UPCOMING SHOW
Up to 20 works on show
July 3-July 16, 2008
Mountain Trails Gallery
150 Center St.
Jackson, WY 83002
(307) 734-8150

## JOHN NIETO

# Individual expressions

ike many contemporary artists, John Nieto follows his instincts with no preconceived concepts of how a painting will turn out. He lets his emotions and subconscious guide him.

"Every time I do a painting it's a trail blazer. I don't know what the painting is going to look like. I just have an idea. I follow my feelings and they take me to what I end up with," he explains from his studio in Texas.

An innovative interpreter of the Southwest, Nieto calls himself an American artist who paints Indians, not an Indian artist. Rather than seeking an authentic rendition, his paintings reflect the core Native spirit.

Mountain Trails Gallery will host a special show of Nieto's latest wildlife and Native American paintings as well as his newest American iconic figures including public figures, artists and musicians. The show runs July 3 to July 16 at the gallery in Jackson, Wyo.

Since his stroke a few years ago, the 71-year-old Nieto has a new lease on life. Encouraged by this new found energy, in his latest work, Nieto revisits familiar subjects like historical figures.

"As we grow our attitudes change about the same subject matter, therefore I can make a different statement about a familiar subject," he says.

Working in acrylic on canvas, these paintings vary in size from 20 by 24 inches to 48 by 60 inches. Of these creations, he's especially fond of his large piece *Mythic Archer* because it's more ethereal and less literal in its representation, which marks a departure for Nieto. While he has painted archers before, this version shows more brushstrokes and texture.

"It's more painterly, more expressionistic and it was more fulfilling to me as an artist to do this," he notes. "It opened avenues of creativity for me that I'm excited about pursuing."

Like a marriage, Nieto selected his

subject matter years ago and now spends each day nurturing it.

"I haven't said what I've wanted to say completely yet," he says.

Inspired by life, Nieto's creative process involves selecting subjects that are personal



Mythic Archer, acrylic on canvas, 48 x 60"

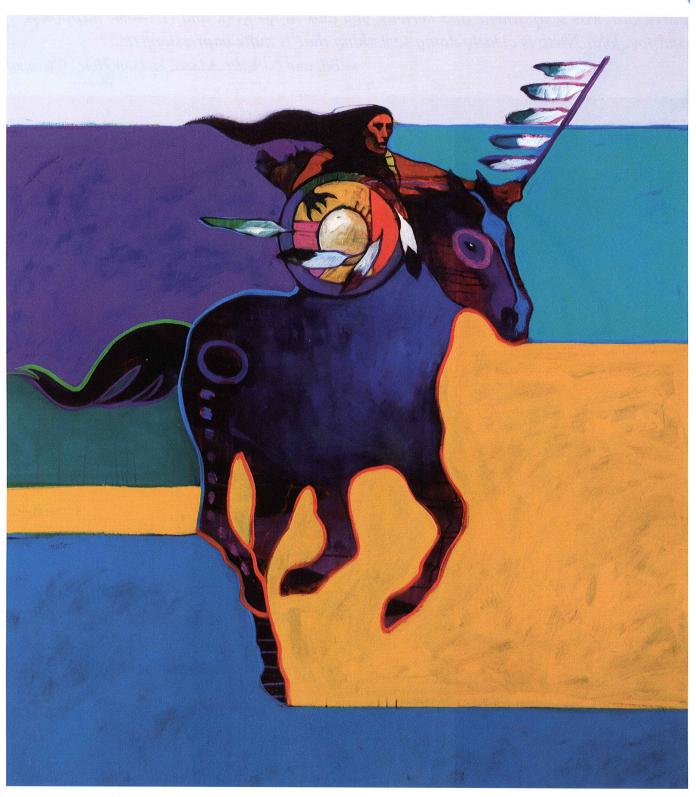
#### The Collector Says ...

"Nieto's paintings are America's crown jewels of contemporary Native American art.

John's work is moving and powerful yet quiet and reflective. He is the master of color.

The influence of his style and technique on the art world is significant and unequaled."

—Bruce Woodmansee, president. The Woodmansee Group

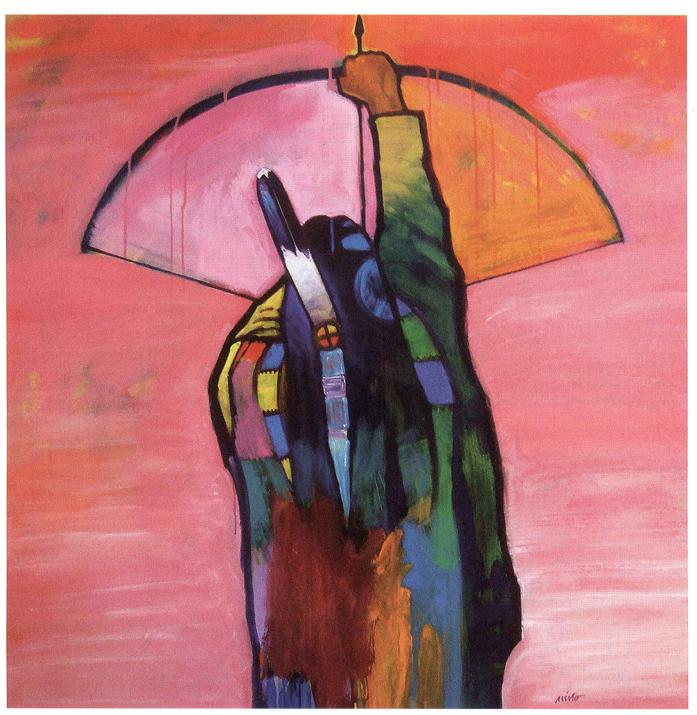


Horse and Rider, acrylic on canvas,  $76 \times 66$ "

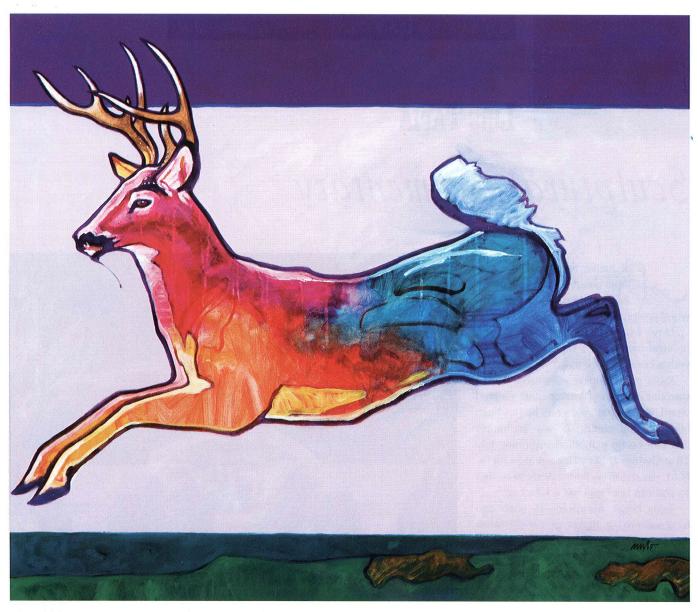
### The Collectors Say ...

"Our favorite painting is of a white tail buck. He really has succeeded in capturing the essence of the animal but he does it in a very colorful and distinctive way. The face, in particular, was sympathetic and curious. You look at his work and feel some happiness and joy. John Nieto is clearly doing something that is quite impressionistic."

— Bill and Barbara Adams, Jackson Hole, Wyoming



Enduring Archer, acrylic on canvas, 48 x 48"



White Tailed Buck, acrylic on canvas, 40 x 44"

and meaningful to him. He then edits his ideas and paints about them rather than simply recreating photographic-like renditions. This emotional involvement with his subject matter results in powerful evocative paintings that reveal a seamless blend of instinct and keen intelligence.

"I have a point of view and I'm able to execute it in an interesting way. I'm sharing something I'm interested in and hopefully others are interested in too," Nieto says. "I have my own idiom or language when I paint so when people look at it they say that's a Nieto painting."

Noted for creating contemporary compositions, Nieto uses a strong sense of color with positive and deliberate brushstrokes.

"There's not a lot that's tentative in

my paintings. I attack the canvas almost physically. I make a lot of noise when I'm painting. It's an encounter," he explains. In 1970 Nieto traveled to Paris, France, where he gained his artistic vision. At the Louvre he gazed at the works of his art heroes in classical and contemporary genres. It was then that he knew he didn't want to be saddled with disciplined classical approaches.

"That experience gave me a personal perspective on what I wanted to paint and how I wanted to paint," he recalls.

His aesthetically-pleasing palette and contemporary interpretation of traditional and familiar subjects strike a chord with collectors.

"They seem to find a lot of energy in the paintings," Nieto says. "People

will have their own reasons for making a connection with my work. I follow my own artistic standards and try to be true to myself as an artist and have my personal integrity intact."



#### Price Range Indicator

thows what you can expect to pay for his artist's work.

2008	Small	Medium	Large
	\$20,000	\$30,000	\$60,000