

Working Wildfowl 2014

DECOYS, CARVINGS AND THE WATERFOWL TRADITION

OCTOBER 10TH – DECEMBER 31, 2014

Working Wildfowl 2014, an original and historically significant exhibit showcasing vintage and contemporary decoys, calls and photography, opens at The Audubon Center at Riverlands on October 10th with a VIP reception and extends through December 31st.



OUR REGION'S FOLK ART

Celebrate the rich history of our region's folk art. The exhibit will bring the rich history, beauty, and significance of our region's birds to life!

WORKING WILDFOWL

This unique exhibit offers a rare glimpse into some of the region's finest private decoy collections. View the works of such masters as Elmer Crowell [1862-1952], Charles Perdew, Bert Graves [1880-1956] and Robert Elliston [1847-1925]. See decoys of museum quality and meet their curators. These priceless collections took decades to compile; learn why and what to collect. See the work of modern living carver, Cameron McIntyre, already on the collectors' radar. Make your best guess at record setting auction prices!

THE STORY OF DECOYS

Bird decoys are a beautiful and primary folk art, originating in North America. They were first fashioned by Native American hunter-artists over 1,000 years ago. Creating a decoy demands keen knowledge, appreciation, and understanding of all things "bird" by the carver, who creates the bird's form, feather, and color by hand.

A great decoy looks and floats like a real bird. It mimics the poses and behavior of real bird. As such, hunters have long relied on these indispensable partners on a good hunt. Likewise, collectors admire and delight in the workmanship, skill, tradition, and history which each treasured decoy represents. The sportsman, the artist, the birder, the conservationist and the wildlife biologist are equally moved by the wonders of wildlife on the great Mississippi Flyway.

DECOYS ON SALE DURING EXHIBITION

For the first time, decoys will be on sale during the VIP reception and throughout the exhibition. The decoy exhibitors will offer a select few decoys from their collections for sale. Start your own decoy collection! Cash and check only.

VENDOR'S MARKET

Saturday, November 8th | 10am-4pm

1pm: Informal Round Table will be held featuring local decoy collectors and interested visitors to the center. Discussions about starting and maintaining a decoy collection, and general information about carved ducks, shorebirds, calls and other sporting collectibles that we are inviting you to bring in and share with us, should help us all to learn more about our decoy obsession.

VIP Reception | OCTOBER 10 FROM 5-9pm | \$75 PERSON

Share a drink and thrilling conversation where Antiques Road Show and Duck Dynasty meet!

Meet the collectors

Heavy Hors d'oeuvres, wine and beer