

November 6, 2016 through January 15, 2017

Strength, Dignity, Serenity

artworks by Del and Martha Pettigrew of
Kearney, Nebraska

Statements and Biographies

Award winning artist **Delmar Pettigrew** creates wildlife sculptures and oil paintings. He writes, "I love sculpting horses and draw upon my many years of breeding and owning them to capture their spirit in bronze. My wildlife sculptures depict experiences in the field. In all my subjects, I am not a slave to detail, but prefer to allow the viewer to fill in the blanks."

His works are found in private, corporate, museum, municipal, and foreign collections. Del recently was awarded the *Artist in Residency Award* from the Museum of the Great Plains in Lincoln, Nebraska. He created two bronzes depicting wildlife of the Great Plains for the Museum, which are now in their permanent collection. His work is represented by galleries in Santa Fe, New Mexico; Beaver Creek, Colorado; Cheyenne, Wyoming; and Manhattan, Kansas.

Recently, Del's *The Chase* and *I'm Outta Here* (lifesize Coyote and Jackrabbit bronzes) were installed in downtown Cheyenne as part of their program to enhance the image of the city through public sculpture. Other cities with Del's work in their collections include: Sioux Falls in South Dakota; Green River, Gillette, and Sheridan in Wyoming. *Earning His Oats*, included in this exhibition, won best of show at the Avera Hospital art exhibition in Sioux Falls.

Del and his wife Martha are longtime thoroughbred horse owners and breeders. His other interests include reading and studying the Spanish language. After spending several months in a school at San Miguel de Allende, GTO, Mexico, Del considers himself "comfortably" fluent in Spanish.

Born and raised in Lincoln, Nebraska, **Martha Pettigrew** graduated from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, with a bachelor of fine arts degree. She later served as an illustrator for the state museum. She has worked as a professional artist, doing both sculpture and paintings, since 1990. She is the recipient of many prestigious awards, including:

- Best of Show, Cheyenne Old West Museum, *Spirit of the West*, Cheyenne, Wyoming
- Best of Show and purchase Award, *Scottsdale's Best and Brightest*, Scottsdale, Arizona



Earning His Oats

- Best of Show, and Purchase Award, Desert Caballeros Western Museum, *Cowgirl Up!*, Wickenburg, Arizona
- Artist in Residence Award, Museum of the Great Plains, Lincoln, Nebraska
- Phippen Museum of Western Art, Best Sculpture, Prescott, Arizona
- Phippen Museum of Western Art, George Phippen Award, Prescott, Arizona



Church at Ranchos de Taos

Her sculpture has been displayed in numerous city loan programs throughout the Midwest, allowing a broad audience to view her skills as a sculptor. Martha's paintings focus largely on rural structures. She also enjoys capturing the power of the sea and its coastlines.

Martha is the recipient of numerous public commissions, including ones from Newport Beach, California; City of Irving, Texas; Stanford, Connecticut; Mason City, Iowa; Museum of the Great Plains in Lincoln, Nebraska, and more.

Regarding her work, she writes, "Although I am known mostly as a sculptor of figures and animals, my roots as a painter trace back to my college days where I developed a style blending monumentalism with a quiet simplicity.

"A barn, to me, symbolizes hope for the future. Farming, like gardening, is about 'next year.' As barns, elevators and other rural structures disappear from the landscape, I hope to capture their images free from sentimentality.

"My seascapes came about as a result of a visit to Point Reyes National Seashore. A native Nebraskan standing on the shore, feeling 'the sound and the fury' of the huge incoming breakers, I was moved to capture my impressions of the timeless motion of the sea.

"My goal as a painter is to create images that the viewer never tires of seeing."



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401 N. First Street, PO Box 348, Lindsborg, KS 67456
(785) 227-2220 fineart@sandzen.org www.sandzen.org

Gallery Hours: Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.