

The Remington Examination Process

In 1996, the Buffalo Bill Historical Center (now the Buffalo Bill Center of the West) proudly presented *Frederic Remington: A Catalogue Raisonné of Paintings, Watercolors and Drawings*, the most comprehensive, most extensively researched and illustrated publication of Remington's two-dimensional works. Representing more than a decade of research and scholarship by Peter H. Hassrick, this two-volume book lists all known works of these types by Remington, illustrating three thousand of his works. In addition to the information found in the two-volume publication, the online catalogue includes additional information specifically developed for serious researchers and collectors of Remington's work.

In recognition of its valuable scholarship, this monumental publication has received three prestigious awards: The Western Heritage Award from the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, the Joan Patterson Kerr Award from the Western History Association, and the 2017 High Plains Book Award in the Art and Photography category.

In an effort to advance educational research and offer needed scholarship and connoisseurship services, the Buffalo Bill Center of the West continues to review paintings, watercolors, and drawings that might be candidates for inclusion in the Frederic Remington catalogue raisonné.

Works are reviewed by a four-member committee of Remington scholars, each with extensive experience in the museum field, especially relating to Remington as an artist:

- Peter H. Hassrick, Director Emeritus & Senior Scholar, Buffalo Bill Center of the West,
- Sarah E. Boehme, Director, Stark Museum of Art,
- Laura A. Foster, Curator, Frederic Remington Art Museum.

The committee meets once a year at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West to consider works of art that have been submitted by owners. The committee reviews the actual works of art and studies the works from an art historical perspective. Each work is considered in relation to Remington's known body of works and his methods of drawing and painting.

To consider whether an attribution to Remington is appropriate, the scholars use connoisseurship, the thorough understanding of the visual characteristics of Remington's work including technique, form, and style. The committee also applies the knowledge gathered for the catalogue raisonné and, where relevant, information from the artist's written materials such as journals and letters for historical context. If the committee determines that testing of materials would enhance the review, they will recommend scientific testing.

After deliberation, the committee prepares a brief written report stating the opinion they have reached and the factors that led to that conclusion. All committee members must

agree on an attribution to the artist. In the event that there is not unanimous agreement, the report will state that no opinion will be offered.

To participate in the Examination Process:

The owner of the artwork must request the examination, and the owner must sign the "Request for Examination" form. The Request for Examination form contains the full terms and conditions of the Examination Process.

Factors in the Examination process include:

- The owner must pay the examination fee.
- The item is photographed by the Center of the West. This photograph becomes the property of the Center's permanent files.
- The owner is required to supply provenance and other information concerning the work of art.
- The work of art must be shipped or hand-delivered to the Center at a time designated by the Center, and all costs of transportation and insurance of the item to and from the examination shall be at the expense of the owner.
- The opinion will represent the professional view of the examiners only and will be neither a guaranty nor a warranty. Opinions are mailed to the owner and may require eight to twelve weeks for processing, after the examination. Results are not given on site, by phone, or by any other electronic means. As a non-profit educational institution, the Buffalo Bill Center of the West does not provide appraisals or value estimates. Therefore, no estimate or opinion concerning the monetary value of any work of art will be given. This process is provided for research and educational purposes only.
- The Buffalo Bill Center of the West reserves the right to publish or otherwise disseminate the opinion, conclusions or the final report.
- If scientific testing is recommended, the costs of tests are at the expense of owner.

More Information:

- If you are interested in having your work(s) considered, please contact the [Curatorial Assistant](#) to request information.
- To learn more about Frederic Remington and his work, we have provided the following [selected, annotated bibliography](#).
- [Frequently Asked Questions for the Remington Examination process](#).

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