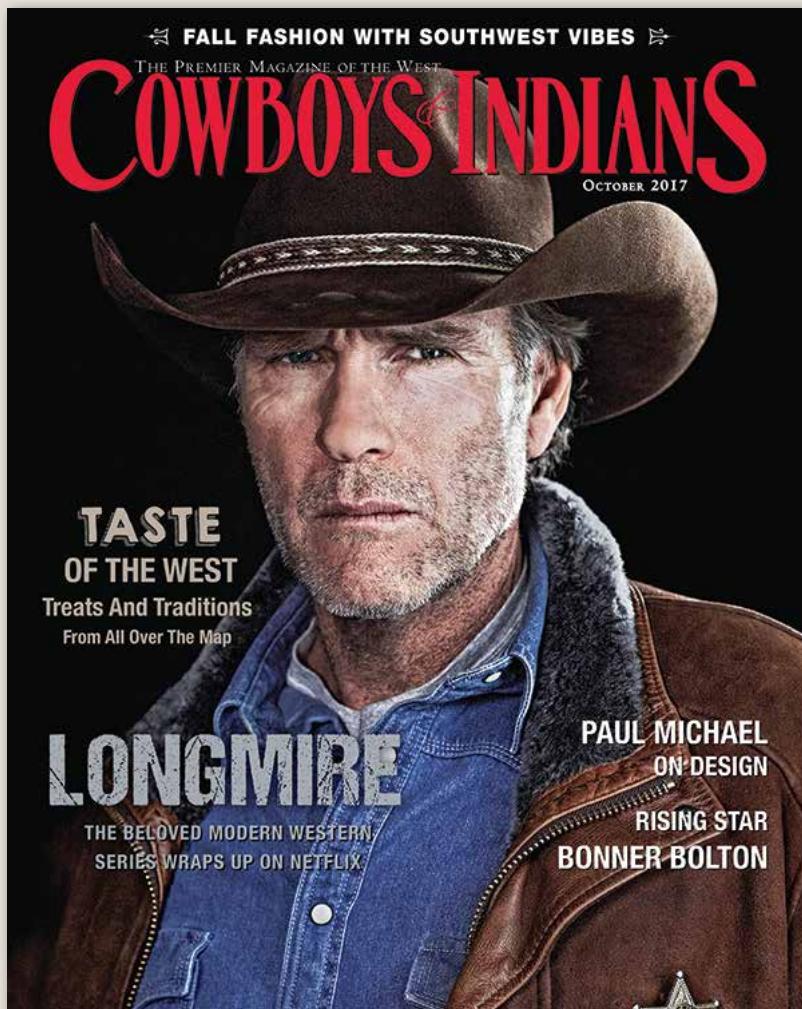


AS SEEN IN

THE PREMIER MAGAZINE OF THE WEST  
**COWBOYS & INDIANS**



ART GALLERY | CONTEMPORARY

Tracy Miller

TRACY MILLER GREW UP RIDING HORSES IN HER ADOPTED STATE OF COLORADO, BUT ANOTHER ANIMAL would become the creative focus of her bold and colorful expressionistic paintings. The artist was very close to her father, a hunter and outdoorsman and vividly recalls one day when she was just a young teen that he hunted a bison and brought the fallen animal home to feed their family. Cooking the bison meat in their kitchen, he asked his daughter if she wanted to taste the heart.

This was a special day for the young girl. She started to reflect on how important the bison was in the settling of the West, providing food and clothing for centuries of indigenous peoples and settlers across the country. Her father gave her the skull and the hide, and she began to consider the bison her spiritual guide.

Her young life revolved around a love of animals, art, and wide-open spaces. With ongoing encouragement from her parents—especially her mom—to pursue a career as an artist, Miller earned her bachelor's degree in art from Denver's Metropolitan State University.

Today, animals, especially bison, play a big role in her work. She renders the remarkable creatures in acrylic and in a multitude of colors. "I imbue the bison with the most of myself," she says. "Painting this symbol on canvas with bright and bold acrylic brushstrokes keeps the West alive for me." Last February one of her bison paintings was chosen as the signature piece and poster for the One Nation Film Festival; another of her paintings will grace next year's poster. Several other signature bison pieces are displayed around the Children's Hospital in Denver.

Seeing animals in nature is her passion, as is translating that passion into art as part of the continuing legacy of

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY TRACY MILLER

Find more on the artist at [tracymillerfineart.com](http://tracymillerfineart.com). Visit her gallery at 16 Ruxton Ave, Manitou Springs, Colorado, 719.650.0827.

OPPOSITE: *Shaking It Off*. THIS PAGE: *Wise One*.

★ Check us out in the October issue!