

Previews of Works For Sale at Upcoming Shows

OCTOBER 2009

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# WESTERN ART

## COLLECTOR

STATE OF THE  
ART: UTAH



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OCTOBER 2009

Previewing New Exhibitions Every Month Coast To Coast



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**UPCOMING GROUP SHOW**

Up to 30 works on show  
October 3-24, 2009

InSight Gallery  
244 W. Main Street  
Fredericksburg, TX 78624  
(888) 997-9921

**SHOW LOCATION FREDERICKSBURG, TX**

## *Founding artists*

In October, InSight Gallery in Fredericksburg, Texas, brings together five outstanding Texas artists for one remarkable show. Appropriately titled *Founding Artists*, the show honors the five original artists at the recently opened gallery: **Nancy Bush, John Austin Hanna, Mark Haworth, D. LaRue Mahlke and James Robinson.**

"Whether working in oil, acrylic or pastel, these skillful artists portray their subject matter with mastery," says Shannon Hanna, co-owner and director of InSight Gallery. "Featured in numerous national magazines and recipients of several awards, the founding artists are an outstanding collection of Texas artists whose influence far surpasses the state border."

The show runs October 3 through 24, 2009, with an artist reception on October 3 from 6 to 9 p.m. featuring new works by all of the artists.

For Nancy Bush, inspiration for her atmospheric paintings is everywhere she looks—a pasture of grazing cows or sheep; a rain shower in the distant hills; the moon rising behind a bank of clouds, daybreak.

"I love to concentrate on the subtle and the gentle changes of seasons...night into day, weather patterns and atmosphere, and shadows into light," explains Bush. "My work is always about quiet moments, moments of contemplation, and reflections of simple beauty in nature."

Bush enjoys painting outdoors and loves the challenges that plein air painting presents, though she does most of her work in the studio. It is here she can complete her studies from the outdoors on a larger scale.

"My process of painting is labor



John Austin Hanna, *Young Buck*, oil, 16 x 20"



James Robinson, *As Big as Texas*, acrylic, 40 x 60"



James Robinson, *Cornered*, acrylic, 36 x 48"

intensive, painting in layers and stages that often takes days to dry before I can continue to the next step in the painting," says Bush. "This layering, along with various painting techniques, helps create the atmosphere and luminosity that the viewer sees and feels in my paintings. The process helps draw the viewer into the painting and hopefully evokes some feeling of emotion from them."

Mark Haworth, also a landscape painter, finds that each season presents a myriad of possibilities; always subtly different in its color and texture. He says that finding that special scene challenges him to utilize all his senses, and that is the inspiration of color, shadow and light that illuminates emotion on his canvas.

"In my paintings I try to evoke an

emotion attracting us by a visual description of how light plays upon the landscape that makes the West unique," says Haworth. "It is the conviction of this emotion that I hope to inspire in those who see my work."

This emotion is seen in several of his new works for the *Founding Artists* show, including *Desert Light*. He muses that as an artist sometimes he hits the mark with a painting and other times fails miserably.

"Many times an artist falls a little short of how they picture the painting in their mind," says Haworth. "This doesn't mean the painting is a failure. It's just that the painting in your mind is so perfect that painting that perfect piece is rarely achieved. This is why an artist is driven to keep trying again; to keep improving and

taking risks to reach new plateaus. This is the challenge that inspires me."

The landscape also serves as the perfect muse for D. LaRue Mahlke. A number of her new works for the show depict autumn scenes, with emphasis on the red oaks and golden sycamores of the Texas landscape.

"A series of trips to the Texas Hill Country last fall has provided much inspiration and ample subject matter from which to work," says Mahlke. "Intimate views of central Texas rivers will also be included in this show."

Mahlke's landscapes span from hushed scenes to wide expanses of land and sky, and she primarily works in pastel.

"I work all areas of the painting simultaneously to develop the painting as



Mark Haworth, *Desert Light*, oil, 30 x 40"

a whole before focusing on details, using the sides of my pastel sticks as opposed to the tips," explains Mahlke, "constantly checking values, color temperature, aerial perspective, drawing, and edges as I work."

Mahlke says that the key to a painting's success is design and is the reason she enjoys the process of planning, drawing, and experimenting with different compositions for a painting in the form of many thumbnail sketches and value studies. She does this whether working outdoors or in the studio, from life or from digital images. 📄

For a direct link to the exhibiting gallery go to  [www.westernartcollector.com](http://www.westernartcollector.com)



Nancy Bush, *The Pond*, oil, 12 x 12"

*The Gallery Says...*

*"Whether working in oil, acrylic or pastel, these skillful artists portray their subject matter with mastery."*

*— Shannon Hanna, co-owner and director, InSight Gallery*



D. LaRue Mahlke, *in The Stillness*, pastel, 24 x 18"