



SPECIAL RUG AND POTTERY SECTION



CONTENTS

MAY 2009

Previewing New Exhibitions Every Month Coast To Coast



FEATURES AND UPCOMING SHOWS

WESTERN ART INSIGHTS

- 34 MASTERPIECE IN THE MAKING**
Experience the development of a new major work by Z.S. Liang from research to completion.
By John Geraghty
- 42 VISIONS OF THE WEST**
For over 100 years photographers have tried to document the majestic yet disappearing landscape of the American West.
By John O'Hern

SOLO SHOWS

- 64 DENNIS ZIEMIENSKI**
The iconic West
- 68 DON TILLER**
Connections

GROUP SHOWS

- 72 HOMAGE TO THE WEST**
Annual Summer Show marks the end to flourishing art season.
- 78 THREE VISIONS**
Group show spotlights works by Jeff Legg, Veryl Goodnight and Chauncey Homer.
- 82 CELEBRATION OF ART**
Sixth annual Anniversary Show spotlights new works by 12 artists.
- 86 JERRY JORDAN AND BRENT LAWRENCE**
Gone with the Southwest
- 90 TRIO OF MASTERS**
Group show features three renowned artists.

94 EXPRESSIONS OF THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE
Trio expresses their talents using diverse mediums.

98 WIDE OPEN SPACES
Three unique visions of the West presented on canvas.

SPECIAL BONUS SECTION BEYOND CLAY AND LOOM

153 A Comprehensive Guide to Collecting the Best in American Indian Rugs and Pottery.

UPCOMING SHOW
Up to 15 works on show
May 21-June 3, 2009

Rive Gauche Art Galleries
7173 E. Main Street
Scottsdale, AZ 85251
(480) 947-6372

SHOW LOCATION SCOTTSDALE, AZ

DON TILLER



Complex connections



Connection 1 Left, acrylic on panel, 48 x 60"

Don Tiller uses simple shapes, vivid colors and strong line work to draw viewers into his dynamic contemporary landscapes. Tiller's latest body of work, titled *Neighbors: the Connection Series*, was inspired by a trip to France.

"After returning I was inspired by the

thought that we're all connected in some way," he recalls. "...Roads, fields and hills connect each neighbor together and on and on to the next one so all neighbors are connected through all the paintings. The series represents small snippets of a bigger, more complex connection."

In this his first series, Tiller painted

different panels varying in size from 5 by 4 feet to 16 by 20 inches. Each panel is painted so it will flow visually into the next one but will stand alone on its own merits as well.

"Everyone who purchases one will be connected in a subliminal way, not unlike real life connections," the artist says.

The Gallery Says . . .

There is certain freshness, joyfulness and liveliness to Don Tiller's work that is very attractive. His simplified farming landscapes draw viewers in with brilliant colors and evoke memories of farmlands they've seen over the years. Every painting makes you think, "Ah, that would be the perfect day!"

—J.J. Jakubstin, Rive Gauche Art Galleries



Connection 1 Right, acrylic on panel, 48 x 60"

"I'm totally happy with it. I met the challenges I put upon myself."

Viewed in its entirety, the connected panels create a nearly 60-foot-long mural of rural landscapes depicting farm and ranch themes. At the center are two large panels, titled *Connection 1 Left* and *Connection 1 Right*, measuring 48-by-60

inches each. The imagery is so vast, says Tiller, because "ranch life is large and it takes a lot of space to cultivate crops. It's hard but gratifying work."

A South Dakota native, Tiller grew up in a tourist town near Mount Rushmore. His familiarity with his subject matter comes from spending the summers working on

his grandparent's farm in North Dakota and his uncle's ranch in South Dakota. The scenes in his new work stem from these whimsical childhood memories.

"I make compositions up as I go and pull out of my memory the way the fields looked," says Tiller.

Rive Gauche Art Galleries in Scottsdale

Connection 4
Right, acrylic on
panel, 36 x 36"



The Collectors Say . . .

Visitors to our home always stop and smile when they see Don Tiller's work. His paintings evoke happiness, and his vibrant colors, applied with a touch of whimsy, combine to produce a joyful reminder of simpler times.

*—Gerrit and Judy Steenblit,
Phoenix, AZ*



Connection 3 Left, acrylic on panel, 36 x 48"

Connection 3 Right, acrylic on panel, 36 x 48"


will display Tiller's *Neighbors* series during a solo exhibition titled *It's a Beautiful Day*, which runs May 21 through June 3. The series took Tiller about six months of energetic effort to complete.

Using a limited palette of golden fluid acrylics, Tiller mixes his own colors and glazes. His unique layering and glazing process gives him freedom to create color combinations that are specific to mood and the temperature that he wants the piece to convey to the viewer.

"This technique brings luminosity and depth to each painting that's more obvious when viewing in person. Some of the areas in these paintings will have multiple glazes over them, anywhere

from 10 to 30 different glazes," he says. "I want the viewer to feel the connection."

When someone comments "I think I've been there" or "I know where that is," Tiller says the connection between creator and viewer has been achieved. Although usually no people are shown in his paintings, one feels their presence and a sense of movement and lively flow of energy.

"I had a viewer say 'I want to live in one of your paintings.' That was a pretty good compliment," recalls Tiller. "The thing I hear the most from collectors is they like that they're positive, uplifting paintings." 

For a direct link to the
exhibiting gallery go to
www.westernartcollector.com

Price Range Indicator

Our at-a-glance Price Range Indicator shows what you can expect to pay for this artist's work

	Small	Medium	Large
1999	\$300	\$875	\$1,800
2004	\$600	\$1,500	\$2,500-\$4,300
2009	\$900	\$2,000	\$3,500-\$5,500