

James Morgan –

Roaming the canyons and fields around the small, central Utah town where he grew up gave James Morgan an appreciation of nature's wonders. He learned to see not only the larger vista, but also the resident wildlife and intimate aspects of the area. He now lives in northern Utah, where inspiration is just out the back door.

“The most important aspect of being an artist is being a keen observer. Nature's ever changing moods are a wellspring of inspiration. My goals for my work are to enjoy the process of painting and seeing, to engage emotional participation from people who view the painting, and to share the often overlooked, intimate aspects of nature. I seek to achieve a balance between the subject and its environment. The excitement for me is constantly exploring new ways to interpret nature. I am convinced that no one can improve on natural compositions, when they can be isolated. Rhythms too, can be magical if you can isolate them and that gets easier with experience. It comes from trusting your own vision. It is the way you look at things and see something lyrical or harmonious. This harmony is further aided by the play of light, shadow and subtle color changes. I am intrigued by the patterns and shapes found in nature and concentrate on the effects of light on these elements and the resulting array of colors in nature's ever-changing moods.

Select awards and achievements:

Autry National Center James R. Parks Trustee Purchase Award, 2014

National Museum of Wildlife Art Western Visions *Red Smith Artists' Choice Award* 2013, 2007, 1996

Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum Birds in Art *Master Wildlife Artist*, 2008

National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum Prix de West *Major and Mrs. Don D. Pittman
Wildlife Art Award*, 2006

National Museum of Wildlife Art Western Visions *Featured Painter*, 2004

National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum Prix de West *Robert Loughheed
Artist Choice Award*, 1996

Memberships:

National Academy of Western Art, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Northwest Rendezvous Group, Helena, Montana

Society of Animal Artists, New York, New York

Bibliography:

Art of the West Magazine, July/Aug 2009, July/Aug 3003, July/Aug 1998 & Jan/Feb 1992 Southwest Art Magazine, 32nd Anniversary Issue, May 2003, Aug 1992

Modern Wildlife Painting, Nicholas Hammond, Pica Press, 1999. –

Sporting Classics, July/Aug 1999

Wildlife Art Magazine, Nov/Dec 1994

Western Art and Architecture, Oct/Nov 2015

The Heart of the Collection, National Museum of Wildlife Art, Kavar Kerr,
The Donning Company Publishers; 2012

Painters of Utah's Canyons and Deserts, Donna Poulton & Vern Swanson, Gibbs Smith, 2009

Leading the West: One Hundred Contemporary Painters and Sculptors, Donald J. Hagerty,
Northland Publishing, 1997

Collections:

Many private and public collections including:

Buffalo Bill Historical Center, Cody, Wyoming
Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum, Wausau, Wisconsin
Montana Historical Museum, Helena, Montana
National Museum of Wildlife Art, Jackson, Wyoming
Wildlife Experience Museum, Denver, Colorado
Autry National Center, Los Angeles, California

Exhibitions:

National Academy of Western Art, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Prix de West, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Northwest Rendezvous, Helena, Montana
Artists of America, Denver Rotary, Denver, Colorado
Birds in Art, 1982-83, 1986-2002: the Artists' View, 1990-1996 Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum, Wausau, Wisconsin, Master Wildlife Artist 2008
Society of Animal Artists Annual Exhibitions, New York
Western Visions, Wildlife of the American West Museum, Jackson, Wyoming
Living Legends and Young Brushes, 1997-2000, Algonquin Park, Ontario, Canada
Buffalo Bill Western Art Show, Cody, Wyoming
American Art in Miniature, Tulsa, Oklahoma
The Landscape and Closer Views, C.M. Russell Museum, Great Falls, Montana
Great American Artists, Cincinnati, Ohio
Masters of the American West, Autry Museum of Western Heritage, Los Angeles, California
Wildlife for a New Century, National Museum of Wildlife Art, Jackson, Wyoming
American Masters, New York City, New York
Coors Western Art Show, Denver, Colorado
Maynard Dixon Country, Mt. Carmel, Utah
Allure of Water - Oil Painters of America, Stockton, California

Best of the Best Retrospective Exhibition and Sale, Woolaroc Art Museum, Bartlesville, Oklahoma