, oil, 16x20. Middle: Louis Tixier and Tintin (detail), oil, 12x16. Bottom left: My Working Uncle (detail), oil, 8x10. Bottom right: Canada Goose Passing, oil, 30x40. All images courtesy of Lougheed Studio at Claggett/Rey Gallery.
**Local and Emerging Artist Gallery**

“Shelly Bartek: Clouds on Highway 92” will be on display in the Bone Creek Annex (Legion building, 551 E St.) May 25 - July 8, 2012. Meet the Omaha artist of this stunning new work at the reception June 16.

Bartek has made a name for herself by creating artworks for commercial companies such as MillerCoors Blue Moon Brewery. Her work has been seeing an important shift toward what is most meaningful to her. “I am inspired to translate the prairie’s ephemeral vastness and energy by painting expressively,” says Bartek. “Clouds on Highway 92” is a series of hilltop vistas painted at a large scale.

**Don Weller: Utah Ranch Hands**

Many of you were able to attend Weller’s opening reception and meet the artist. There is still time to see this fabulous exhibit of his first hand experiences working with livestock interpreted and preserved with fine art flare, through May 13. Also on view into May is the stunning sculptural work of Jeanine Pesek with her collection “Elements from the Earth”.

**Calendar of Events**

- **Shelly Bartek: Clouds on Highway 92**
  - On display: May 25 - July 8, 2012
  - Reception: June 16, 2012, 3-6pm

- **Robert Lougheed: Before Cowboys, Fields of the Heart**
  - May 23 - August 26, 2012
  - Reception: June 16, 2012, 3-6pm

- **Utah Ranch Hands**
  - June 16, 2012, 6-8pm
  - Reception: June 16, 2012, 3-6pm

- **Summer Art Day Camps**
  - Held July 23-25 with qualified art teachers.
  - Registration begins June 1st. Forms will be at the museum, on Facebook, or at bonecreek.org

- **Don Weller: Utah Ranch Hands**
  - July 23-25, 2012

**Volunteer**

We would like to recognize the late Dorothy Buntgen for being a volunteer since the museum’s opening in March 2008. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact us.

**Collection**

Texas artist V...Vaughan got Bone Creek’s interested in volunteering, please contact us.

**NEWS FROM THE FIELD**

- **From the Field**
  - Many of you were able to attend Weller’s opening reception and meet the artist. There is still time to see this fabulous exhibit of his first hand experiences working with livestock interpreted and preserved with fine art flare, through May 13. Also on view into May is the stunning sculptural work of Jeanine Pesek with her collection “Elements from the Earth”.

**Board of Directors**

As founding board members Mark and Carol Moseman have left the board to pursue other activities, we want to express our appreciation for their passion and support. They have made a lasting impact on Bone Creek with progress toward achieving our mission to be a national center. They have given our organization a brand name and provided a vision to be a larger museum in the future. We want to take this opportunity to thank Mark and Carol for all their years of dedication and hard work.

**Visit bonecreek.org to become a member!**