

A Century of Collecting Fine Art

Selecting one work of fine art created each year of the Museum of New Mexico's existence was at times easy, and at other times excruciatingly difficult.

Often there were periods of incredible aesthetic achievement. Take 1923. How do you choose one from among four gems of the collections? Do you pick Josef Bakos' *The Springtime Rainbow*, Ernest Blumenschein's *Dance at Taos*, Raymond Jonson's *Earth Rhythms No. 2*, or Stuart Davis' *New Mexico Peak*?

I decided on the Davis oil because it represented an incredible artistic irony. This New York modernist felt constrained by the genre of New Mexico landscape painting and was overwhelmed by the color and expanse of the vistas. He solved the problem by abandoning the use of color and creating monochromatic works that allowed him to respond to the landscape, and not simply replicate what he had seen.

More importantly, Davis' New Mexico imagery is exceedingly rare. He only worked in New Mexico only during the summer of '23, and for a time the absence of his work from the collection left a huge gap in our history of southwestern art. Fortunately in 2005 the New Mexico Museum of Art was able to purchase this fine example his work.

New Mexico Peak is on long-term display in *How the West Is One*, and is reproduced in the companion book *The Art of New Mexico* and in the lower left corner of this page.

Come to the show, and take a good long look. ■

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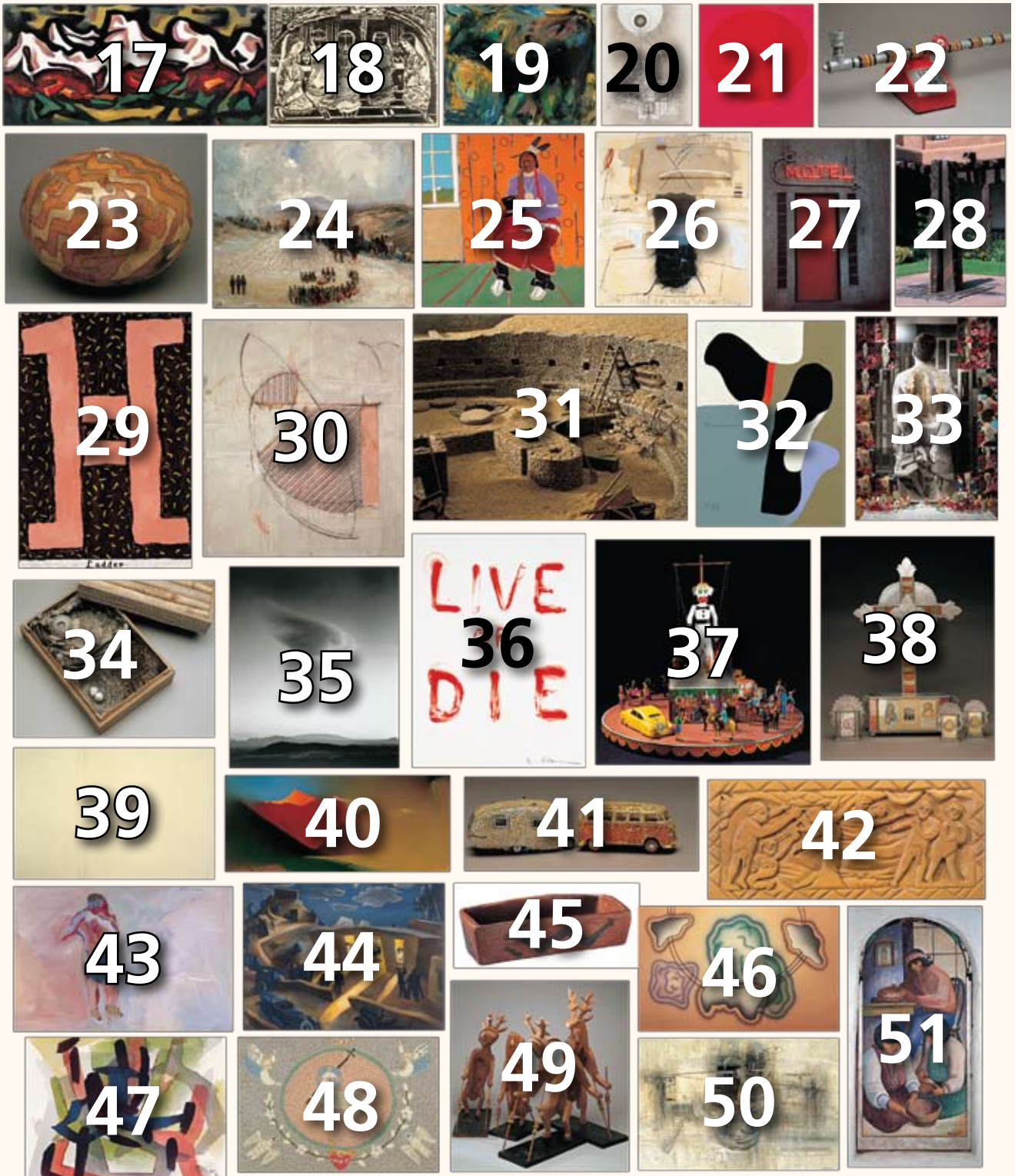


Plate numbers correspond to those that appear in *The Art of New Mexico: How the West Is One*. The unconventional collections book was written by Joseph Traugott, curator of 20th century art at the New Mexico Museum of Art, and published by the Museum of New Mexico Press, Santa Fe, New Mexico, in association with the museum.

1. Maria Montoya Martinez (ca. 1880s–1980) and Julian Martinez (1879–1943). *Jar with Avanyu*, ca. 1919–20. Fired matte-on-black naturally occurring clays, 9½ x 12½ in. Gift of the artists, 1940. Museum of Indian Arts & Culture/Laboratory of Anthropology 19414. Plate 67.
2. Gerald Nailor (1917–52), *Untitled (Tourists)*, 1937. Gouache, 14 x 12¾ in. Bequest of Dorothy Dunn, 1992. Museum of Indian Arts & Culture/Laboratory of Anthropology 51404. Plate 111.
3. Catherine Carter Critcher (1868–1964), *Hopi Pottery Maker*, ca. 1927. Oil on canvas, 30 x 29 in. Gift of Toy D. and Helen Savage, 1996. Plate 70.
4. Joe H. Herrera (1920–2001), *Men's Arrow Dance*, 1938. Gouache, 14 x 10 in. Gift of Dorothy Dunn, 1974. Museum of Indian Arts & Culture/Laboratory of Anthropology 51371. Transfer from New Mexico Museum of Art. Plate 101.
5. Richard Diebenkorn (1922–1993), *Berkeley No. 15*, 1954. Oil on canvas, 64½ x 53 in. Gift of Gifford and Joann Phillips, 1980. Plate 138.
6. E. Irving Couse (1866–1936), *Taos Pueblo—Moonlight*, 1914. Oil on canvas, 60 x 60 in. Gift of Kibbey W. Couse, 1930. Plate 47.
7. Marsden Hartley (1877–1943), *El Santo*, 1919. Oil on canvas, 36 x 32 in. Anonymous gift from a friend of Southwest art, 1919. Plate 60.
8. Jan Matulka (1890–1972), *Pueblo Dancer (Matachina)*, 1917. Oil on board, 11¾ x 8½ in. Purchase, 2005. Plate 52.
9. Ansel Adams (1902–1984), *Winnowing Grain, Taos, New Mexico*, ca. 1929. Gelatin silver print, 13 x 10 in. Gift of the Museum of New Mexico Foundation, 1982. Plate 114.
10. Andrew Dasburg (1887–1979) *Taos Houses (New Mexican Village)*, 1926. Oil on canvas, 24 x 30 in. Gift of Mrs. Cyrus McCormick, 1952. Plate 112.
11. Ansel Adams (1902–1984), *Moonrise, Hernandez, New Mexico*, 1941. Gelatin silver print, 22 x 28 in. Gift of the Museum of New Mexico Foundation, 1982.
12. Stuart Davis (1894–1964), *New Mexican Peak*, 1923. Oil on canvas, 31 x 41 in. Purchase, 2005. Plate 62.
13. E. Martin Hennings (1886–1956), *Among the Aspens*, 1939. Oil on canvas, 29¼ x 29¼ in. Gift of Isobel Herzstein Lord in loving memory of Simon and Maud Herzstein, 2006. Plate 73.
14. Oscar E. Berninghaus (1874–1952), *The Rabbit Hunter*, ca. 1945. Oil on canvas, 34½ x 39½ in. Gift of John A. and Margaret Hill in memory of Maurice N. Mikesell, 1975. Plate 134.
15. Berlyn B. Brixner (b. 1911), official photograph, Los Alamos Project, Optics Group (g 11), *First Atomic Explosion at a Distance of About Five Miles, Trinity Site, New Mexico, July 16, 1945*, 1945. Gelatin silver print, 7¾ x 9¾ in. Photo Archives, Palace of the Governors, Neg. No. 29314. Plate 133.
16. E. Irving Couse (1866–1936), *War Shield*, 1915. Offset lithograph by W. J. Black, 1916, 11 x 13½ in. New Mexico Museum of Art archives. Plate 82.

17. Howard Cook (1901–1980), *Winter Mountain Cycle No. 4*, 1955. Oil on canvas, 26 x 55 in. Gift of the artist in memory of Dr. Reginald Fisher, 1978. Plate 145.
18. Margaret Herrera Chávez (1912–?), *Commune*, ca. 1957. Woodcut, 13½ x 19½ in. Purchase, 10th Annual Graphics Award, 1957. Plate 141.
19. Elaine de Kooning (1920–89), *Juarez*, 1958. Oil on board, 48 x 56 in. Museum purchase with funds from Jeanne and James Manning and Gayle Fogelson, 1999. Plate 143.
20. Emil Bistram (1895–1976), *Projection No. 1*, 1961. Oil on canvas, 43½ x 32½ in. Gift of Elizabeth and Duncan Boeckman, 2005. Plate 158.
21. Oli Sihvonen (1921–91), *Yang - Ying II*, 1964. Oil on canvas, 15 x 16 in. Gift of Dorothy S. Benrimo Estate, 1978. Plate 159.
22. James Luna (b. 1950), *High Tech Peace Pipe No. 1*, 2000. Metal, plastic, beads, 27 x 9 x 9½ in. Purchase with funds provided by the Make a Wish Fund, 2002. Plate 226.
23. Rick Dillingham (1952–1994), *Small Globe*, 1990. Reassembled, kiln fired with slips, glazes, and metallic leaf, 6 x 6 in. Bequest of the Estate of Rick Dillingham, 1994. Plate 212.
24. Fremont F. Ellis (1897–1985), *Adios Amigo—Hasta la Vista*, 1969. Oil on canvas, 25 x 30 in. Gift of the artist, 1969. Plate 81.
25. T. C. Cannon (1946–1978), *Washington Landscape with Peace Medal Indian*, 1976. Acrylic on canvas, 50 x 46 in. Gift of Nancy and Richard Bloch, 2001. Plate 180.
26. James Havard (b. 1937), *Color Chart for Cane Garden Bay*, 1977. Oil on canvas, 54 x 48 in. Gift of Paul and Carol Sarkisian, 2000. Plate 176.
27. Van Deren Coke (1921–2004), *Albuquerque Motel*, 1978. Cibachrome print, 19 7/8 x 16 in. Gift of the artist, 1988. Plate 198.
28. Jesús Moroles (b. 1950), *Mountain Fountain*, 1984. Dakota granite and water, 108 x 36 x 30 in. Given in celebration of the marriage of Kathryn Boeckman and Peter Howd, October 12, 1985. Plate 166.
29. Harmony Hammond (b. 1944), *Ladder*, 1981. Acrylic and oil crayon on paper, 44 x 29½ in. Gift of Judith Danziger, 2006. Plate 210.
30. Allan Graham (b. 1943), *Untitled (1–79)*, 1979. Oil, gouache, stick pigment, and rice paper on canvas, 84 x 72 in. Gift of Barbara and Michael Ogg, 2003. Plate 167.
31. Patrick Nagatani (b. 1945), *BMW Chetro Kettl Kiva, Chaco Canyon, NM, USA*, 1997–8. Iris print, 20 x 30 in. Museum purchase with funds from the Collectors' Club, 2000. Plate 207.
32. Frederick Hammersley (b. 1919), *Scissors*, 1989. Oil on linen, 9 x 6½ in. Gift of Nathaniel O. Owings and Page Allen Owings, 2001. Plate 164.
33. Delilah Montoya (b. 1955), *La Guadalupana*, 1998. Mixed-media photo mural, 120 x 72 in. Purchase, 1999. Plate 193.
34. Gail Rieke (b. 1944) and Zachariah Rieke (b. 1943), *Love Nest*, 1998. Mixed media, 7 x 10 x 3 in. Museum purchase with funds from the Elizabeth and Duncan Boeckman Acquisition Endowment, 1998. Plate 201.
35. Paul Caponigro (b. 1932), *Ranchos San Sebastian, Santa Fe, NM*, 1982. Gelatin silver print, 12 x 10 1/8 in. Gift of Austin Lamont, 1992. Plate 196.

36. Bruce Nauman (b. 1941), *Live or Die (Red)*, 1985. Lithograph and ink on paper, 16 x 12 in. Purchase with funds provided by the Building A Collection Fund, 1986. Plate 188.
37. Luis Tapia (b. 1950), *Viva La Fiesta (Zozobra)*, 1996. Carved and painted wood, 37 x 38 in. Museum purchase with funds from the Elizabeth and Duncan Boeckman Acquisition Endowment, 1997. Plate 221.
38. Maurice Dixon, Jr. (b. 1947), *Untitled (Shrine)*, 2003. Tin, paper, glass, 7¾ x 6 x 2 ½ in. Gift of Steve and Dottie Diamant, 2004. Plate 225.
39. Florence Miller Pierce (b. 1917), *Untitled 113 One Fold (12-14-1994)*, 1994, Resin on Plexiglas, 32 x 48 in. Gift of the artist, 2006. Plate 187.
40. Earl Stroh (1924–2005), *Sand Storm*, 1951. Oil on masonite, 8 15/16 x 19 7/8 in. Gift of the Helene Wurlitzer Foundation of New Mexico, 1964. Plate 147.
41. Carol Sarkisian (b. 1935), *Deluxe Samba Pulling Bambi*, 2005. Rhinestones, gold leaf, silver leaf, glass beads, glitter, 2 x 8½ x 2 in. Purchase Prize “Originals 2005,” funded by the New Mexico Committee, National Museum of Women in the Arts. Plate 224.
42. Patrocínio Barela (1908–1964), *The Garden of Eden*, ca. 1948. Pine, 21 x 47 x 2 in. Gift of the Weatherhead Foundation, Cleveland and New York, 1970. Plate 152.
43. Fritz Scholder (1937–2005), *Snake Dancer*, 1967. Oil on board, 20 x 30 in. Gift of Mr. John B. L. Goodwin, 1969. Plate 179.
44. James Stovall Morris (1902–1973), *Velorio*, n.d. Oil on canvasboard, 18 x 24 in. On long-term loan from the U.S. General Services Administration, Works Progress Administration. Plate 105.
45. Maria Montoya Martinez (ca. 1880s–1980). *Untitled*, fired prehistoric clay recovered by Edgar Lee Hewett from Puye ruin, 1909. 1½ x 6¼ x 3 in. Museum of Indian Arts & Culture/Laboratory of Anthropology 1769/12. Plate 43.
46. Raymond Jonson (1891–1982), *Watercolor No. 8*, 1940. Watercolor on illustration board, 26 x 39 in. Gift of Elizabeth and Duncan Boeckman, 2005. Plate 129.
47. William Lumpkins (1909–2000), *This Was a Breakthru*, 1935. Watercolor, 7¾ x 10¾ in. Gift of the William and Norma L. Lumpkins Trust, 1989. Plate 125.
48. Rebecca Salsbury [Strand] James (1891–1968), *Agnus Dei*, 1950. Embroidery, 7 3/8 x 10½ in. Purchase, 1998. Plate 155.
49. Agnes C. Sims (1910–90), *Deer Dancers*, ca. 1940s. Carved wood, largest 13 x 8 in. Purchase with funds from the Collectors’ Club and Charmay Allred, 1998. Plate 131.
50. Thomas Benrimo (1887–1958), *Dark Image*, 1952–53. Oil on masonite, 23 x 35 in. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. R. C. Derbyshire, 1988. Plate 144.
51. Will Shuster, (1893–1969), *Pottery Maker*, 1934. Fresco, 47 x 23 in. Funded through the Federal Emergency Relief Agency, 1934. Plate 102.