Frederic Remington’s Lifetime Casts of Bronzes in Rare Exhibition at Sid Richardson Museum

Remington’s nine bronze action-filled sculptures of horses and their riders—eight lifetime casts—on view from Nov. 8, 2012, through June 2, 2013, to celebrate museum’s 30th anniversary; seldom-seen bronzes from the finest private collections to be paired with his paintings to demonstrate how he created action in two-dimensional versus three-dimensional artworks

FORT WORTH, Texas – The Sid Richardson Museum will present Violent Motion: Frederic Remington’s Artistry in Bronze, a focused exhibition of nine bronze action-filled sculptures of horses and their riders by the iconic Western artist, eight of which are lifetime casts. The exhibition will run from Thursday, Nov. 8, 2012, through Sunday, June 2, 2013.

“Frederic Remington created 22 of the most memorable bronzes of any American sculptor of his time,” said museum Director Mary Burke, “and we are very proud to present nine of them as part of the museum’s 30th anniversary celebration. Remington’s influence in shaping the West of the popular imagination cannot be overstated.”

Eight of the nine sculptures are on loan from rarely seen private collections, and one is from the Amon Carter Museum of American Art. They will be paired with his paintings from the Sid Richardson Museum and the Carter museum to demonstrate how his artworks reveal action in a two-dimensional versus a three-dimensional medium. (See below for pairings.)

“Remington used to explain that he had the ability to imply motion by getting the viewer to see the animation in something as continuing,” said Rick Stewart, the guest curator of the exhibition. The former director of the Carter museum is one of the nation’s leading authorities on Remington. “His sculptures are just in stop-action practically; they defy gravity!” he said. “The connoisseurship level is as high as you can get with Remington.”

The Sid Richardson Museum collection includes paintings of the 19th-century American West by Frederic Remington (1861-1909), Charles M. Russell (1864-1926), and other artists of the era amassed by the legendary Texas oilman and philanthropist, Sid W. Richardson (1891-1959). It is considered one of the most significant private collections of Remington and Russell paintings in the U.S. Admission is free to the museum, which is open daily except for major holidays.

This focused exhibition will unite paintings from the collections of Sid Richardson and of his close friend, legendary Fort Worth newspaper publisher Amon G. Carter Sr. (1879–1955). The collaboration is symbolic of their friendship. Carter collected Remingtons and Russells
and encouraged Richardson to pursue his love of collecting Western paintings. Richardson once said, “Anybody can paint a horse on four legs, but it takes a real eye to paint them in violent motion. All parts of the horse must be in proper position, and Remington and Russell are the fellows who can do it.”

The pairings of sculptures and paintings in the Remington exhibition will be presented in two parts as follows:

**Part One (November 8, 2012 – February 24, 2013)**

*The Rattlesnake* (cast # 5), Frederic Remington, 1906, bronze, private collection
*A Taint on the Wind*, Frederic Remington, 1906, oil on canvas, Sid Richardson Museum

*Coming Through the Rye* (cast # 1), Frederic Remington, 1902, bronze, private collection
*The Wounded Bunkie* (cast B), Frederic Remington, 1896, bronze, private collection
*A Dash for the Timber*, Frederic Remington, 1889, oil on canvas, Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth, Texas

*The Broncho Buster* (cast # 36), Frederic Remington, ca. 1905-06, bronze, private collection
*The Cow Puncher*, Frederic Remington, 1901, oil on canvas, Sid Richardson Museum
*The Puncher*, Frederic Remington, 1895, oil on canvas, Sid Richardson Museum

*The Cheyenne* (cast # 7), Frederic Remington, ca. 1904, bronze, private collection
*Buffalo Runners – Big Horn Basin*, Frederic Remington, 1909, oil on canvas, Sid Richardson Museum

*The Norther* (unnumbered cast), Frederic Remington, 1900, bronze, private collection
*The Luckless Hunter*, Frederic Remington, 1909, oil on canvas, Sid Richardson Museum

**Part Two (February 28 – June 2, 2013)**

The following pairings of bronzes and paintings will be added to the exhibition:

*The Outlaw* (cast # 2), Frederic Remington, ca. 1906-07, bronze, private collection
The Cowboy, Frederic Remington, 1902, oil on canvas, Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth, Texas

The Mountain Man (unnumbered cast), Frederic Remington, 1903, bronze, Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth, Texas

The Unknown Explorers, Frederic Remington, 1908, oil on canvas, Sid Richardson Museum

The following paintings will be removed from the exhibition:

A Dash for the Timber, Frederic Remington, 1889, oil on canvas, Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth, Texas

The Riderless Horse, Frederic Remington, 1886, watercolor, Sid Richardson Museum

The Ambushed Picket, Frederic Remington, 1886, watercolor, Sid Richardson Museum

About Frederic Remington (1861–1909)

During a career that spanned less than 25 years, Frederic Sackrider Remington produced a huge body of work in illustration – initially for Harper’s Weekly, painting, sculpture, and fiction and nonfiction, centering the vast majority of it on the West. His influence in shaping the West of the popular imagination cannot be overstated.

Born in Canton in northern New York on Oct. 4, 1861, he was inspired by his father’s tales of action as a cavalry officer in the Civil War. After studying art for a year and a half at Yale University, he traveled to Montana in 1881 to experience the West. He made many trips out West and occasionally accompanied the U.S. Cavalry on patrol along the Southwest frontier.

Although he exhibited in major art shows starting in 1888, he sought recognition as being not just an illustrator but an “artist” in the recognized sense of the term. He had become a well-established painter when he turned to sculpting in 1895, which earned him the critical respect for which he had striven. His subsequent success was due in part to his ability to recognize that, while painting and sculpture shared similarities in subject matter, composition, movement, and form, they had to be envisioned in fundamentally different ways. He was one of the few American artists to master both mediums.

By his death in 1909, he had completed 22 sculptures; many of which became the defining masterpieces of the Western art tradition.

About Sid W. Richardson and His Collection

Oil, cattle, and land formed the basis of Sid Richardson’s lifework, and the Sid Richardson Museum is part of his legacy. His love for Western art grew out of his ranching experiences, which provided him with vivid impressions of the American West.
He acquired the majority of the paintings in the collection, numbering more than 100, between 1942 and 1950. He became an avid collector of the works of Remington and Russell because he thought they captured, better than any other artists, the vitality, color, and motion that he had always associated with the West.

In addition to 23 paintings by Remington and 52 paintings by Russell, his collection includes works by other "old masters" of Western art: Oscar E. Berninghaus – a founding member of the Taos Society of Artists, Charles Schreyvogel, Frank Tenney Johnson, William R. Leigh, Edwin W. Deming, Gilbert Gaul, and Charles F. Browne. These artists captured the romance and ruggedness of the western United States in the late 1800s, a time when most Americans had little firsthand knowledge of the frontier.

About the Sid Richardson Museum
The Sid Richardson Museum is located at 309 Main Street in Sundance Square in downtown Fort Worth. On every second and fourth Saturday at 1:00 p.m., docents lead free tours of the collection. Group tours are by appointment. The Museum Store features unique Western gifts. Nearly one million visitors from all 50 states and 68 countries have toured the museum since its opening in 1982. For information, call 817-332-6554, or go to www.sidrichardsonmuseum.org.

About the Museum’s Education Program
The museum’s education program offers students an opportunity to learn about the artists’ ideas, lives, and paintings, which reflected life in the American West in late 19th- and early 20th-century America. A classroom provides studio space for hands-on experiences. Group tours, teacher in-services, and teacher resources are available at no cost. All educational services require an appointment.

About the Sid W. Richardson Foundation
The Sid Richardson Museum is owned and fully funded by the Sid W. Richardson Foundation, which Richardson established in 1947 to support organizations that serve the people of Texas. Foundation directors and staff have sought to fulfill his vision by providing grants to educational, health, human service, and cultural organizations (www.sidrichardson.org).

Directors of the foundation are Edward P. Bass, chairman, Sid R. Bass, and Lee M. Bass, who are grandnephews of Sid Richardson. Their mother, Mrs. Nancy Lee Bass, is director emerita. Their father, Perry R. Bass (1914-2006), was Richardson’s nephew. Pete Geren is president of the foundation.

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