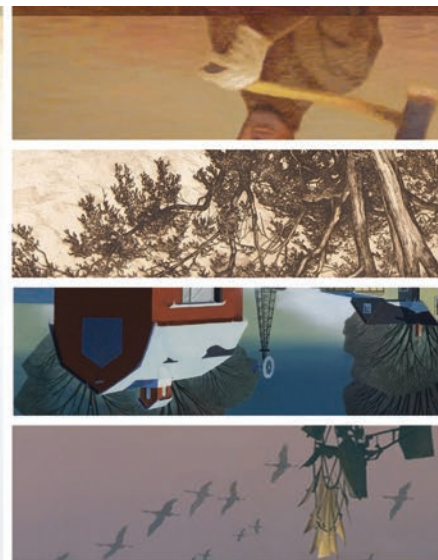


BONE CREEK
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 AUGUST

Agriarian Art
 NEWSLETTER

BONE CREEK
 MUSEUM OF AGRARIAN ART

Between 1942 and 1964, an estimated four and a half million Mexican men came to the United States on short-term labor contracts. A little-known chapter of American and Mexican history, the Bracero Program touched the lives of countless men, women, families, and communities. Both bitter and sweet, the bracero experience tells a story of exploitation but also of opportunity. Bracero contracts promised much but did not always deliver. Although the work was grueling and housing substandard, many braceros endured these conditions, hoping to make more money than they would at home.

The visual impact of the art in this exhibition is



Diana Le Marbe, *Potatoes*

more powerful than words can describe. Both artists accurately depict the back-breaking work of the contract laborers. Their perspective is one that shows honor and appreciation for the efforts of braceros. In an often-overlooked historical narrative, the art in this collection endures to help tell the story about the impact that millions of Mexicans made in efforts to improve the lives of both themselves and Americans.

Artists Jeri Desrochers and Diana Le Marbe are both from New Mexico. Le Marbe is an art educator and business owner who turned to full time art later in life, with a passion for sculpture in a variety of media. Desrochers is known for her vivid color palette and thick textures of paint. Her artist statement describes her deep feelings for agrarian art: “My emotional reaction to the intense light and color of the western landscape inspires me to paint. The agricultural lands of the Rio Grande valley have a special place in my heart because I grew up on a small family-run farm. My paintings seek to honor the people who work close to the

earth and revere the land that sustains them.”

This collection is a contemporary continuation of the strong tradition of Social Realism in American



Diana Le Marbe, *Short Hoe*

Art. This movement flourished between the World Wars in response to social and political turmoil and hardships. Social realists portrayed everyday workers as heroic symbols of persistence and strength in the face of adversity.

“Braceros: Melding History and Art” has been exhibited at several other museums in New Mexico and Texas. Informational materials about the exhibition and history of the Braceros Program will be made available in both English and Spanish. The museum staff also prepared a talk about this exhibition for small groups and service

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IMAGES (Top left) Jeri Desrochers, *Inspeccion*
 (Top right) Jeri Desrochers, *Field Trio*



CALENDAR -of- EVENTS

- 08** MAY **A Collector's Eye: Wempner Collection**
Opened May 8, 2019
- 28** JUL **Birger Sandzen Reception with Ron Michael**
July 28, 2019, 2-4pm
- 29** JUL **B.C.A.C. Summer Art Day Camp**
July 29-31, 2019
- 01** AUG **Butler County Chamber After Hours**
August 1, 2019, 5-6:30pm
- 01** AUG **Braceros: Melding History and Art**
August 1 – Nov. 17, 2019
- 21** AUG **Food for Thought at Hruska Library**
August 21, 2019, noon
RSVP required, 402-367-3100

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

BONE CREEK
MUSEUM OF AGRARIAN ART

575 E St., David City, NE 68632

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clubs. Please contact the museum for more information about scheduling a talk such as the one that will be given at the David City Public Library on August 21st. This exhibition at the Bone Creek Museum of Agrarian Art has been made possible in part by the support of the Butler County Area Foundation Fund, Butler County Arts Council and the Nebraska Arts Council.

-Amanda Mobley Guenther, curator



Jeri Desrochers, *Abuelo*

NEWS & EVENTS

4-H SUMMER WORKSHOP

Early this June, the museum and the Butler County Extension partnered with Education Service Unit 7 in Columbus to host three instructors from Mexico for an afternoon with 4-H students. "As we prepare to host our first specifically Latin American focused exhibit, we are truly grateful to Pedro Rodriguez, Marissa Garza and Laura Cordero as well as Cynthia Alarcon and Nathalie Vargas from ESU7 for organizing this program," said Gabrielle Comte, Gallery and Collections Manager.



Pedro Rodriguez and students

The three Mexican teachers traveled to Nebraska as participants in the Binational Teacher Exchange, a program which aims to support the education of students of migrant families in area counties. They led the 4-H group through three traditional crafts and explained the cultural significance of each. Examples of the artwork created at this workshop were displayed at the Butler County Fair this July.

The students began by creating an Ojo de Dios (Eye of God), made by weaving brightly colored yarns in a diamond pattern around two crossed branches. Traditionally, parents begin weaving an Ojo de Dios around the time of the birth of their child, and they continue to add a new woven color each year of the child's life. At the close of the fifth year the Ojo de Dios is complete, and a ceremony is held in which it is placed upon the child's head, symbolizing that God is looking down upon the child. Though a difficult technique to master, once Pedro helped the children understand the weaving pattern, they relished making the colorful crafts.



Laura Cordero and students

Later Marissa and Laura taught participants how to create papel picado, or "perforated paper", and corn husk flowers. Papel picado is made by cutting elaborate designs out of colorful tissue paper. Originating from the San Salvador Huixcolotla region of Puebla, papel picado is used throughout Mexico to decorate homes, neighborhoods and altars, most notably for Día de Los Muertos.

NEWS FROM THE FIELD



SEPT 08
2019



LOCATION David City Auditorium and Park

TICKET INCLUDES Latin American food from local food trucks and entertainment

ENTERTAINMENT Mexican/Latino musician Oscar Rios Pohirieth, Orgullo Latino dance troupe, carriage rides, silent auction

The 2019 Corn Plate by Valerie Williams will be available for separate purchase.

Call to reserve your seats, 402-367-4488.



Orgullo Latino dance troupe, image courtesy of the Lincoln Journal Star



Carriage ride

LEAVING A LEGACY

This May, the David City community was saddened by the loss of long-time resident and area volunteer, Vivian Trowbridge. Vivian was, among many roles, a treasured volunteer and visitor at Bone Creek Museum since its inception. Her love for agrarian art and her pride in our rural museum was always visible in the excitement she expressed upon visiting every exhibition. In a final example of her support for our organization, Vivian requested that all donations made in her memory be directed to Bone Creek Museum. Although we can never express to Vivian our gratitude for her generosity, we sincerely hope that through our continued efforts to connect people to the land through art, we are able to honor the life and legacy of Vivian Trowbridge.

COMING UP NEXT ERNIE OCHSNER RETROSPECTIVE NOV 22, 2019 - FEB 16, 2020



Ernie Ochsner, *Boone County Autumn*, oil, 24x30"



DALE NICHOLS CORNER

The museum receives regular inquiries about Nichols. We recently learned about a couple of paintings commissioned in 1951 for Cowboys of the World from the John Morrell Magazine. The Tibetan cowboy is riding a yak. The left-hand side of the composition has a motif Nichols used in the 1950s to emphasize light. A black silhouetted mountain is juxtaposed against a bright yellow shaft of light that flows down to the figure. Light, Order, and Love was Nichols' artist mantra.



Dale Nichols, *Tibet, Cowboys of the World*, 1951, oil on canvas, Private Collection.

SHOP

\$16⁰⁰

Order online or contact the museum to purchase

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