

UPCOMING SHOW

Up to 20 works
August 5-19, 2010

Altamira Fine Art
172 Center Street
Jackson, WY 83001
(307) 739-4700

SHOW LOCATION JACKSON, WY



AMY RINGHOLZ

Resonance

After achieving much success with her portraits of animals that focus on the eyes of the subjects, Amy Ringholz is now creating paintings that highlight a narrative within each work, usually coming from multiple animals in each composition and how they relate to each other.

"I'm now trying to tell stories with the artwork," says Ringholz. "These are premeditated either from stories of my life or putting together a couple of animals and turning them into stories. So, it's nice that they are coming from all angles."

Ringholz sees this new work as a complete breakthrough for her as an artist and believes that it is the most important work she has done to date.

"It virtually took me a thousand paintings, acting as a thousand lessons and bridges to get me here," says Ringholz. "Finally, after painting almost every day for the past eight years, I started painting what I was born to paint. I wonder if every artist can say that."

This breakthrough is the use of multiple animals in each canvas and setting them up so they are playing off one another. For example, the painting *Teaching Horses to Fly* involves a horse and a sandhill crane while the painting *Consulting the King* presents an imagined conversation between a lion and a spider.

"What is coming out of me has been manifesting for eight years," says Ringholz. "Every sketch, every understanding of design and composition, every emotion that I had felt for the majesty of Africa, of Alaska, and of Wyoming, every skill of abstraction to anatomy was used and the formula that I have been searching for—for almost a decade—broke through."

This style of painting began last year when Ringholz painted several totem poles that combined animals together. However, she soon learned that these totem paintings were just a way to get her to the next level in her work.

"They are done in an art nouveau style as



I Have Often Been Called. This Time I Was Sent, oil on canvas, 72 x 48"



Teaching Horses to Fly, oil on canvas, 48 x 48"

well as elements of vintage posters that all combine to create these new works," says Ringholz. "With them I get flat color next to texture next to a pattern, and that combined with my interest in printmaking, design, composition, fashion, line elements and telling a story. Together, all these wonderful elements make a great crossroads between oil painting and printmaking." 🐾

For a direct link to the
exhibiting gallery go to



www.westernartcollector.com

The Collector Says. . .

"My husband and I collect 18th and 19th century paintings and decorative arts, so it is unusual for us to be drawn to a contemporary artist. Amy's use of strong, vibrant colors, her choice of an unusual composition and canvas space, and her personalized depictions of animals, each with their own character, are engaging."

**-Ellen Stirn Mavec, Vice President,
Board of Trustees, Cleveland Museum of Art**