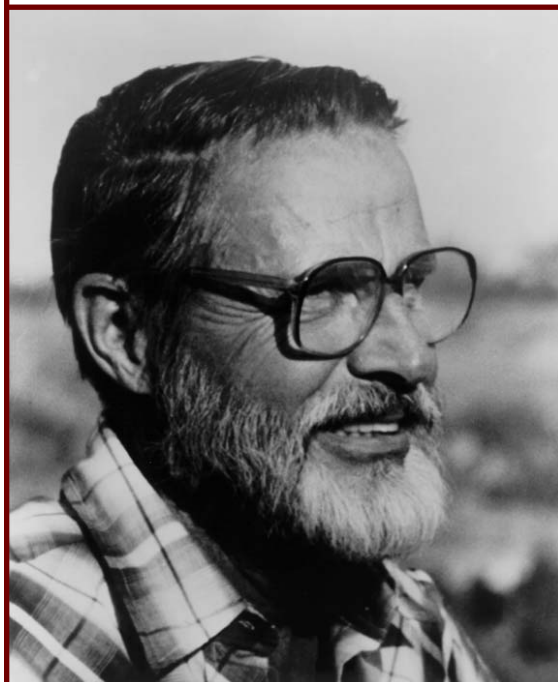


Frank C. McCarthy



[1 9 2 4 - 2 0 0 2]

My artistic approach is not to do a historical document. It is more a portrayal of an event or scene that has happened many times in many places in the West. I give the scene the most possible visual impact. The detail is as accurate as I can make it.

—FM

To view Frank C. McCarthy's artwork is akin to be amidst all the action. The artist created heroic images of the American West that have a legion of admirers among art lovers, critics and collectors alike.

Frank McCarthy found early inspiration in Scribner's classics *Robin Hood* and *Treasure Island*, and in illustrations by artist N. C. Wyeth which helped bring those pages to life. His more formal training was accomplished at the Art Students League and the Pratt Institute, where he was able to study anatomy with teacher George Bridgeman and painter Reginald Marsh.

As a commercial artist in the New York City area, McCarthy's early career focused on major advertising art for the film industry, book covers and a variety of periodicals—such as *Colliers*, *Reader's Digest*, *Cosmopolitan* and *Outdoor Life*—which brought exposure and notoriety. Despite his growing reputation in the field, McCarthy sought more creative freedom and the opportunity to focus on his favorite subjects: the characters of the American West. In 1974, the artist moved West, settled in Arizona, and began to explore and document the natural settings and historical subjects he so revered.

His works have been exhibited in such institutions as the National Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City, the Gilcrease Institute in Tulsa, Oklahoma, the Leaning Tree Museum in Colorado and the Frontier Army Museum at Fort Leavenworth. The renowned Western artist was also honored with a one-man retrospective at the R.W. Norton Art Gallery in Shreveport, Louisiana, and at the Museum of the Southwest in Midland, Texas.

Whether his subjects were Native Americans, mountain men, cavalry, or cowboys, McCarthy's work has such intensity that each painting literally involves the viewer in the action taking place on canvas. *The Art of Frank C. McCarthy* was published to great acclaim in 1992, and Frank was inducted into the Society of Illustrators Hall of Fame in the summer of 1997.

The Greenwich Workshop

