

# LEDGES OF THE TAPEATS

## CURT WALTERS

For rafters on the Colorado River, the geologic splendor of the Grand Canyon rises at times a mile above them. The canyon's inner gorge opens and closes, revealing and concealing sweeping vistas of towering cliffs, buttes and mesas. Floating downstream is a multihued descent through a North American geologic timeline.

The descent can also be sweltering. Arrival at the tapeats' ledges represents the chance to get out of the beating sun and enjoy some cool shade. This layer of the Canyon was formed nearly half a billion years ago when Cambrian Seas covered the American southwest. Its exposure by the relentless, erosive force of the Colorado is a godsend to the river-borne tourist.

Recognized by *Art of the West* Magazine as one of the "eight TRUE Masters" painting today, Curt Walters is renowned for capturing the Canyon's myriad of faces and temperaments. No collection of Southwestern art is complete without a Walter's landscape.

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# SUDDENLY AGLOW

## CURT WALTERS

There is no vista more essentially American than the Grand Canyon, and no painter better suited for it than Curt Walters, who *Southwest Art* magazine recently declared "... conquers the Grand Canyon." With a growing pile of awards from the most prestigious exhibitions in the country—the Masters of the American West, the Prix de West and the Quest for the West, to name a few—Curt Walters has the best seat in the house as, brush in hand, he welcomes us into the majesty of the Grand Canyon.

"When winter cold fronts approach the Grand Canyon from the northwest," says Walters, "many days remain overcast and frigid. But there is a magical time in the late afternoon when the sun drifts below the cloud bank and its rays burst through the cheerless gray like a spotlight. Suddenly, the grand earthen temples are aglow in color, their rugged shapes so ornately defined. *Suddenly Aglow* was inspired from a moment just like that. I wish everyone could have an opportunity to see the Grand Canyon in a similar way."

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# SEPTEMBER AFTERNOON AT LAKE O'HARA CURT WALTERS

Is it wise to introduce one of the most renowned painters of the Grand Canyon as a Greenwich Workshop artist with a Rocky Mountain landscape? It is if you want to make the point that he is a landscape artist of the first order, no matter what the subject.

Certainly the good folks at The Eiteljorg Museum's Quest for the West Art Show and Sale would agree. Walters won both the Patrons' Choice Award and the Victor Higgins Award of Distinction at their event in 2007 with *September Afternoon at Lake O'Hara*.

As early as 1997, *Art of the West* magazine heralded Walters as the "greatest living Grand Canyon artist." Since then, he has expanded his award-winning repertoire to include the landscapes of Asia, Europe, South America, Africa and the expansive beauty of North America. *Art of the West* includes Walters in their category of "Eight True Masters" noting, "many museums and collectors do not consider their collections complete unless they include a Walters painting."

Walters was also the recipient of the 2008 Trustees' Purchase Award at the Masters of the American West Exhibition and Sale at the Autry.

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