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Wiford Gallery



Masai Woman on Wood, Oil, 25.5"x 13"



Masai Faded Grandma, Oil, 25.5"x 13"



Masai Road Walker, Oil, 25.5"x 13"

From the Masai Series

It was last November I traveled to Kenya, meeting up with some friends there, with video gear and still cameras. That's when we shot the footage for the orphanage and made paintings since incorporated in their development work. While there we also visited the Masai, a particularly colorful people, owners of all the cattle in the world (everyone else being thieves) and lovers of red. If pressed, that's my favorite color too—though every color is beautiful, and "right" in its setting. Among Masai men red is always right, and among the women, everything goes, as long as it's bright...unless old, like on grandma above. Don't be thrown off by the bald heads; these ladies that like that look, and it's no fuss. So, enjoy the paintings.

Most shown here, with others, will be featured in a **Gallery in Santa Fe**. That's a new development for us, for which we're grateful, that town being so full of art (second-most art-selling city in America) and in good company with abundance of beauty—in nature, architecture, and, of course, lots of people.



Masai Village Boy, Oil on Canvas, 12"x 24"



Masai Day Care, Oil over Acrylic on Canvas, 30"x40"



Masai Serape, Oil over Acrylic on Canvas, 48"x 36"



A-Maize-ing Woman, Guatemala, Oil over Acrylic on Canvas, 48"x36"



Nepal Grandma, Oil on Canvas, 60"x27" (life size)



Snack Seller, Nigeria, Oil over Acrylic on Canvas, 60"x27"

These last few pieces are to prove that it's not just Masai pieces going to Santa Fe. "A-Maize-ing Woman" is recent, from Guatemala, where we lived for a couple of years in the '70s. "Snack Seller" is from another Africa trip, from a photo I took crossing the Niger on a small ferry. She traveled back and forth all day, selling dried fish. Great power bars. I did "Nepal Grandma" a couple years ago, from a photo by a missionary friend.



Tibetan Umbrellas, Oil on Canvas, 34"x18"

Masai Red Splatters, Oil over Acrylic on Canvas, 30"x20"

When I asked the Santa Fe gallery owner which pieces they'd like to represent, he just said, "Your more recent work." So I'm sending that mostly, but some of the earlier work too. Can you tell the difference? Actually there's not a lot. Different images evoke different approaches. The two above were painted a year apart, but even much before then, abstract elements were slipping into the backgrounds. The serene "Tibetan Umbrellas" didn't need it, and the three standing Masai men couldn't resist it. They are themselves "red splatters" in their green pastoral environment (or brown, depending on the time of year).

Then there's the wall-size "Thai Trio" below, hot with fire yellows and dynamic drips—the effect of "action painting" and the water-based acrylic—before the more deliberate treatment of oils through the foreground face and near shoulder. But maybe that's more than you want to know...



Thai Trio, Oil over Acrylic on Canvas, 48"x 72"

Below is the **Wiford Gallery**, just off Canyon Road, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. This is the place that, if things go well, will house a good number of paintings by Hyatt Moore. If things go really well, it won't house them long...

Until next time, enjoy your life, and the beauty everywhere.

