

UPCOMING SHOW

Up to 10 works
September 3-17, 2010

McLary Fine Art
225 Canyon Road
Santa Fe, NM 87501
(877) 983-2123

SHOW LOCATION SANTA FE, NM



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MARK KOHLER



Western sagas

Mark Kohler documents in watercolor the people he encounters. Whether it's the charros of South Texas or cowboys from the ORO Ranch in Northern Arizona, Kohler enjoys befriending folks of diverse cultures and telling their unique stories on canvas.

"Finding new people and new subjects is how I keep my work fresh," Kohler says from his home in Texas. "I consider myself a storyteller with my art. For me, it's interesting to find people off the grid totally and paint them and tell their story. It is my hope that these paintings reveal the heart and soul of

my subjects, and the profound respect I have for them."

Kohler is particularly fascinated with charro culture and traditions, which he relays in his new work. The vignette titled *Crinolinia Azul*, for example, stems from a Texas Charreada that the artist frequents each spring. This scene depicts one of favorite sights: the escaramuza.

"Pam and I have started to know the girls and horses, and appreciate their hard work and effort," says Kohler. "This young lady is one of the two captains that mentor the younger girls on the team. I have photographed her for several years and feel as if I know her.

She always has a smile on her face, remains positive and carries herself with poise and has a natural ability to lead. She and her big gray take charge of what I consider to be the grandest spectacle of the event."

For over 15 years Kohler has traveled to remote ranches and faraway places to capture and preserve the unique lifestyle of the modern working cowboy. With sketchbook in hand, he ventures behind the scenes blending into the background, which enables him to bring an intimate approach to his subjects. While many of his subjects are placed against non-descript backgrounds, Kohler says he



Short Straw, watercolor, 8 x 10½"



Corriente, watercolor, 6¾ x 10"



When We Do Our Best Thinking, watercolor, 14½ x 14"



Texas artist Mark Kohler gets up close with his subjects.

The Collector Says . . .

"Mark's paintings take me back to a place and time that is becoming harder and harder to find. The lifestyle and work ethic of his subjects comes through in every painting. I am amazed at his ability to capture the smallest of details in his subjects. The way he captures the shadows and the action make you feel like you are right there in the painting."

– David Fouts, Houston, Texas



Crinolinia Azul, watercolor, 14 x 12"



Free Falling, watercolor, 10½ x 13½"

has started tackling the whole visual field with background and foreground, as noted in *Corriente*.

"This has turned out to be one of my favorite little paintings. It has such a nice composition, and the decorative cinder blocks in the background make an interesting design element," he says. "The little scrappy corriente cattle are a pleasure to paint."

In this new grouping collectors may notice that Kohler is rendering tighter and the colors are more saturated and intense.

"I also have been experimenting with gauche on top of my watercolor," he adds.

Kohler modeled underpainting in watercolor and floating gauche on top by studying the work of artist Thomas A. Daly. The painting *Short Straw* is completely done in gauche and

illustrates the artist's shift toward tighter detail.

"*Short Straw* is a well-executed piece. It just came together and I felt I was a participant in it and not the artist," says Kohler. "This was the first calf of the morning; first loop, at first light. I'd say this calf definitely drew the short straw."

And, like Daly, Kohler's paintings will be published in a book. Seventeen of the artist's watercolors will appear in a cookbook titled *Cow Country Cooking: Recipes and Tales from Northern Arizona's Historic Ranches* by Kathy McCraine. The cookbook will be available at McLary Fine Art in time for the holidays. 🐾

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
2001	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$3,500
2004	\$1,200	\$1,800	\$3,500-\$4,000
2010	\$1,600	\$2,400	\$5,000-\$8,000