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**Doug West** | *new paintings*

September 4- 21  
Artist reception:  
Friday, Sept 4, 5-7:30pm



\*\*\*\*\*AUTO\*\*MIXED AADC 920  
ROSEMARY CARSTENS  
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9-1





WEST MESA DUSK 40"X40" OIL ON CANVAS

### CAPTURING THE WEST

WELL-KNOWN CONTEMPORARY ARTIST DOUG WEST INITIALLY MADE HIS REPUTATION AS AN OUTSTANDING SERIGRAPH PRINTMAKER. FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS, HE HAS TURNED HIS ATTENTION TO OIL PAINTING AND HAS PRODUCED A SERIES OF LANDSCAPES FOR HIS UPCOMING ONE-MAN SHOW THAT EPITOMIZE THE UNIQUE AND COMPELLING CHARACTER OF THE LAND OF HIS ENCHANTMENT, NEW MEXICO. >>>

GROWING UP IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AT A TIME WHEN ROLLING HILLS OF CITRUS GROVES WENT ON FOREVER UNDER CLEAR SKIES, WEST MOVED TO NEW MEXICO TO RECAPTURE THAT UNFETTERED SENSE OF POSSIBILITY WITHIN AN UNCLUTTERED LANDSCAPE. IF POETRY IS THE DISTILLATION OF WORDS AND EMOTIONS, THEN WEST'S NEW WORK IS POETRY IN PAINT. HE DISPLAYS A SELDOM SEEN MASTERY OF THE CANVAS AND NOT ONLY PAINTS WHAT HE SEES—HE PAINTS WHAT HE FEELS. EACH SCENE CONTAINS A HOLY SENSE OF MAJESTIC HANDIWORK PLAYED OUT IN SOFTLY CURVING FOOTHILLS, GLITTERING WATERWAYS, AND THRUSTING RED MESAS, ALL BENEATH A GREAT BOWL OF A SKY FILLED WITH CLOUD FORMATIONS RARELY GLIMPSED ELSEWHERE. WEST FINDS "ART IS A VEHICLE FOR PERSONAL GROWTH AND CHALLENGE," AND FEELS MOST GROUNDED OUTDOORS SEEKING NEW CATALYSTS: "THE SOUTHWEST IS MY RICH PALETTE FOR CREATIVE INSPIRATION . . . I LOVE THAT THE LAND HERE IS EXPOSED AND WIDE OPEN TO LONG-DISTANCE HORIZONS."

THROUGH A COMBINATION OF GESTURAL, PAINTERLY BRUSHSTROKES AND PAINSTAKING DETAIL, WEST SKILLFULLY USES THE INTERPLAY OF LIGHT AND SHADOW TO PORTRAY A STRONG SPIRITUAL SENSE OF PLACE. REIMAGINED ARRANGEMENTS OF COMPOSITIONAL ELEMENTS TRANSLATE THE ESSENCE OF EACH PAINTING INTO A DRAMATIC RETELLING OF HISTORY AND GEOLOGY. IMAGES OF POWERFUL SQUALL LINES RUMBLING ACROSS THE FLAT WESTERN LANDSCAPE, GIGANTIC CLOUD FORMATIONS HAMMERHEADED BY UNIMPEDED WINDS, AND VAST, PEACEFUL OPEN SPACES WITH LONG SHADOWS FALLING AWAY FROM THE SETTING SUN OFFER AN UNOBSTRUCTED PILOT'S EYE VIEW THAT IS UNDUPLICATED IN THE ART WORLD. IT'S NO WONDER COLLECTORS CLAMOR FOR MORE!

DOUG WEST'S WORKS HAVE WON NUMEROUS AWARDS, BEEN CELEBRATED IN A MULTITUDE OF PUBLICATIONS, AND BEEN EXHIBITED EXTENSIVELY NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY. THEY ARE HELD IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE COLLECTIONS, INCLUDING VENUES AS DIVERSE AS THE NEW MEXICO MUSEUM OF FINE ART IN SANTA FE AND THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION IN WASHINGTON, DC.

Doug **West**  
new paintings

