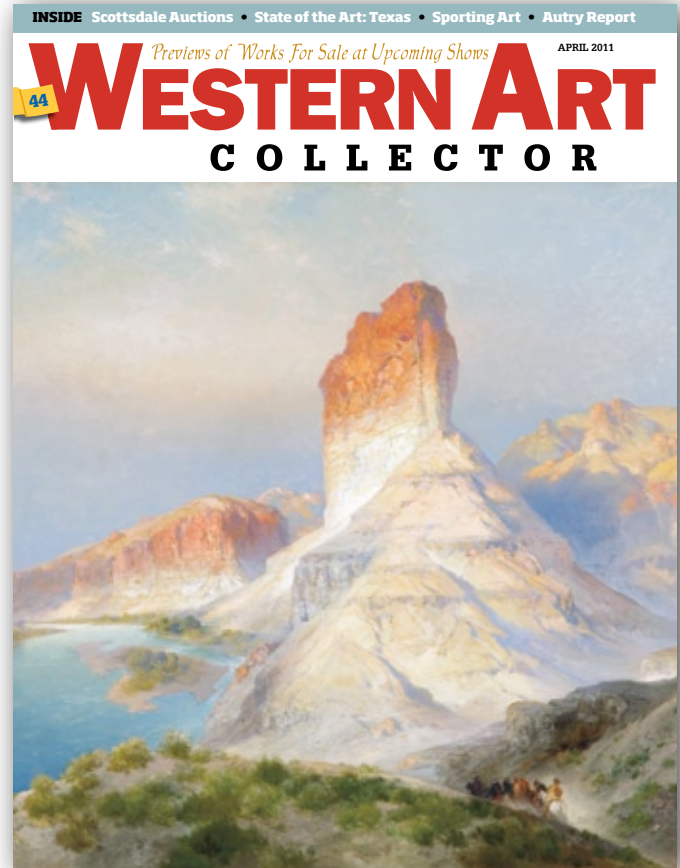


As seen in the
April 2011 issue of

WESTERN ART
COLLECTOR



True Grit

High Noon sales exceed \$2.1 million, including \$21,850 for the vest, shirt and scarf worn by John Wayne in the original production of *True Grit*.

The *High Noon Western Americana* weekend, held January 29 and 30, was filled with events celebrating Western Americana. Thousands of shoppers filled the Mesa Convention Center for two days to shop from among 100 of the country's finest dealers in Western Americana antiques and contemporary works. The exhibit halls were filled with a fine selection of antique cowboy, Native American and Vaquero art and artifacts, plus contemporary offerings from top artisans in leather and silver ranging from clothing to furniture. Across the board vendors at the show reported strong sales on both mid- to high-priced items.

Sales soared past last year's auction total (\$1.8 million) to exceed \$2.1 million, scoring the second highest per lot average in *High Noon's* 21-year history. Held January 29 at 5 p.m., there was an exciting and diverse array of items up for auction with 344 lots ranging from American Indian pieces to fine Western paintings and sculpture, and, of course, what *High Noon* is most known for, an incredible selection of both contemporary and historic cowboy gear plus artifacts and Hollywood memorabilia from beloved silver screen heroes.

Included in the Hollywood memorabilia, auctioneer Troy Black had the crowd bidding furiously on the original vest, shirt and scarf worn by John Wayne in the original 1969 Paramount production of *True Grit*, eventually fetching \$21,850.

Other highlights included a Bohlin Taxin Model silver and gold parade saddle that brought \$63,250, surpassing its \$40/60,000 estimate; a pair of Star Spangled Banner Boots by the Hyer Boot Company that sold for

Bohlin Taxin Model silver and gold parade saddle
Estimate: \$40/60,000
SOLD: \$63,250





Circa 1860 Plateau Pony Beaded Shirt
Estimate: \$40/80,000
SOLD: \$74,750



Will James, *Wild Horses*, oil on board
Estimate: \$50/100,000
SOLD: \$149,500



\$12,650, almost four times its high estimate of \$4,000; a G.S. Garcia eagle bit fetched \$8,050 (estimate \$3/5,000); and a pair of C.P. Shipley spurs brought \$12,650.

Wild Horses, a signed oil on board by Will James, fetched the highest price of the evening. Bidding on this work opened at \$50,000 and quickly escalated to a bidding war driving the final sale price to \$149,500.

Several important bronzes were offered at this sale and all earned impressive results, including a bronze on marble base by Harry Jackson, *Two Champs II*, which was estimated at \$5/7,000 and ultimately sold for \$13,800.

Sales in the American Indian category also were very strong, including a circa 1870 Blackfeet Tomahawk and Beaded Drop that earned \$37,950 after heated bidding, and a circa 1860 Plateau Pony Beaded Shirt that sold within estimate for \$74,750. Additionally, a charming Kiowa Beaded Model Cradle, circa 1880, achieved \$18,400—well over its high estimate of \$12,000. 🐾

The original vest, shirt and scarf worn by John Wayne in the 1969 Paramount Pictures production of *True Grit*.
SOLD: \$21,850