

Artists Excel at High Desert Museum 2007 Art & Design Show

The High Desert Museum Art & Design Show gave the high desert community the opportunity to view and even purchase art from pre-eminent artists of the west. Nearly sixty pieces of art comprised of jewelry, leatherwork, furniture, two dimensional and three dimensional were on display. Several awards were presented based on artistic merit, design, vision, creativity and originality, along with craftsmanship, technique, and degree of difficulty. Each of the award winners was a truly accomplished artist and their work attests to the talent we are so lucky to have in our community.

Artists Choice Award

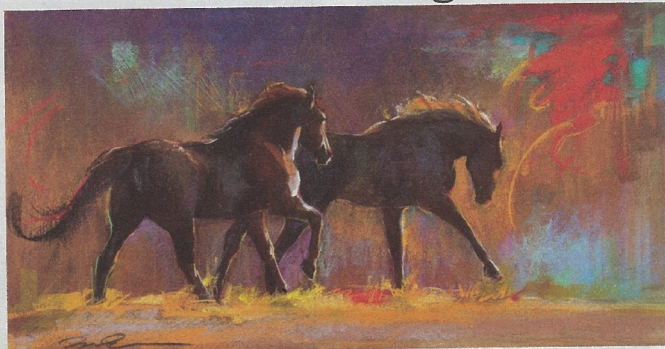
Kord E. Schaeffe — *Cherishes the Freedom to Create One-of-A-Kind Treasures*

Rustic furniture can best be described as a compilation of natural materials and a creative mind. Schaeffe of Portland is the creative force behind The Rustic Tramp Furniture Company. He has been building rustic home furnishings for the past eighteen years and cherishes the freedom to create one-of-a-kind treasures.

Kord takes great pride in the construction of his work. His intention is to create unique furnishings that will stand the test of time. He has developed a style of his own by blending a variety of twigs, birch bark, lodge pole and antler with tramp art. Tramp art is a form of folk art that uses graduating increments of notched wood to create a prism effect.

Schaeffe's portfolio encompasses a wide range of projects including, but not limited to, mirror frames, lamps, cabinetry, entertainment centers, grandfather clocks and headboards.

As a youth, Kord spent many days exploring the property of the ranch his parents owned in Southern Oregon and the woods of Mt. Hood National Forest. His works have appeared in several publications, including *Oregon Home: Country Living; Pacific Northwest; and Cabins and Camps*. www.therustictrampfurniturecompany.com



Dawn Emerson received the Judges Award for Two-Dimensional work.



Kord E. Schaeffe won the Artists Choice Award.

Judges Award Leatherworking

Ryder Gauteraux —

Rodeo Cowboy turns to Boot Making

Having grown up on a ranch just outside of Mt. Vernon, Oregon, gives Gauteraux a sound connection with horses and ranch life. It was an easy step for him early in life to end up in the rodeo arena.

Riding bulls initially, and then saddle bronc, Gauteraux got his PRCA card in 1997 and traveled the rodeo circuit. From the perspective as a cowboy, he found a need for quality leather goods. To fill that void Ryder taught himself all aspects of leather working by reading books, watching a video and working with guys who were already in the trade. "One day, I just tore apart a pair of boots, made a pattern and went to

it. It's all really common sense," says Gauteraux. That common sense, along with years of building boots, chaps, and other leather goods, has gained Gauteraux the reputation for being one of the premier boot makers in the Northwest.

What a Gauteraux boot means to the rodeo set is like a Porsche to a sports car enthusiast. "The main thing about any custom-made boot is the leather. If you start with good materials, you can get a good product. Most custom made boots will last as much as three times longer than a commercially made boot. I don't think I build a better boot than the other guy. The difference with my boots is my relatively young age in the boot making business and the influence of my background, which result in a style that sets my boots apart from other boot makers," explains the boot maker.

He's developed boots for both men and women in about ten different styles. Each finished pair of boots is designed specially for the individual, so each one is unique. However, there's a price to pay both in money and time. A pair of Ryder Gauteraux boots currently runs anywhere between \$1,200 and \$3,500 or more, and takes six to eight months for delivery.

www.rgboots.com.



Ryder Gauteraux won the Judges Award in Leatherworking.

Judges Award Two Dimensional

Dawn Emerson — *Artist's Work Brings Movement, Strength & Mood of Her Subjects*

Emerson is one of those rare artists equally adept at painting a number of subjects, yet her works all share a distinctive attitude, vitality and presence. Her favorite subject is whatever she's doing at the moment! It might be a human figure, wild horses, a cocky rooster, buffalo or landscape.

"The subject is just a vehicle for me to express some emotional quality or quality of movement that catches my attention," she explains. "Pastel allows me to be spontaneous with both a drawing and a painting approach. The pastel medium matches both my temperament and style. The energy goes right from my finger tips to the chalk and the surface."

Although her career as a pastel artist began about twelve years ago, Emerson grew up learning to draw with pencil using the contour line (outline) approach and almost never used color. She pursued a lot of other venues from graphic arts to stone carving. When she started using pastel, her whole way of seeing and drawing changed.

Emerson is the featured artist in the new book *Design and Composition for the Painter* and her work has won numerous national and international awards. Her work is available at the Mockingbird Gallery in Bend and www.dawnemerson.com.