



PAUL WALDUM

WYOMING AND MONTANA LANDSCAPES

EXHIBITION DATES:

June 17 to July 15, 2018

Kenneth L. Schuster, Director & Chief Curator

Teaching, producing artwork, and a passion for the outdoors are what I would classify as the essential building blocks of Paul Waldum's life and career as I see it, and it has been my good fortune to know Paul since 1985. At that time he was teaching art in what was then the boomtown of Wright, Wyoming. It was Paul's first teaching position, he was hired in the fall of 1983, and I was the Curator of Education at the University of Wyoming Art Museum charged with driving The Artmobile (a 1982 Ford Econoline Van) around the state filled with an exhibit of original art I had curated from the museum's collection in order to allow the state's school students to interact with museum quality art in their own hometowns. My first impression of Paul was that he was a not only a fine teacher, but also an excellent artist, who at the time was producing highly detailed serigraphs of mountain ranges in Montana and Wyoming. Paul's love of the outdoors became apparent when at the end of school that Friday he and a group of climbing buddies headed off to Jackson Hole to climb The Grand. I later learned from Paul that they started their ascent at 3 a.m. Saturday morning.

In addition to this anecdote, here are more fun facts that few of Paul's art collectors know about him: For instance, he spent one-and-a-half years touring colleges and universities across the country showing a slide presentation he photographed and produced, entitled "Creations of a Wilderness", a show of stunning images reflecting his travels through the Absaroka and Beartooth Mountains of Montana and Wyoming. After seven years of teaching in Wright he moved to Gillette to teach photography at Campbell County High School and later became the art coordinator for the entire Campbell County School District while still producing first-rate landscapes executed in serigraphy and pastel. His dedication to teaching earned him several awards among them are the 2016-2017 **Wyoming Secondary Art Educator of the Year** and the **Wyoming Art Educator of the Year**. Among numerous other teaching awards, Paul was selected as the 1989-1990 **US WEST Wyoming Teacher of the Year**. He and his wife Mollie have two extremely bright and talented children: Annie, now a sophomore pre-med major at Montana State University Bozeman, and Matthew, who has one of the top grade point averages in his Senior class and will join his sister as a pre-med major at MSU in the fall. I've been encouraging Paul to quit teaching and concentrate on his art career since 2005, he finally took that step and retired at the end of the 2017 spring semester.

Paul Waldum readily credits his art professors in college for giving him the foundations for a successful art career. "*I had great instructors at MSU. They helped me with composition and color theory in painting and especially in the area of serigraphy printmaking. After I received my Bachelor in Arts degree in 1982, I continued my education taking graduate level classes during summers, creating mostly landscape serigraph prints.*" In 1985 Paul's serigraphy work was picked by C. G.

Rein Galleries and overnight his prints were exhibited around the country. At that time C. G. Rein had galleries in Denver, Santa Fe, Scottsdale, Houston, and Minneapolis. He also had opportunities to show his serigraphs in galleries in New York City, Seattle and Jackson. During the 1990s he started working in pastel, mostly to create sketches from which to create serigraph prints. He showed the pastels to a friend who became excited about the freshness of the work and that feedback caused him to seriously begin work in the two disparate mediums. In the late 90s to he decided to explore oil painting and now produces both oils and pastels. Paul produced his last serigraph edition in 1997 and has since concentrated on working with oils and pastels. All of the work in this show is executed in pastel.

Paul Waldum's work has been exhibited in numerous museum and gallery shows over the years and is held in private and corporate collections throughout the US and Canada. He was the 2012 recipient of the prestigious **Wells Fargo Gold Award** at the Buffalo Bill Art Show & Sale, Cody, Wyoming. In true Paul Waldum fashion he chose to use a portion of the funds to create the **Craig E. Waldum Memorial Arts and Humanities Scholarship Fund** in honor of his older brother, an expedition leader, who drowned while rescuing expedition members involved in a canoeing mishap in Canada in 1978.

Upon viewing Paul Waldum's pastels one is reminded of the work of the French Impressionists, and it is small wonder that two of the artist's favorite French Masters from that school are Edgar Degas and Claude Monet. He admires their ability to create various atmospheric conditions through the layering of pigment and their understanding of color theory. Growing up in Livingston, Montana, with its close proximity to Yellowstone Park, he spent countless hours exploring the area with his parents, both ardent outdoor enthusiasts, and the rest of his family. This first-hand knowledge of the area instilled a deep appreciation of the artwork of Thomas Moran, the area's first, and in many scholars opinion, its greatest interpreter. In speaking of Moran's work Paul states. *"His ability to capture various moods in his paintings touched my soul."* So it is no surprise that Waldum's own work is about the mood and atmosphere of the outdoors and using his knowledge and abilities to translate that scene onto paper for the rest of us to interact with using our personal experiences as translators of the Wyoming and Montana landscapes that Paul has been capturing for over 30 years.

Barbara McNab, Curator of Exhibitions

Over the past three decades Paul Waldum has spent countless days hiking the beautiful Cloud Peak Wilderness in the majestic Bighorn Range as well as the picturesque Absaroka Beartooth Wilderness in Montana, gathering inspiration for his pastel landscapes. He has exhibited at the C. M. Russell Museum (Great Falls, MT), Buffalo Bill Art Show & Sale (Cody, WY), Yellowstone Art Museum (Billings, MT), Nicolaysen Art Museum (Casper, WY), Hockaday Museum (Kalispell, MT), Settlers West Miniature Show (Tucson, AZ) and as a participating artist in The Brinton Museum's *The Brinton 101* and small works shows from 2014 to 2017. Paul has won numerous awards including the prestigious Well's Fargo Gold Award at the 2012 Buffalo Bill Art Show & Sale Invitational. During the 2014 Wyoming Legislative Session in Cheyenne, both legislative branches honored Paul for creating a painting for Wyoming's Capital House Chambers. His work has appeared in *Big Sky Journal*, *Art of the West*, and *Western Art Collector* magazines. He is represented in numerous private and public collections in the U.S., England, Europe and Canada, and has spent much of his adult career teaching art to all levels of education.

Paul Waldum - Wyoming and Montana Landscapes includes 50 works in pastel and represents the artist's first one-person show at The Brinton.

Thank you, Paul, for being our featured artist in what is the culmination of more than thirty years of hiking and exploring the prairies and the splendorous mountains of the West.



Lost Twin Lakes in the Bighorns, 16" x 20", \$3,000



Along Big Horn Road, 18" x 24", \$3,400



Aspen Grove in the Bighorns, 22" x 34", \$4,800



First Freeze in Campbell County, 18" x 24", \$3,400



Spring in Campbell County, 20" x 26", \$4,000



North Fork of Piney Creek - March, 21" x 26", \$4,100



Colors of the Prairie, 20" x 30", \$4,400



Evening Light Near Ten Sleep, 18" x 24", \$3,400



First Light Along North Piney Creek, 18" x 24", \$3,400



Brinton Barn in December, 20" x 16", \$3,000



Last Trace of Snow in Northern Campbell County, 20" x 26", \$4,000



Wyodak, 20" x 20", \$3,400



Autumn Along the Belle Fourche River, 24" x 30", \$4,800



August at the HF Bar Ranch, 20" x 30", \$4,400



Winter's Silence, 30" x 24", \$4,800



Highland Park - Early Evening, 14" x 40", \$4,100

WORKS NOT ILLUSTRATED:

In the Heart of the Bighorns - Wilderness Basin, 16" x 20", \$3,000

Highest Peak in the Bighorns - Cloud Peak - 13,167 Feet, 20" x 26", \$4,000

Built with Resources from the Prairie, 18" x 24", \$3,400

Brinton Barn in Summer, 20" x 16", \$3,000

Autumn's Transition of Colors, 24" x 36", \$5,400

Along the Tongue River, 24" x 38", \$5,600

Black Mountain, 25" x 30", \$4,900

Along Beaver Creek Road, 20" x 20", \$3,400

Big Horn Church, 20" x 24", \$3,600

Fresh Snow in Story, 26" x 20", \$4,000

First Rays of Light Near Ten Sleep, 20" x 30", \$4,400

Bighorns at Sunset, 16" x 20", \$3,000

Above Red Grade in Autumn, 24" x 18", \$3,400

Evening Light over the Bighorn River, 20" x 24", \$3,600

Along the South Fork of Piney Creek, 20" x 16", \$3,000

Morning Has Broken, 26" x 38", \$5,800

Rural Wyoming, 24" x 36", \$5,400

Evening Grazing, 11" x 16", \$1,600

Winter in the Gallatin Valley, 24" x 36", \$5,400

Cloud Peak Wilderness, 18" x 24", \$3,400

Awakening of Spring in Northern Campbell County, 20" x 30", \$4,400

Along Bird Farm Road, 12" x 16", \$1,800

From Past Generations, 12" x 16", \$1,800

Winter Evening in the Bighorns, 8" x 10", \$850

Bighorn Aspens, 10" x 8", \$850

Clouds Above the Prairie, 10" x 8", \$850

Magpie in Winter, 9" x 12", \$1,100

Lame Deer Lake, 9" x 12", \$1,100

Tongue River in Autumn, 9" x 12", \$1,100

Summer Evening, 16" x 20", \$3,000

Foothills of the Bighorns - Evening, 9" x 12", \$1,100

Winter Transitions to Spring in Story, 16" x 20", \$3,000

Descending Water in the Bighorns, 12" x 10", \$1,200



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