

PRESS RELEASE

THE BRISCOE WESTERN ART MUSEUM PRESENTS
THE COWBOY RETURNS: PHOTOGRAPHS BY BANK AND JOHN LANGMORE
*New Exhibition Offers an Intimate View of the
Iconic American Cowboy Over Two Generations*



John Langmore, 06 Ranch
Alpine, Texas (2014)
Gelatin silver print



Bank Langmore, Bell Ranch
Tucumcari, New Mexico (1973)
Dye transfer print

(San Antonio, TX - May 21, 2015) -- The Briscoe Western Art Museum is proud to unveil its first original exhibition – a collection of photographic works by Bank and John Langmore that artistically chronicles the gritty reality of working cowboys in the American West. ***The Cowboy Returns***, which runs from **September 12 through November 29, 2015** at the Briscoe, includes select work from Bank Langmore—considered a preeminent photographer of the American cowboy in the 1970s—and his son, John Langmore, a celebrated artist in his own right, who spent the last three years photographing many of the same people and ranches his father documented over 40 years ago. The show is part of the city-wide *FOTOSEPTIEMBRE USA* Photography Festival and is free with Museum admission.

“The working cowboy is idolized because he symbolizes an ideal of the American spirit: one of integrity, hard work, determination and self-sufficiency,” said John Langmore. “And while the cowboy has been glamorized countless times, he has been truthfully documented far less often. My father and I have attempted to depict both the rewards and difficulties of the cowboy life through our photographs.”

The result of this father/son collaboration is a spectacular collection of more than 100 black-and-white and color prints exhibited for the first time at the Briscoe. Spanning four decades, the photographs were made on dozens of the most famous ranches throughout the West, including ranches in Nevada, New Mexico, Arizona, Montana, Wyoming and Texas. *The Cowboy Returns* gives us a rare glimpse behind the veneer of this robust American hero – we see what happens in the off hours and share in the struggles and triumphs of daily existence on the great frontier.



Bank Langmore left a successful corporate career in the 1970s to become a fulltime photographer. Fascinated with the working cowboys of the American West, he set out for the country's largest ranches, occasionally bringing his entire family along and subsequently planting the seed for his son to eventually follow suit. Bank Langmore quickly established himself as one of the leading photographers of the American West. His book, *The Cowboy*, is considered a seminal work on the subject.

Forty years later, John Langmore carries on the family tradition with his own photographs. He offers a decidedly unique perspective on the iconic cowboy and on the work of his father. Given the chance to cowboy at the age of twelve, John spent summers from 6th grade through his first year of law school "cowboying" on big outfits across the West. His work bears the mark of someone intimately familiar with life in the saddle. From 2012 to 2015, John returned to photograph a number of ranches he worked on over thirty years ago, many of which were also chronicled by his father. Rarely before has the cowboy been documented with such familiarity and continuity.

The Cowboy Returns traces an arc of the cowboy lifestyle across decades and generations. It is undeniable that big outfits are fewer and different than they were forty years ago, but, this exhibition clearly demonstrates the American working cowboy is alive and well. *The Cowboy Returns* offers an intimate view into the life, work, and legacy of an iconic American profession.

###

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 presents 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: 210.299.4499, ext.551

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

(high resolution photos available of select exhibition prints – all images copyright of Bank and John Langmore)

The Cowboy Returns: Photographs by Bank & John Langmore

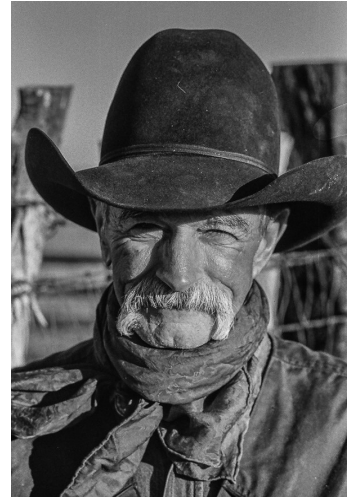
September 12 - November 29, 2015 | Briscoe Western Art Museum - San Antonio, Texas



John Langmore, ZX Ranch -
Paisley, Oregon (2013)



Bank Langmore, 6666 Ranch - Guthrie, Texas (1974)



John Langmore, Diamond A -
Seligman, Arizona (2014)



Bank Langmore, Bell Ranch - Tucumcari, New Mexico (1973)



John Langmore, Singleton Ranches -
Fort Sumner, New Mexico (2015)



Bank Langmore, MC Ranch - Adel, Oregon (1974)



John Langmore, Miles City, Montana (2013)