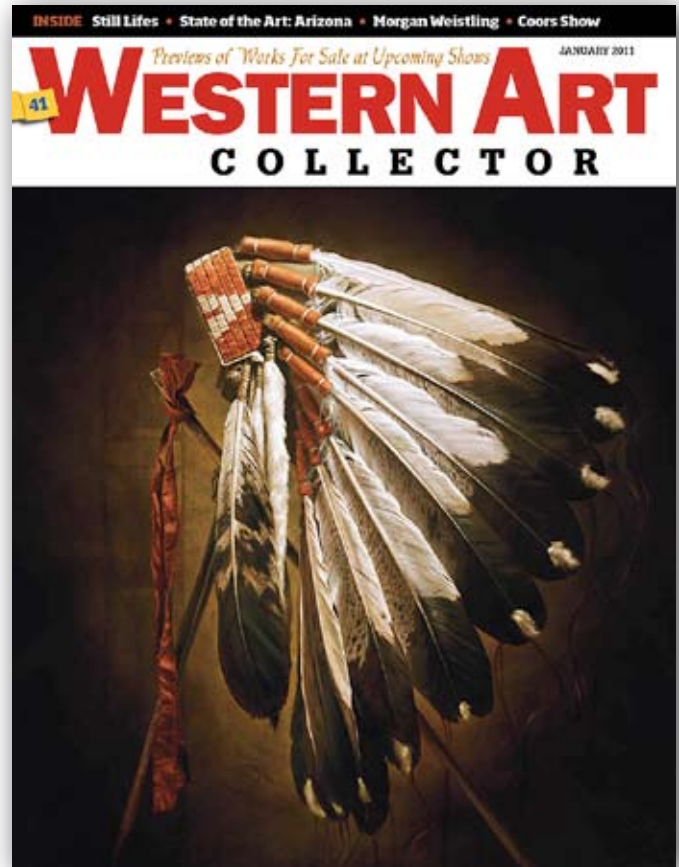


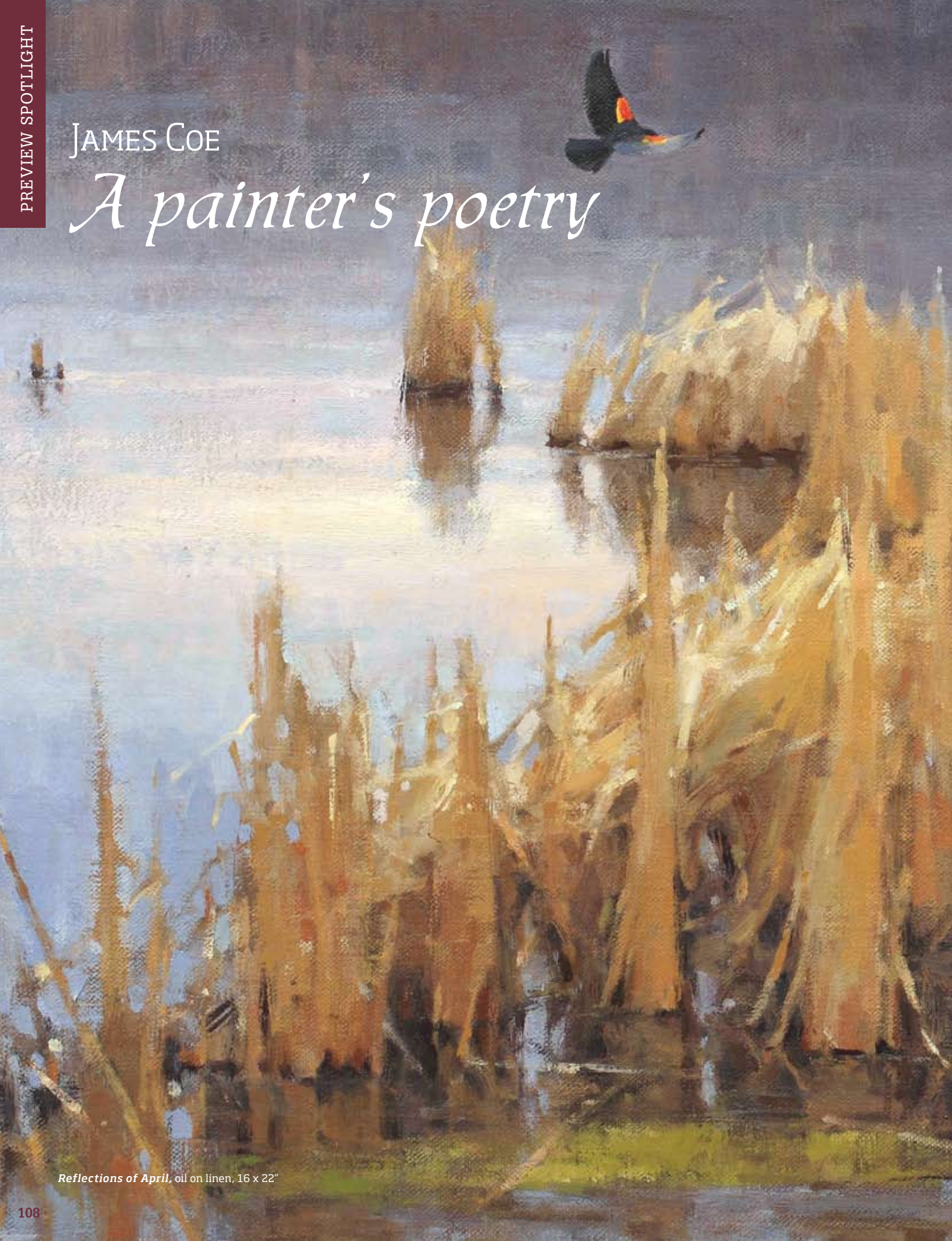
As seen in the
January 2011 issue of

WESTERN ART
COLLECTOR

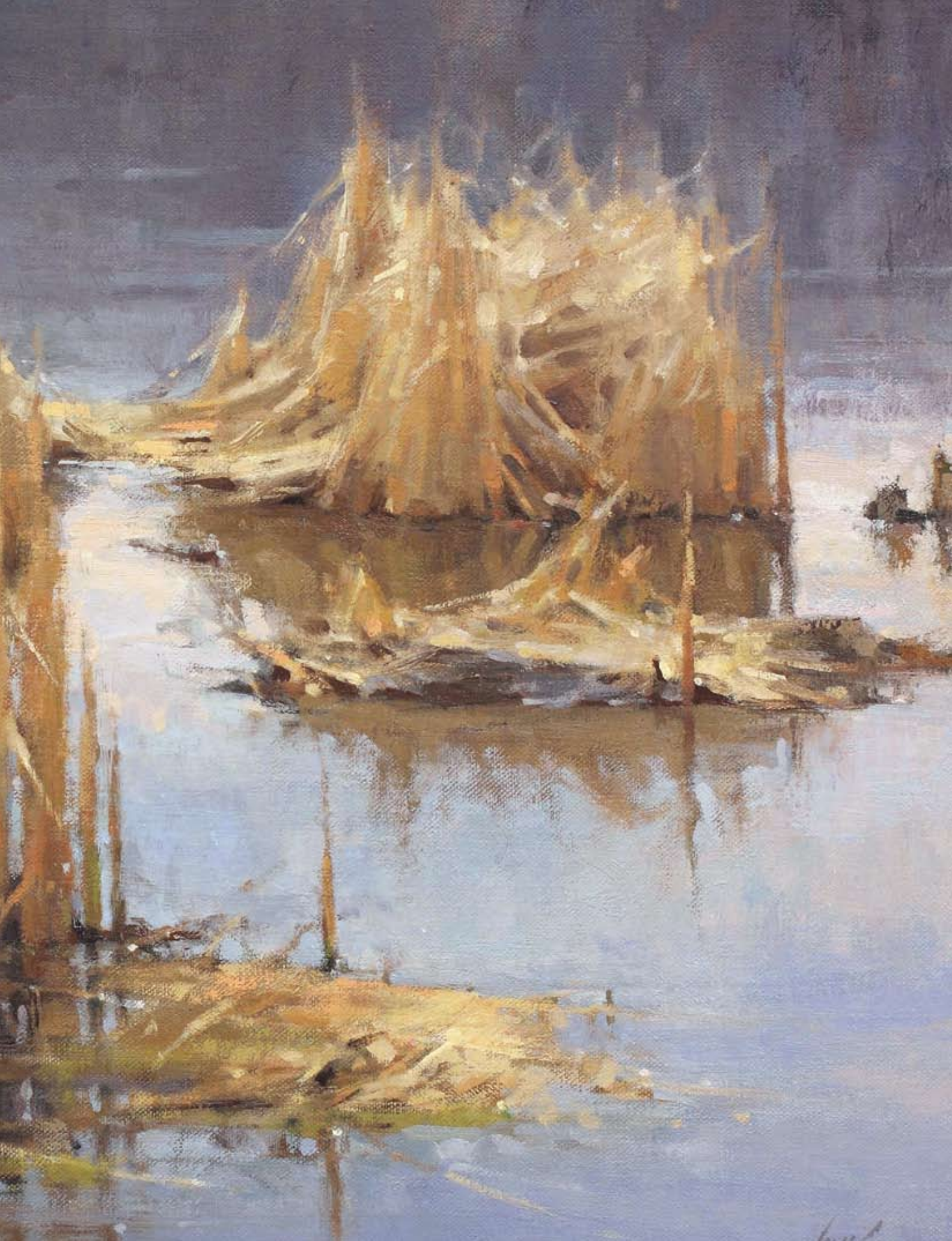


JAMES COE

A painter's poetry



Reflections of April, oil on linen, 16 x 22"

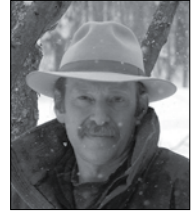


UPCOMING SHOW

Up to 40 works
Dec. 11, 2010-Jan. 9, 2011

Windham Fine Arts
5380 Main Street
Windham, NY 12496
(518) 734-6850

SHOW LOCATION WINDHAM, NY



James Coe's passion for birds and nature stems from growing up in the suburbs of New York City, where he was fascinated by the egrets and shorebirds he noticed in nearby salt marshes. As an adult, he became well-versed in the art of field guide illustration, becoming well known for writing and illustrating the acclaimed *Eastern Birds: A Golden Field Guide*.

After more than 15 years in this field, Coe ventured into the world of fine art and began painting landscapes in plein air. He found that many of the skills needed to capture the fleeting light and dynamic conditions of the landscape are analogous to those he had previously developed for sketching an active bird as it foraged or preened. Today, Coe's studio work is a synthesis of the two genres. In his newest canvases, he integrates birds into his landscapes while maintaining the freshness

and vigorous brushwork of a plein air study.

For the first time since 2004, Windham Fine Arts presents Coe's successful bird-in-landscape paintings shown together with his newest expressions of this idea. Titled *A Painter's Poetry*, the solo show features a mix of local farm scenes and quiet views of nature with birds integrated into the landscape.

"I am most interested in the integration of my plein air landscape skills with my background as a wildlife painter," says Coe. "I feel as though I finally have the skills and know-how to bring these two threads of my work together seamlessly."

Gallery director Marie Christine Case says it's exciting to witness Coe's vision and skills come together in a new way.

"People are increasingly drawn to and responsive to his work, and they may not even realize why. I know why! Passion and

mastery, particularly of the subtle sort that is characteristic of James' work, are very attractive. By that I mean the kind of attraction that brings you into the painting, where you now want to be," explains Case. "We remember the feelings we had at a certain moment in nature; we want that to come with us...back into our ordinary time. James goes out there, mixes his magic in the studio and gives it back to us! That is art, visual poetry."

This grouping illustrates Coe's new command and understanding of how to orchestrate the full range of values within a painting.

"After so many years of painting, I finally get it! I no longer feel the need to 'yell' with bright colors and dark accents," he says. "By reserving the extremes of value and color, I can express myself more quietly, and then get much more punch when I do need to make a stronger statement."

The Collectors Say . . .

"Though we live in Virginia, upstate New York and New England have always been places of importance for us. Jim captures how the region feels. I look at his paintings and I know what part of the world I'm in; it couldn't be anywhere else."

**—Chris and Sandy Neuzil,
Virginia**

James Coe is currently interested in integrating his plein air landscape skills with his background as a wildlife painter.





Winter Abstract With Heron, oil on linen on board, 14 x 16"
 WINNER OF THE WESTERN ART COLLECTOR EDITOR'S CHOICE AWARD AT THE SOCIETY OF ANIMAL ARTISTS 50TH ANNUAL ART AND THE ANIMAL EXHIBITION.

In September, Coe participated in the Society of Animal Artists 50th annual *Art and the Animal* exhibition, where his piece *Winter Abstract With Heron* was awarded the *Western Art Collector* Editor's Choice Award. The painting is typical of Coe's current working approach. It derived from a small field study in which he developed the motif into a strong abstract design that would include a bird.

"In this case, I had not seen the Great Blue Heron that particular day, but I know that location well. I know the herons are often there, and it felt entirely natural and instinctive to integrate a roosting heron into the scene," he reflects.

The painting *Morning at the Swamp* of wetlands located in the Lakes Region of New Hampshire also derived from a plein air piece that he reworked in the studio. While painting on-site last spring, Coe says he was overwhelmed by the beauty of this swamp.

"In this studio painting I have included a Red-winged Blackbird, incidentally flying across the scene. Although a center of interest within the canvas, the bird is not posing, nor is it a dominant element of the painting: it is just there in its habitat much as we experience birds when we are out in nature," says Coe. "That is my goal: to convey that same wonder and poetic harmony that I sense in nature when I am outside." 🌿

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
2001	\$750	\$1,200	\$3,000
2004	\$850-\$900	\$1,350	\$4,000
2011	\$1,000-\$1,200	\$1,800	\$6,000-\$10,000