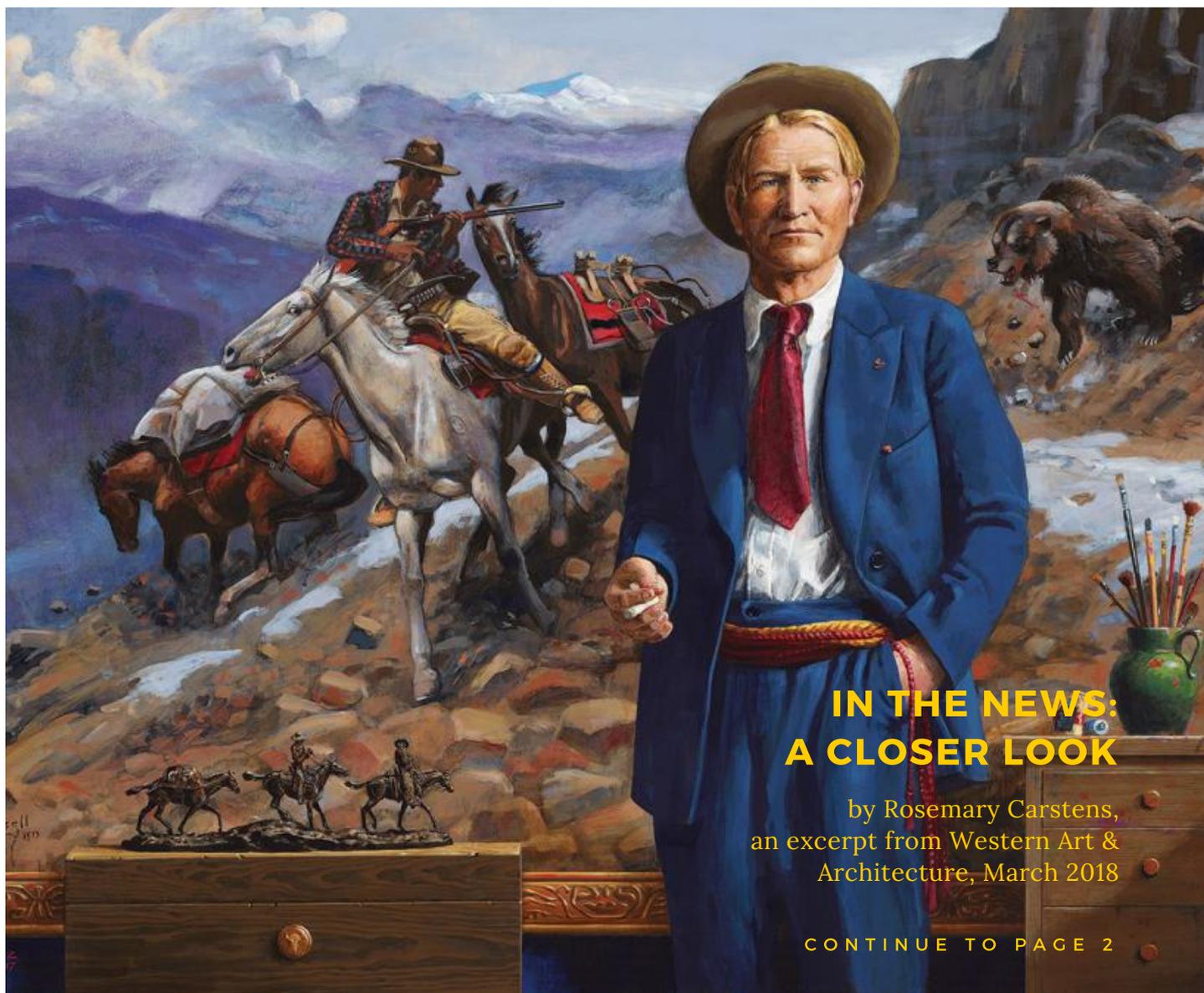


JENNESS CORTEZ

LATEST NEWS FROM MY STUDIO



**IN THE NEWS:
A CLOSER LOOK**

by Rosemary Carstens,
an excerpt from Western Art &
Architecture, March 2018

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LET'S CONNECT

I hope the New Year will bring you health, happiness and abundant creativity into every aspect of your daily life.

To view my latest paintings, exchange ideas and share your passion for art, I invite you to go to www.facebook.com/CortezArt/ and "like" my new Facebook page. This will enable you to receive my posts on your news feed. You can also follow "jennescortez" on Instagram, too.

Best regards,

Jenness Cortez

UPCOMING SHOW IN NAPLES, FL

Visit Jenness's new exhibition at the Harmon-Meek Gallery, 599 Ninth Street North - Suite 309, Naples, FL, Feb 12 - 22. Phone (239) 261-2637.



New Paintings By

JENNESS CORTEZ

Harmon-Meek Gallery, Naples, Florida

FEBRUARY 12 - 22, 2018

"Pop" • Acrylic on Mahogany panel • 30 by 24 inches
Homage to Andy Warhol (1928-1987)

IN THE NEWS: A CLOSER LOOK

BY ROSEMARY CARSTENS, AN EXCERPT FROM WESTERN ART & ARCHITECTURE, MARCH 2018

Growing up in Southern Indiana, Jenness Cortez loved the paintings of C.M. Russell. In her recent painting, *The Storyteller*, she pays homage to the famous Western master – an approach she often takes. Portraits tend to focus solely on a central figure's physicality, but Cortez includes still life elements here that reveal far more about Russell. It's a fine example of "showing" rather than "telling."

Posed in front of one of his well-known paintings – *Crippled but Still Coming* – Russell is dressed in his own unique style, with brushes, paint tubes, a bronze sculpture and the Bull Durham tobacco pouch that was always within arm's reach; each element is emblematic of the whole person, the story behind the man.

Although still lifes are not Cortez's exclusive focus, they are an important part of what she is known for. She believes they must incorporate two essential components: they must attract, hold and please the eye, and they must tell a story or deliver a meaningful idea or surprise. Achieving these goals is not always easy.

"The ability to really see is a hard-won skill," she states, "just as important as the skill of the hand. For most of us, it's the product of long practice, will and patience. In my case, I also credit the power of daily meditation. ... When I made a serious commitment to it years ago, the immediate effects were improved focus, precision and stamina – benefits that have continued to grow."

When a story concept strikes, Cortez searches for the perfect group of elements to illuminate it and lend strength to the final composition. A favorite object is the clock. "Clocks arrest the eye and mind because time is such an important filter in our lives," Cortez says. "Our thoughts tend to dwell in the past or future, but 'stopping the clock' is central to the task of every visual artist, and I like to enlist its literal inclusion to help me accomplish that."

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“THE ABILITY TO REALLY SEE IS A HARD-WON SKILL,” SHE STATES, “JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THE SKILL OF THE HAND.”

SNEAK PEAK

HOMAGE TO NORMAN ROCKWELL

In this video, Jenness discusses what makes Rockwell such a compelling figure and why she chose to feature certain details in the painting. **View video at:** <https://www.facebook.com/CortezArt/videos/1405338359595687/>



“Pop” © by Jenness Cortez

Exhibiting in Naples, FL on Feb 12-22

Acrylic on Mahogany panel 30" x 24"

Homage to Andy Warhol (1928-1987)

Clockwise from upper left:

- Superman (from the “Myths” suite), 1981
- Marilyn Monroe, 1967
- Sitting Bull (from the Cowboys and Indians suite), 1986
- Moonwalk, 1987
- Muhammad Ali, 1978
- General Custer (from the Cowboys and Indians suite), 1986
- Queen Elizabeth II from the Reigning Queens suite), 1985
- Elvis, 1963

Photograph of Warhol by Greg Gorman, 1983

JENNESS CORTEZ, MASTER AMERICAN REALIST



Jenness Cortez is a distinguished figure in the contemporary revival of classical realist painting. She was born in Indiana and exhibited a very early talent for art. As a teenager, she took private lessons with Antonius Raemaekers, a well-trained Dutch-born painter and superb teacher whose early instruction continues to influence her work.

www.perlmuttergallery.com