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***First Time Ever... a Duo will be Featured at the
Fountain Hills Fine Art & Wine Affaire!***



Thunderbird Artists is happy to release the news that master oil painters, David Richey Johnsen and Thomas Elmo Williams, are the first time ever duo to be featured artists for the 6th Annual Fountain Hills Fine Art & Wine Affaire, March 19th, 20th & 21st, 2010. The festival couples fine art and fine crafts with exquisite wine, delectable food, flavorful chocolate and live musical entertainment.

David Richey Johnsen's paintings are highly complex, both in construction and interpretation, yet they are easily enjoyed by viewers for their sheer narrative value. His pieces reflect an epic quality with his perfected multi-color style, which combines movement with story, transporting the viewer to another place and time. He strives to depict human conscience in each of his pieces; laughter, envy and love are frequent emotions found in this work. He specializes in soft tones and subtle highlights emphasizing the human element.

Thomas Elmo Williams was originally a coal miner, but after spending 14 years in underground coal mines, he was forced to leave the industry after a work-related accident. He was then inspired to express himself in the arts and started painting some of the scenes and images that had impacted his life. He believes "Coal miners and other blue-collar workers are the foundation of our country" and wishes to do them justice through his intricate paintings.



Artwork by: David Richey Johnsen

Both Johnsen and Williams exhibit their works in various exhibitions world-wide. David's work can be found in noted collections at Universal Studios, Sony, CBS Records and Turner Network. Thomas' pieces are found in galleries throughout the Southwest and at the Western Mining and Railroad Museum in Utah. Both are active in their community and play a major role in the town's cultural development.



This juried festival additionally hosts more than 125 nationally acclaimed, award-winning artists from throughout the country and abroad; displaying premium paintings, metal, stone, small, medium, and life-sized bronzes, wood, glass, scratchboard, photography, pottery, batiks, jewelry and much more!

Musical Entertainment for this festival includes Jeffery Michael, musician and composer, performing ethnic jazz on the piano, Mark Maxwell's soothing smooth jazz on the saxophone and others to be announced. The festival also accommodates wine-tasting; providing a unique opportunity to sample an extensive collection of domestic and imported wines.

Participating wineries include, Alcantara Vineyards, Cape of Good Hope, Jerome Winery, Kokopelli, Page Springs Vineyards & Cellars and Schlossadler International Wines. For \$10, patrons will receive an engraved souvenir wine glass and six tasting tickets; allowing them to come together and walk through the event experiencing the ambience of fine art, wine, live musical entertainment and the numerous shops and cafes along the Avenue of the Fountains.

The richness and quality of life in Fountain Hills is evident the moment you crest the mountain pass; leaving behind the hustle and bustle of Scottsdale and the rest of the Valley. Fountain Hills is also home to the "world's tallest fountain". At full power, the fountain rises 560 feet into the air and runs for approximately 15 minutes at the top of the hour, from 10a.m. to 9p.m. daily.

Don't miss all the festivities at the Fountain Hills Fine Art & Wine Affaire! The festival will take place on Avenue of the Fountains, between La Montana and Saguaro Blvd. Hours are 10am to 5pm each day. Admission is \$3.00 for all non-Fountain Hills residents. Parking is free all weekend. For more information, visit our website: www.ThunderbirdArtists.com.

Fountain Park at Sunset

