



THE BRISCOE
Western Art Museum

PRESS RELEASE

THE BRISCOE WESTERN ART MUSEUM CHANGING RIVER WALK LANDSCAPE WITH NEW SCULPTURE INSTALLATION

*Artist T.D. Kelsey's "Coming Home to the Briscoe"
Evokes Spirit of the West along San Antonio River*

(San Antonio, TX - March 16, 2015) Today, The Briscoe Western Art Museum unveils its newest addition to the outdoor landscape of the Museum grounds along the San Antonio River Walk. T.D. Kelsey's "**Coming Home to the Briscoe**" is a grand 3-ton bronze sculpture depicting a *vaquero* (Mexican cowboy) driving majestic longhorns along a historic cattle drive.

The epic piece was commissioned specifically for the downtown San Antonio museum that is home to an impressive collection of art and artifacts of the American West. "This inspiring work of art captures the rugged pioneer spirit of the West and brings it to the banks of the River Walk," said Tom Livesay, executive director of the Briscoe Museum. "You can almost feel the determination and drive of this lone *vaquero* as he forges onward with his herd."

By the mid-1700s, cattle ranching and livestock production was flourishing throughout the Southwest and longhorn breeds were key to the livelihood of many. Cattle worth only a few dollars per head in Texas could be worth 30 times that in other parts of the country. These high prices fueled the iconic cattle drives, which were most common from 1866—1890. Trail-driving Texans adopted many of their techniques from Mexican *vaqueros*, carrying these methods with them north through the Plains states and west to California.

The "Coming Home" sculpture rounds out a collection of magnificent outdoor pieces that adorn the entrances of the Briscoe Museum. Bookmarking the front entrance are Glenna Goodacre's "Basket Dancers," featuring a trio of life-size female Pueblo figures recognizing the contributions of women and Native Peoples in the West; and the 12 foot tall bronze, "Checkmate," by Herb Mignery, depicting an American cowboy atop his horse. Each of these monumental sculptures represents a different cultural group or figure that has had a significant impact on the history and heritage of the American West.

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Artist TD Kelsey

T.D. Kelsey grew up on a ranch near Bozeman, Montana. He rodeoed for many years in rough stock events and team roping. Following that T.D. trained and showed cutting horses for several years. He worked as a commercial pilot for United Airlines until 1979 when he resigned to devote full time to his art.

Kelsey's work is found in private and public collections worldwide. He is a member emeritus of the Cowboy Artists of America, and fellow member of the National Sculpture Society. He was honored with a rendezvous show at the Thomas Gilcrease Museum where he has work on permanent display, and a one man show at the 21 Club in New York. T.D. also has sculptures on permanent display at the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame and Museum, the C.M. Russell Museum, the National Museum of Wildlife Art, the Buffalo Bill Historical Center, the Owensboro Museum of Fine Art in Owensboro KY, and the Old Town Museum in Elk City, Oklahoma.

Several monumental pieces have been placed; these include works for both private companies and public facilities such as museums and zoos.

T.D.'s work is available in very limited editions. Both finished castings and works in progress can be seen in the studio-gallery at his ranch near Guthrie, Texas.

About The Briscoe Western Art Museum

The Briscoe Western Art Museum, named in honor of the late Texas Governor, Dolph Briscoe, Jr. and his wife, Janey Slaughter Briscoe, preserves and interprets the art, history, and culture of the American West through exhibitions, educational programs, and public events reflective of the region's rich traditions and shared heritage. More information at BriscoeMuseum.org.

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Sharon Garcia, sgarcia@briscoemuseum.org, C: 210.422.8894

Natalia Prieto, nprieto@creativecivilization.com, C: 210.625.1794