

## Art of Legendary Western Artist Kenneth M Freeman Protected by Fine Art Registry

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Phoenix, AZ (OPENPRESS) March 5, 2010 -- Having **Published on:** March 4th, 2010 09:38pm **by:** [fineartregistry](#)  
one traveling museum exhibition, Artist at Work: The  
Kenneth M. Freeman Legacy currently at the Booth Western Art Museum in Atlanta, and sending a second museum  
exhibition on the road in June 2010 named Portraits of the West: The Kenneth M. Freeman Legacy, Bonnie Adams,  
curator of the Kenneth M. Freeman Legacy Collection, had some unique challenges to make certain the collection  
was protected. Bonnie Adams decided to protect the priceless originals and the authorized limited edition prints  
using the Fine Art Registry patented, secure tagging and registration system.

"When I made the decision to start touring Ken Freeman's original artworks to museums and other venues, I felt I  
had no real control over their fate," Adams explains. "An artwork could go missing without any means to find or  
claim it back. With plans to send the artwork all over the United States and eventually to Europe, I had to start  
protecting my investment."

Born in 1935 in Chicago, Ken Freeman's formative years were marked by two major passions: art and cowboys. He  
won numerous art scholarships and went on to study classical painting at the American Academy of Art in Chicago,  
IL. His major influences were Rembrandt, Rubens and John Singer Sargent. His studies were followed by a  
successful 20-year career as an illustrator.

In the late 1970s, Freeman moved to Scottsdale to fulfill his life dreams of becoming a full time fine artist and a  
cowboy – he lived the life and painted the life he was living. Some of his best known art graces the covers of books  
by Western authors including Louis L'Amour and Will James. He created original work for Hamilton Collectibles, a  
beautiful ten-plate series entitled Proud Indian Families. Many of his original paintings have been reproduced as  
limited edition prints. He became known affectionately as the "Rembrandt of the Rodeo" and referred to himself as  
a "Jewish Cowboy."

"Ken's old masters' technique was very time consuming but the outcome is extraordinary. It is the only way to  
achieve the depth of colors and warm layers of content that will pass the test of time," says Edward Holmes,  
president of Western Artists of America whose organization presented Adams with Freeman's Lifetime Achievement  
Award at the premier of the traveling exhibit at the The Booth Western Art Museum, an Affiliate of the Smithsonian  
Institution, in Atlanta, on January 16th, 2010.

The Artist at Work exhibition, with its centerpiece, a recreation of Ken Freeman's studio, continues at the Booth  
Western Art Museum until May 22, 2010. Next, the Portraits of the West exhibition opens in Prescott, AZ on June  
24th 2010 through October 2010 at The Phippen Art Museum. Other venues and dates for the traveling exhibition  
are still being finalized.

Prior to the opening of the exhibition at the Booth Western Art Museum, Bonnie Adams decided to adopt the Fine  
Art Registry patented system which combines a tamper-evident, unforgeable, high-tech tag and a corresponding,  
full record in a secure database of all the data required by the Getty Object ID to identify art objects and more.

"FAR offers the artist and the collector an invaluable system of registering, archiving, and sorting their precious  
items," continues Adams. "I wanted a system that I could work with to help me organize and document my  
collection. FAR offers just that. It is my responsibility as the curator of this important collection to protect and  
promote the artwork. FAR offers solutions to both these concerns. With the secure database to archive and record  
all the artwork and collectables and a sales site to promote and sell from and with access to legal resources  
experienced in Art Fraud, FAR offers the artist and collector a peace of mind – the ultimate benefit."

"I plan to tag and register all of Ken's original works of art (this includes the paintings, illustrations, drawings,  
sketches, unfinished pieces, bronzes - all things he created), all the reproductions that the Kenneth M Freeman  
Legacy will release, all the artifacts that Ken used as reference for his artwork. I also plan to tag and register all of  
my own artwork and personal collections," says Bonnie Adams.

### ABOUT THE KENNETH M. FREEMAN LEGACY

Works of Kenneth M. Freeman (1935 - 2008) are in the permanent collection of the Smithsonian Museum, Library  
of Congress, American Art Academy, and Booth Museum as well as distinguished private collections. Accolades  
include winning competitions at the San Diego Museum of Art, the Hubbard Museum of Art, the Illinois State Fair,  
the Salmagundi Show in New York City, the Union League Club of Chicago, being chosen five times as artist for the  
Parada Del Sol Rodeo in Scottsdale, AZ and having a painting selected for the 1988 Prescott Centennial Rodeo. He  
was an illustrator for Louis L'Amour and other Western authors. First Lady Barbara Bush, impressed with Ken  
Freeman's southwestern art, invited him to show at the Smithsonian Institute in conjunction with the Native  
American Museum Extravaganza. Ken also had a one man show in 2007 in Milan, Italy at Fondazione Metropolitan.  
Website: [www.KennethMFreeman.com](http://www.KennethMFreeman.com) & [www.shop.KennethMFreeman.com](http://www.shop.KennethMFreeman.com)

### ABOUT FINE ART REGISTRY:

Fine Art Registry® is today's only high tech solution to the age old problems that have existed in the art world

since before the Ancient Greeks: How to establish provenance, prove authenticity and ownership, prevent forgery and fakery, deter theft and, basically, make it possible to create, buy and sell works of art with the security of knowing that they are what they claim to be. For more information please see the Fine Art Registry Web site [www.fineartregistry.com](http://www.fineartregistry.com).

**MEDIA RESOURCES:**

HD Digital B-Roll footage is available of the Artist at Work exhibition at the Booth Museum. You can preview the video footage at <http://www.KennethMFreeman.com/press.htm>

**HIGH RESOLUTION IMAGES:**

1. Booth Museum Installation of Artist at Work (TIF 5.5MB)  
<http://www.KennethMFreeman.com/press/boothinstallation.tif>

2. Impending Decision – Freeman’s most famous painting (JPG 3.8 MB)  
<http://www.KennethMFreeman.com/press/ImpendingDecision.jpg>

3. Tough Draw – the official image of the “Artist at Work” exhibition (JPG 2.7 MB)  
<http://www.KennethMFreeman.com/press/ToughDraw.jpg>

Interview Teri Franks and Bonnie Adams [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g6YwjyLTsQ&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g6YwjyLTsQ&feature=player_embedded)

Ken Freeman press <http://www.kennethmfreeman.com/press.htm>

FAR Article [http://www.fineartregistry.com/featured\\_artist/ken-freeman](http://www.fineartregistry.com/featured_artist/ken-freeman) .

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