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**GEORGE BOUTWELL IS APRIL ARTIST OF THE MONTH AT MUSEUM OF WESTERN ART**

The Museum of Western Art has named George Boutwell as its April Artist of the Month. A wine and cheese reception featuring the artist will be held on Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. This event is free to attend.



Originally from Connecticut, George Boutwell has spent most of his life in Texas. Since the 1980s he and his wife have lived on a ranch near Clifton, in a 1904 Victorian home known as “Highview.” Boutwell started his career as a commercial artist and art director. In the late 1960s he was the Art Director for Texas Highways Magazine, where he came to appreciate the diversity of Texas – an awareness that would become the focus of his artistic practice.

Primarily working in watercolor, Boutwell has developed a unique style utilizing varnish that gives his work an unexpected vibrancy. Exploring themes of the west, his work depicts common Texas motifs like bluebonnets and longhorns.

Boutwell has exhibited all over the United States, and in 2006 was named “Official Texas State Artist” by the Texas Commission on the Arts and the Texas State Legislature. His work has won numerous awards and he has had over 40 solo exhibitions.

The Museum of Western Art is located at 1550 Bandera Highway in Kerrville, TX. Museum hours are 10 am to 4 pm, Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, please call the museum at 830-896-2553.