

UPCOMING SHOW

Up to 25 works on show
August 7-20, 2009

McLARRY FINE ART
225 Canyon Road
Santa Fe, NM 87501
(505) 988-1161

SHOW LOCATION SANTA FE, NM



XIANG ZHANG

Observing the West

Fresh on the heels of his successful debut at the 2009 Prix de West, artist Xiang Zhang (pronounced Shong Zang) feverishly finishes several new large oil paintings for his solo show in August at McLarry Fine Art in Santa Fe. Zhang's style remains consistent in these works, with emphasis on strong loose brushstrokes and strong color contrast.

"You don't see the details but you feel it. They still convey shape and lighting, and the color is brighter in the new work," says Zhang.

Compared to past paintings, the subject is smaller while the sky and clouds are becoming more prevalent. While cowboys, horses and cattle continue to occupy his Western canvases, for this show, the artist emphasizes the atmosphere of the environment to create more drama. This is ideally illustrated in *Rocker B Drive*, his largest piece in the show. Set at a ranch of one of his collectors in Mineral Wells, Texas, Zhang depicts the scene from above eye level, inviting the viewer to experience the typical blue Texas sky, the dust behind the horses, and a lush green wheat field in the far distance.

"I wanted to raise the horizontal line higher so you can see more cowboys and black cattle to add more depth," says Zhang. "This composition is the first one of its kind in the past 10 years."

In past compositions, Zhang focused on action and emphasized the cowboy's face. This new shift allows viewers to



Unwanted Visitor, oil, 30 x 40"



Rocker B Drive, oil, 48 x 60"




Circle T Gang, oil, 18 x 24"

get a sense of the entire perspective. Zhang gains reference material for his paintings by touring homesteads in Colorado, New Mexico and Texas. Based on his observations, yet guided by his imagination, Zhang combines impressionistic and realistic techniques to tell the story of the West, always mindful to keep his images free of clutter and somewhat generic.

"My goal is to transform the realistic and impressionistic into my unique style," he says. "Collectors, when they look at my paintings from a distance, they feel atmosphere, tonality and action, and when they're close-up they see the brushstrokes. They enjoy seeing the difference. They always ask me how

I know if it will be effective and I tell them it takes many years of practice and training." 🐾

For a direct link to the exhibiting gallery go to 
www.westernartcollector.com

Price Range Indicator

Our at-a-glance Price Range Indicator shows what you can expect to pay for this artist's work.

	Small	Medium	Large
1999	\$1,800	\$7,000	\$16,000
2004	\$3,000	\$9,000	\$30,000
2009	\$5,000	\$12,000	\$60,000

The Collector Says . . .

"Nobody can draw a horse like Xiang does. His sense of color and correctness in portraying the horse and its movement, that really hit my eye when seeing his work. He's not only a good artist, he's one of the finest people I've ever met."

—Hank Beckman, Dallas, TX