

Curt Walters

Although he has traveled and painted all over the world, impressionist artist Curt Walters has become known as the preeminent interpreter and conservationist of the Grand Canyon. Walters' interest in the preservation of the Grand Canyon occurred when he became frustrated by the pollution build up in the monument, and realized that his paintings actually documented the deterioration of the air quality over thirty years.

As an honorary board member and official artist of the Grand Canyon Foundation, Walters has helped raise over half a million dollars to preserve this national treasure. One of these fundraising efforts, organized by Walters, was a river trip through the Grand Canyon with a group of artists in 2000. The artwork inspired by this trip raised over \$100,000. Recently, Walters has also been commissioned to create the first John Wesley Powell Award, an honor that recognizes significant achievement in Grand Canyon/Colorado Plateau conservation.

While the landscapes of New Mexico and Arizona have been his preferred choice of subject matter, Walters has also spent nearly thirty years capturing his impressions of the world's landscapes, from Monet's gardens at Giverny, to the magnificence of Florentine architecture and the exotic temple gardens of Bali.

Walters holds the rare distinction of having his paintings win Buyers Choice awards in three of the most prestigious shows for Western art, all awarded within a nine month period: the Prix De West (twice), the Artists of America show and the Gene Autry Museum's Masters of the American West. Most recently, he was awarded the Frederic Remington Award at the 2004 Prix de West. Walters is also a member of the Oil Painters of America.

His paintings are in prominent public collections including the Malcolm Forbes Collection and the Maytag Foundation. Other notable collectors include Merv Griffin, Mikail Baryshnikov, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and the late Robert Urich. American Express has recently reproduced his Grand Canyon National Park commemorative work National Treasure for its International Masters Catalog of Fine Art.

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