

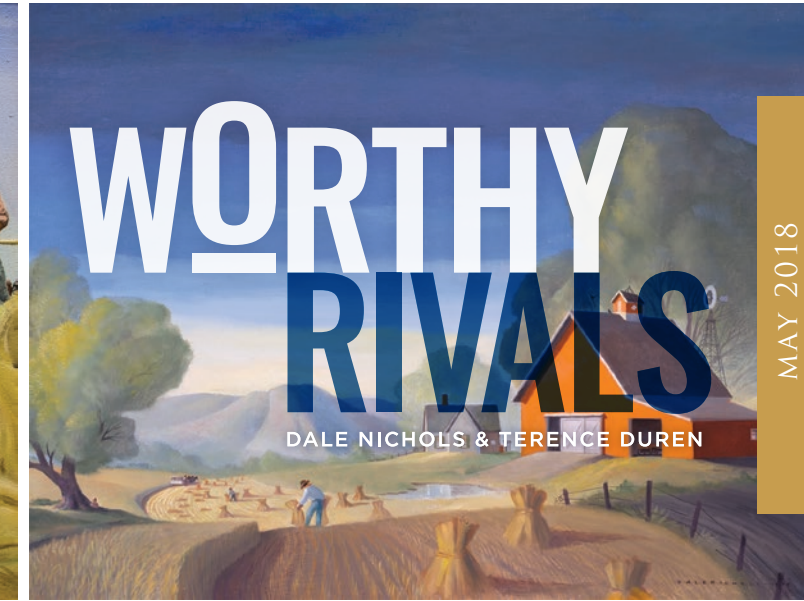
BONE CREEK

MUSEUM OF AGRARIAN ART

575 E Street | David City, NE 68632

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MAY 2018

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PEOPLE TO THE LAND THROUGH ART

CONNECTING



AGRARIAN ART
NEWSLETTER

MAY
2018
VOLUME, ISSUE II

BONE CREEK
MUSEUM OF AGRARIAN ART

This year's summer blockbuster exhibition compares the artwork of David City artist Dale Nichols (1904-1995) to Shelby, NE artist Terence Duren (1904-1968). An opening reception will be held Saturday, May 5, 2018 from 2:00-5:00pm. Guest Curator Cole Sartore will lecture about the exhibition at 2:30 and 4:00pm.

Though both artists were highly accomplished painters in their own right, never before has there been a show designed to compare and contrast these two Nebraskans who grew up so close to one another with their hometowns of Shelby and David City less than 20 miles apart.

The exhibition is framed around the narrative of a documented feud between Duren and Nichols, which came to light in the summer of 1945 when both men were showing their work in their hometowns. A *Time* magazine article titled "War in the Corn" detailed their vastly different styles and artistic philosophies through their careers. Their shared personality traits and desire to prove superiority over each other led to an outspoken and heated exchange of words that was remembered for years.

The museum has enlisted the young and energetic historian Cole Sartore to serve as Guest Curator for the exhibition. Sartore has designed the show largely around direct comparisons of the individual paintings, so that viewers can clearly see where their styles and sympathies aligned or diverged. Both of the museum's gallery spaces will be filled with approximately 40 paintings by Nichols and Duren. Some of these paintings are in local private collections and several have been borrowed from major art institutions including the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art in Kansas City, the University of Arizona Museum of Art in Tucson and the Museum of Nebraska Art in Kearney, NE.

Bone Creek Museum hosted retrospective exhibitions for Dale Nichols in 2008 and 2011. This will be the first exhibition for it to feature Terence Duren so prominently as he is not typically considered an agrarian artist.

"While many artists have strong, technical proficiency, both Duren and Nichols had their own artistic theory as to why one should create art. 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.

A book focused on the lives and works of each artist titled "Worthy Rivals: The Art of Dale Nichols and Terence Duren" is being published to coincide with the exhibition.

"As Bone Creek celebrates its 10th anniversary this year, which marks 50 years since Duren's death, it is a notable time for the museum to contribute once again in a scholarly way to these local artists who had such an impact on the American art movement and the fine arts of Nebraska," said Bone Creek curator Amanda Mobley Guenther.

The Nebraska Arts Council, a state agency, has supported this project through its matching grants program funded by the Nebraska legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment. Visit www.nebraskaartscouncil.org for information on how the Nebraska Arts Council can assist your organization. In addition, the Butler County Area Foundation Fund and the Butler County Arts Council have sponsored the exhibition and its connected educational programs. Butler County Tourism and additional sources have also made this major exhibition possible.

IMAGES

Right: Dale Nichols, "Valley Farm Between the Bluffs," 1979, oil on canvas, Bone Creek Museum of Agrarian Art Collection.

Left: Terence Duren, "Hay Baling," n.d., Acrylic on board, Private Collection.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

05 MAY
Worthy Rivals:
Dale Nichols and Terence Duren
May 2 - Sept. 23, 2018
Opening Reception, Saturday,
May 5, 2-5pm

08 JUL
10th Anniversary Birthday Bash
Sunday, July 8, 2018, 2-4pm

09 SEP
Save the Date -
Sunday, Sept 9, 2018
CornFest

29 SEP
Upcoming: Water/Ways exhibition
Sept. 29 - Nov. 9, 2018

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

575 E Street | David City, NE 68632

NEWS & EVENTS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BONE CREEK!



2018 marks ten years since Bone Creek first opened its doors in David City. Join us at the fairgrounds Butler County Events Center for cake and refreshments at our birthday bash, July 8, at 2pm.

We will be celebrating where we've been, taking a look at where we are now, and talking about where we're headed. There will be a short program at 3 p.m., followed by drawing for a door prize valued at \$100. You must be present to win. Pick up an extra ticket to put in the drawing if you visit the museum on E Street in David City before heading out to the Events Center for our birthday party.

SHELBY FIELD TRIP

Explore more deeply the life of Terence Duren with a field trip to Shelby, Nebraska on Saturday morning, June 9, or Tuesday evening, June 26. Learn about Duren's signature painting style from a Bone Creek art historian while observing his Stations of the Cross paintings in the Sacred Heart Catholic Church and other of his works housed at the Shelby Library. Walk by the Duren home, his studio, and his grave marker while in Shelby. The tour also includes a drive by the sixteen-sided round

barn that was built on Dale Nichols' family farm in 1912, while the young Nichols was developing a fascination with barns that is evident in so many of his paintings. Each tour ends with a meal at the A&B Grill'n Bar in Shelby, where participants have an opportunity to ask questions and share stories of their own about these two well-known artists from our area. There is no cost to participate, beyond the price of your meal at the restaurant. Tour size is limited -- call the museum to sign up.

Anna Nolan (Covault) and Allen Covault Honored at Governor's Arts Awards Banquet



Anna Nolan (Covault) and Allen Covault

Anna Nolan (Covault) and Allen Covault were honored with the Thomas C. Woods III Partner in the Arts award in May by the Nebraska Arts Council at the Governor's Arts Awards. The couple have supported the arts in David City for decades. After moving to David City Anna joined the Butler County Arts Council board. As volunteer administrator she writes grants, solicits sponsors and hosts artists. For 25 years Allen served on the Grand Island Concert Association board including years as President. In 2005 the couple received the Volunteer of the Year award from the chamber of commerce for outstanding service including for the Thorpe Opera House Foundation.

In 2007 they co-founded Bone Creek Art Museum which as Bone Creek Museum of Agrarian Art opened in 2008 and brought national attention to the art of David City native Dale Nichols and others. They formed the Nolan Covault Foundation to assure future growth and success of the museum's mission to connect people to the land through art. The couple also supports many other arts organizations in Nebraska.



Nebraska Association of County Extension Boards presented Bone Creek the Outstanding Business/ Business Person award this spring to Gabrielle Comte, Anna Nolan (Covault) and Allen Covault.



PREVIEW IN 569 GALLERY "Who's Next: 2020 Vision"

The Worthy Rivals exhibition is all about Dale Nichols and Terence Duren—two small-town Nebraska artists who made it big, exhibiting their work in such places as the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Chicago Art Institute, and the Carnegie Institute. In the year 2020, Bone Creek will have an exhibit titled "2020 Vision: Who's Next?" The point of this upcoming exhibition is to take a look at contemporary artists with connections to this area—and to wonder who might be the next one to become nationally or internationally known, just as Dale Nichols and Terence Duren did. The 2020 Vision show will feature the works of a number of artists with ties to this local area and to Nebraska. The works that these artists display in the 2020 Vision show will all be original works for sale to the public.

Between now and the opening of the 2020 Vision: Who's Next show in the year 2020, Bone Creek will be hosting several previews of works by artists who will be featured in that show. The previews will also all feature artists with ties to Nebraska, and the artwork exhibited in the previews will be for sale when it is displayed. The first of these previews will be alongside the Worthy Rivals exhibition that is open during the summer of 2018. This Who's Next Preview will feature works by Amy Tomasevicz (Columbus), Megan McClintic (David City), Jan Bostelman (Brainard), Mike Arnold (La Vista), and Shelly Bartek (Omaha).

SAVE THE DATE



The 3rd Annual CORNFEST has been set for Sunday September 9th at the Butler County Event Center. This year's corn plate will be limited to the first 50 tickets sold. There will be carriage rides, a corn maze, live bluegrass music by "The Toasted Ponies". More information coming soon.

SUMMER ARTS PROGRAMS

Summer Art Day Camps- Classes will be 9 am to noon and 1pm to 4pm on Friday, July 27, Monday, July 30 and Tuesday, July 31 in the Aquinas Art Room, David City, NE. Details and registration forms will be posted on bonecreek.org and on butlercountyarts.com by the end of May. The Butler County Arts Council with a grant from the Butler County Area Foundation Fund and the continued support of the Nebraska Arts Council and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment will have six three hour sessions for participants from 8 years old through adult. Art activities will include origami, clay pinch pots, pointillism, sculpey clay, stained glass mosaics, collage, painting and more. Art teachers include Tessa

Vrbicky, Gabrielle Comte, Sarah Juranek, Angie Frier & Iris Prochaska.

4-H Workshop—This summer, Bone Creek Museum will collaborate with the Butler County Extension Office for the fifth consecutive year to host an art workshop for 4-H students around the county. The workshop, inspired by the upcoming exhibition *Water/Ways* and directed by museum collections manager, Gabrielle Comte, will take place on Monday, June 11, 2018. Participants will explore current issues surrounding water to create individual multimedia artworks for display at the Butler County Fair in July.

DALE NICHOLS CORNER



Dale Nichols, "Winter on the Farm," 1969, Oil on canvas, 20x28", Private Collection

"Winter on the Farm" is the latest Nichols' painting to go up for auction, made available just recently through Shannon's Fine Art auctions. Painted as a commission while in Guatemala, this artwork has none of the South American influence that he would often throw in for paintings of this period, such as a volcano in the background or tropical foliage in the foreground.

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WORTHY RIVALS

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