

DISCOVERING WESTERN AND NATIVE ART

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COWBOYS & INDIANS

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Reba McEntire

The Hits Keep
Coming For The
Queen Of Country

Turquoise Mines In The Old West

Kansas City's American Royal

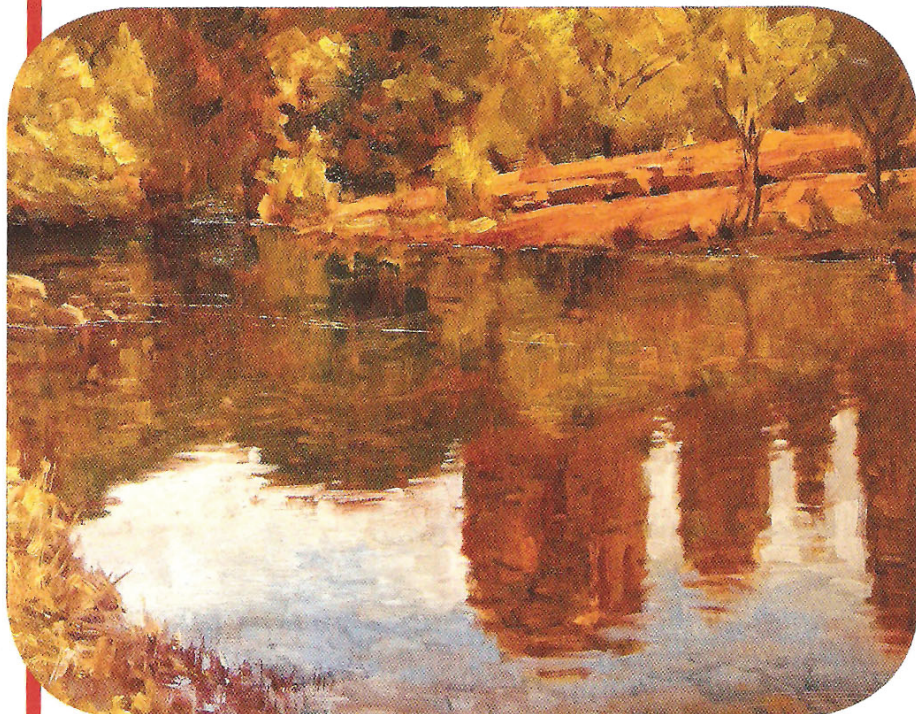
East Coast Native Pilgrimage

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Sedona Plein Air Festival

EXPERIENCE ART IN ARIZONA'S GREAT OUTDOORS.



Joshua Been's *Cathedral Reflection* won the 2010 Poster Award.

An unnamable force draws you in. The otherworldly beauty of the red rocks mystifies and inspires. What better place than Sedona, Arizona, to soak up the natural splendor of the earth and create art? Drawing creativity from the lush and varied surroundings, artists come to Sedona each year to behold this muse of the Southwest and participate in the **Sedona Plein Air Festival**, held in late October.

Painting *en plein air*, meaning "in the open air," is a style rooted in 19th-century French impressionism. With newly developed theories of how the eye physically registers color, plein-air proponents like Manet, Monet, and Renoir believed that what the eye sees in nature is not form but light on form. One wonders what the giants of French impressionism would see were they to behold the stunning Arizona light on the awesome form of Sedona's famed red rocks — a perfect candidate for plein-air art.

C&I Online

For a taste of L'Auberge de Sedona, try executive chef David Schmidt's recipe for BBQ braised beef short ribs with hickory smoked polenta and glazed baby vegetables available at www.cowboysindians.com.

Made directly from nature and permeated with a feeling of the outdoors, plein-air painting demands that artists trust their eyes and interpret light on form, contending with the challenges of shifting morning light and shadows slinking onto the canvas throughout a day's work. During the eight-day event organized by the Sedona Arts Center, award-winning plein-air artists do exactly that, drinking in the magnificent surroundings and continuing the tradition of capturing the effects of light and atmosphere on canvas. During the festival, each artist produces a number of pieces, all of which are for sale. This year, patrons will have several opportunities to purchase art — directly after the Paint Out on Main Street event, at the festival's Opening and Grand Receptions, immediately following the Quick Draw, and throughout the festival at the Sedona Arts Center.

Of the 32 artists involved this year, 13 participated last year, including double award winner Rick J. Delanty. The San Clemente, California, artist walked away with the 2009 Collectors' Choice Award for *Oak Creek's Secret* (voted on by closing gala attendees) and Presenting Sponsor Award (given by L'Auberge de Sedona) for *Sedona Autumn*. Delanty describes his style as "contemporary expressions of places that people can recognize and a reflection of my own spirit — how I feel about a place. Painting the spirit of a place is the subtitle of my paintings."

Salida, California, artist Joshua Been also capitalizes on Sedona's intense sense of place in his painting, notably in *Cathedral Reflection*, the image used for this year's festival advertising. Commenting on Been's plein-air interpretation of this natural wonder,

Vince Fazio, director of the Sedona Arts Center School of the Arts says, "Cathedral Rock is the most photographed spot in Arizona"

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