

UPCOMING SHOW

Up to 30 works  
March 19-April 1, 2011

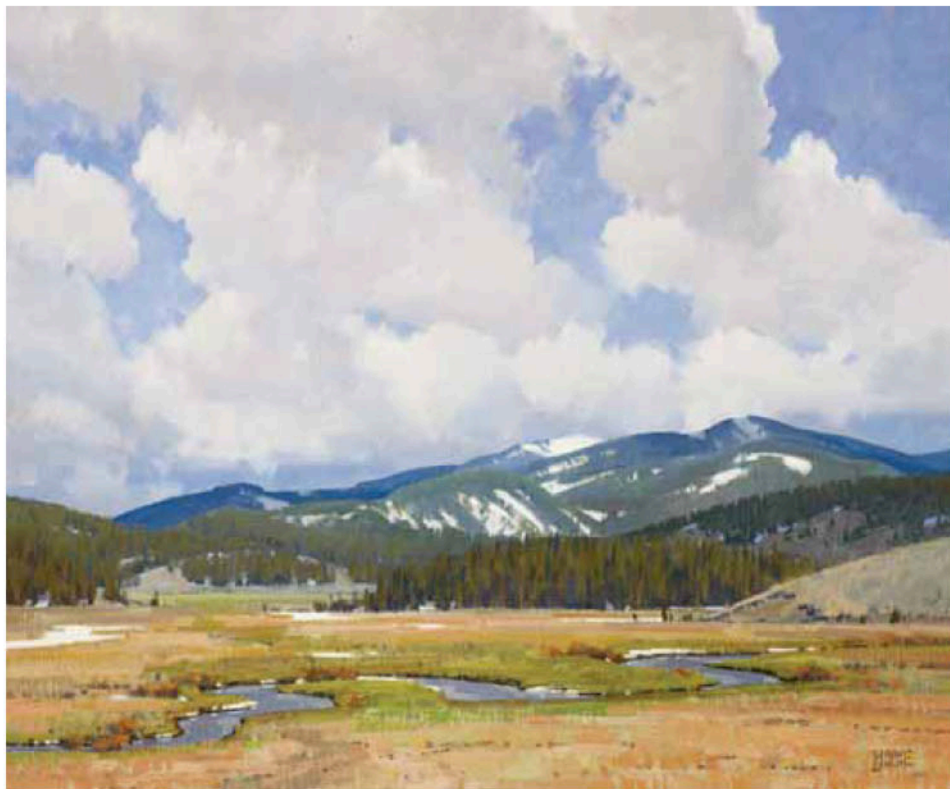
Claggett/Rey Gallery  
100 E. Meadow Drive,  
Building 10  
Vail, CO 81657  
(800) 252-4438

SHOW LOCATION VAIL, CO



## WAYNE WOLFE

### *My Colorado*



Cochetopa Creek, oil, 24 x 30"

For his solo show in March at Claggett/Rey Gallery, Wayne Wolfe paints the Colorado environs he loves. One of the finest painters in the Rocky Mountain West, Wolfe paints from memories and his senses using only his own reference material.

"I work from anything I can work from as

long as it's mine," he says.

The scenes in this grouping encompass all seasons and times of day from places that Wolfe has gravitated toward naturally, places that he has visited and knows, some of them intimately, like the San Juan Mountains of southwest Colorado. The work represents a travelogue of the artist's journeys over his

lifetime throughout "The Centennial State," including wildlife and domestic animals, people, landscapes and architecture.

Wolfe has spent the past 12 months painting for this show. One benefit of having all the work together in his studio in downtown Montrose, he says, is he can sneak up on the paintings each morning and get a fresh look at them,



Gateway Shadows, oil, 20 x 24"



Clueless, oil, 15 x 30"



**Cottonwood Character**, oil, 22 x 30"

which sometimes reveals little oversights. The downside, however, is you can over-think and overwork the pieces.

"It also allows you to see how the show comes together and if you're repeating stylistically or subject matter," he continues, "and you can make sure the show is well-rounded in various sizes."

The painting titled *Clueless* follows in the footsteps of revered wildlife painter Bob Kuhn

who was a great storyteller.

"He didn't always paint the most likely or plausible thing but it was always the most interesting," says Wolfe. "This piece is about a fox that was after a mouse in the deep snow, but the mouse has eluded him. I've tried to paint animals as I might see them if I were hiking a trail or driving by in a car."

*Cottonwood Character* is atypical of Wolfe's work but he couldn't resist the scene, which

he happened upon while driving down a road looking for something else.

"We just went out on this road that paralleled the Dolores River, and we past the tree," he explains. "I normally don't paint that kind of thing, because I look to get further away from things, but this tree had so much character and distinct shadow on the right side. And the dirt road leads you to the cliffs in the background."

Wolfe was introduced to the world of art



**Sunrise Above Laramie**, oil, 24 x 36"

### *The Gallery Says . . .*

*"Wayne Wolfe is one of the finest painters in the Rocky Mountain West. He has honored the Rocky Mountains from the high peaks to the desert plains and in between. Wayne has a great sense of color and composition, and through his masculine technique and great knowledge of art, he allows the viewer to truly feel the world he chooses to paint."*

– Bill Rey, owner, Claggett/Rey Gallery

by his father, Byron Wolfe, who was an early member of the Cowboy Artists of America. After his father's death in 1973, Wolfe began painting part time while still working as an advertising account executive. In 1975 he left the business world to pursue painting full time.

Wolfe refined his self-taught skills by studying with the late Robert Lougheed and Tom Lovell. It was Lougheed who insisted Wolfe paint from life in order to see the truth in nature.

"Bob believed when you worked from life, you always had the best information right in front of you, and that your brain and eye had the best opportunity to work efficiently," Wolfe recalls fondly.

Wolfe's oil painting, *Antlers in the Aspen*, based on an outdoor oil study, won the Prix de West Award in 1982, and he credits Lougheed's criticism as vital to its success.

When Wolfe decided to move to Colorado,

it wasn't because of the horses, elk or cowboys, but rather because of the landscape.

"I've always loved the mountains," he says. "I've always emphasized looking at the stage first and then the players." 🎭

For a direct link to the exhibiting gallery go to  [www.westernartcollector.com](http://www.westernartcollector.com)