



ERNEST TONK AND THE OLD AMERICAN WEST

Ernest Tonk, noted painter of life in the old American Northwest, began life in Chicago, took his training at the Chicago Art Institute, and opened his first studio on Van Buren Street.

In 1908, having met Buffalo Bill Cody who gave him the idea of painting the West in action, and inspired by the work of Remington and Russell, he began his westward trek. He worked as a cowhand, wrangler and logger before he finally settled down on a ranch in Cashmere, painting in the winter, working on his ranch on Mission Creek during the summer months. He numbered both Indians and pioneering neighbors as his friends, during his stay in the Wenatchee Valley.

In 1923, Mr. Tonk went to Glendale, California, where he began painting action scenes for Universal Pictures, and Metro Goldwyn Mayer Studios. Finally he was able to devote his time entirely to fine art, painting the early West.

He has exhibited in Southern California and New York, is a member of the Glendale Art Association, Grand Central Art Galleries, New York, and the Laguna Beach, California, Art Association. His paintings hang in many public and private collections throughout the country and in Canada.

In 1958 Mr. Tonk visited Cashmere, Washington, a town he refers to as "Home" and found the Willis Carey Historical Museum under construction by the Chelan County Historical Society. Because of his continuing interest in this area he offered to paint a large picture for the Historical Society. Entitled "The Vision" this painting was inspired by a poem of that name written by Percy Carey, son of Willis Carey, for whom the Willis Carey Historical Museum was named. This and "The Indian Horse Race" (frontispiece) are two of the group he painted especially for the museum.

C A T A L O G

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| 1. "Refreshing Depths" | 7. "Up With the Dawn" |
| 2. "The Midnight Stage" | 8. "The Devils Jackstraws" |
| 3. "Mammy" | 9. "Over Yonder" |
| 4. "Packing In" | 10. "Watching" |
| 5. "Hell on Wheels" | 11. "On Dangerous Business" |
| 6. "Pay Day" | 12. "Western Moonlight" |

Two Watercolors of the "Old Mill" at Lake Wenatchee

THE CHELAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CORDIALLY EXTENDS AN INVITATION

to

“SCENES OF THE OLD WEST”

FIRST EXHIBIT AND SALE, IN WASHINGTON, OF PAINTINGS

by

ERNEST TONK

Sunday, May 22 to June 4, 1960

in

WILLIS CAREY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

SUNDAYS: 1 to 6 p.m.

WEEK DAYS: 1 to 5 p.m.

RECEPTION HONORING MR. AND MRS. TONK

TUESDAY, MAY 24

7 - 10 P. M.