

Santa Fe kick-off

Altermann's summer sale to auction off major Western pieces during event-filled August in Santa Fe

With a lineup that includes G. Harvey, Frank McCarthy, Eanger Irving Couse, Charlie Dye, Fremont Ellis and many other prominent Western artists, Altermann Galleries' *August Auction* is expected to be a can't-miss event leading into Indian Market Week in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Noteworthy in the summer auction are an extensive array of styles, genres and mediums. Richard Altermann, co-owner of Altermann Galleries, says he prides the artistic diversity of the auction house's sales. "We've been in business since 1978 and we have a base of

collectors who have always had wide varieties within their collections, not just Western art," he says. "But we are a venue that specializes in Western art, as well as art that falls under the larger umbrella of great American art."

Pieces that will hit the auction block include *Pottery Maker by Firelight* (est. \$35/40,000) by Couse, *The Iron Horse* (est. \$30/35,000) by McCarthy, *Spring in the Valley* (\$10/14,000) by Ellis, and two nocturnes, *Moonlit Ride* (est. \$16/22,000) by Dye and *Late Arrivals* (est. \$30/40,000) by Harvey.

Altermann says he is most excited for James

Bama's oil-on-board piece *Hunting Camp Wrangler*, which will likely sell between \$40,000 and \$60,000. Bama, a New York illustrator who stumbled into painting after moving to Wyoming, first photographs his subjects in black and white before painting them.

"James Bama is a classic Western artist who fit right in the middle between historical and contemporary Western art," Altermann says of the portrait artist. "He is not a prolific artist, so we're very excited about the piece we have for this auction."

Another one worth watching, Altermann



G. Harvey, *Late Arrivals*, oil, 24 x 36" Estimate: \$30/40,000



James Bama, *Hunting Camp Wrangler*, oil on board, 24 x 18" Estimate: \$40/60,000

says, is a piece by Mexican abstractionist Rufino Tamayo. *Mujeres al Amanecer* (est. \$50/70,000), featuring three women wearing matching blue head coverings next to a wall and water pail, is one of several regionalist

pieces in the show. Taos artists will be represented by pieces from Bert Geer Philips and Joseph Henry Sharp, whose oil *After the Hunt* is expected to fetch between \$240,000 and \$280,000.

Other noteworthy pieces up for sale include Rock Newcomb's southwestern still life *Ageless Connections* (est. \$8/12,000), Fred Darge's festive *Sunday Night* (est. \$10/15,000), and another Dye piece, *Lassoing Horses* (est.



Charlie Dye, *Lassoing Horses*, oil, 24 x 30" Estimate: \$40/50,000



Glenna Goodacre, *Pueblo Girl*, bronze, 16 x 8 x 4" Estimate: \$3,5/4,500



Eanger Irving Couse, *Pottery Maker by Firelight*, oil, 9 x 12" Estimate: \$35/45,000



Charlie Dye, *Moonlit Ride*, oil on board, 15 x 19"
Estimate: \$16/22,000



Frank McCarthy, *The Iron Horse*, oil on linen, 24 x 30"
Estimate: \$30/35,000



Fremont Ellis, *Spring in the Valley*, oil on canvas, 26 x 21" Estimate: \$10/14,000

\$40/50,000). Bronze works include *Pueblo Girl* (est. \$3,5/4,500) by Glenna Goodacre, and *It Takes More Than a Hat to Make a Cowboy* (est. \$15/30,000), featuring a nude cowgirl in a metal wash basin, by Gordon Snidow.

"Historically, this auction has been one of our smaller sales. Although, last year it was the best auction we've ever had in August, so the overall market seems to be more optimistic," Altermann says. "You can feel it with collectors and consigners. They say the market is going in the right direction and buyers are more willing to participate. We're especially seeing new collectors, which is always exciting."

Altermann Galleries' August Auction



When: August 16, 2014
Where: Altermann Galleries, 345 Camino del Monte Sol, Santa Fe, NM 87501
Information: (505) 983-1590, www.altermann.com