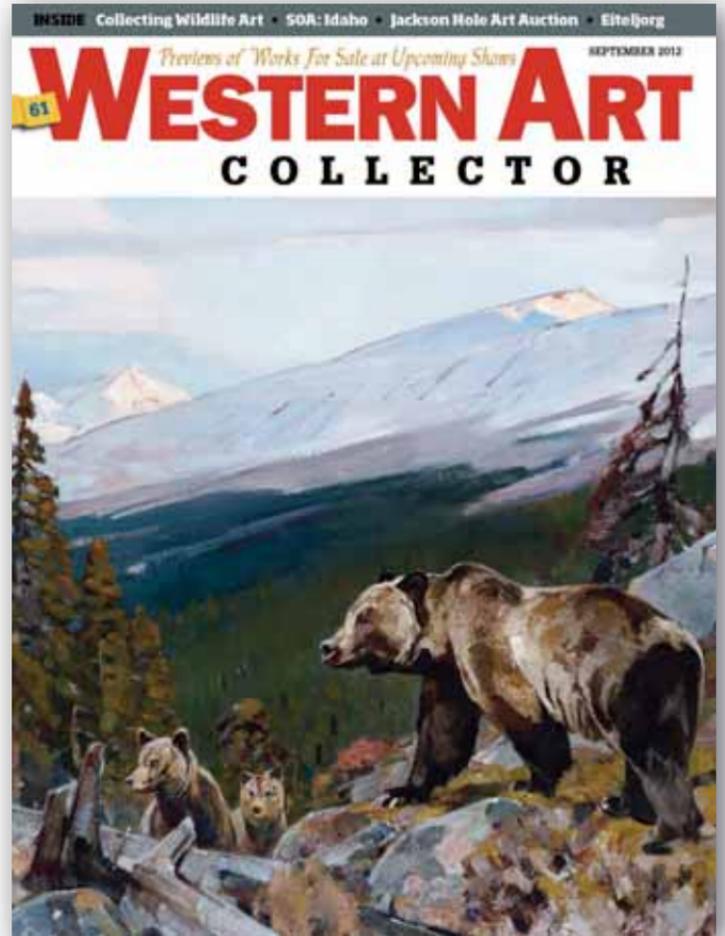


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# ESSENCE of the WILD

## Collecting Wildlife Art

Nothing symbolizes the West more than the animals that inhabit it. Dynamic, colorful and ever-changing, it's no surprise why artists continue to render the largest mammals and the smallest birds and creatures in wildlife artworks.

Western art, diverse and evolving in its forms and subjects, has grown to encompass all things West—human and animal.

"I am searching for a moment in time, always fleeting, that illuminates a creature's very essence," says **Rikki Saunders**, a new member of the Society of Animal Artists. "I am passionate about capturing that moment that sings to me, that exemplifies and conveys both how special that animal is and my profound love and respect for the wild."

Previous masters of wildlife art such as Friedrich Wilhelm Kuhnert and Carl Rungius would likely share the same sentiment. In an evolving world, artists remain challenged by the changing geography and subtle shifts in fragile ecosystems. Close observation and keen awareness provide the vision necessary to carry out seemingly simple visual works teeming with complex undertones.

Artists such as **Gary Johnson**, **Lindsay Scott**, and **Vic Payne**, among many talented others, are contemporaries who are capturing these fleeting natural moments and simultaneously leaving

behind a legacy. To commune and pay homage to the natural world and capture the essence of the "wild" is to take notice that all life-forms are inherently connected.

### Beals & Abbate Fine Art

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Located on Canyon Road in Santa Fe, New Mexico, Beals & Abbate Fine Art brings collectors traditional landscape and still life works, whimsical figurative and abstract pieces, and contemporary works in a variety of mediums.

"Brace yourself for an immediate connection with **Amy Ringholz's** newest paintings. Those that know Ringholz, fully know that her heart is poured out into each painting and her wildlife portraits reveal an intimate personification of their artist," says Bobby Beals, owner at Beals & Abbate Fine Art. "Connect with a charming fox, a daring wolf and a clever owl painted with oils and inks on canvas. Get lost in the mosaic quality of blended brushstrokes—and found again in the deliberate lines of ink that outline her subjects. Ringholz has successfully arrested motion in her wonderful stories of the wildlife that will suspend the viewer in the middle of a mysterious fable."



