

Robert Whitecrow Orduño Cover Artwork: *Kneading Mother Earth*

As a contemporary artist, Robert Whitecrow Orduño draws from his rich Gabrieleño/Tongva and Spanish heritage to create art that is both impressionistic and expressionistic with abstract qualities.

Orduño grew up on a small farm near San Fernando, California. After attending the Los Angeles School of Design, he spent 20 years as a graphic design artist before leaving the field to devote himself to his paintings. While living in Great Falls, Montana, he quickly achieved recognition among art circles in the Northwest and received numerous awards. He moved his studio to Santa Fe in the late 1980s, where the spiritual side of his Native American nature emerged to catapult him on a journey to new places of the heart, soul and mind.

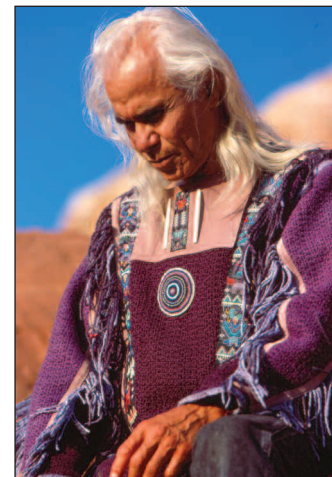
As a contemporary artist, Orduño's canvases come alive with color and energy from his total being. "I behold the expression of my art as a strong spiritual entity, echoing the philosophy that all of nature, including man, is unified with one essential heartbeat. Everything in nature is spiritual and interconnected, including the most basic, the most utilitarian things. They become the central theme in my thinking, bringing me to the point where art is a means of communicating and understanding the universal spirituality which weaves its way into the

essence of all cultures."

In the true spirit of creativity, Orduño's paintings continue to represent a progressive process of self-discovery. No image exists in an Orduño painting that has not first taken the artist to deep internal questioning. "When the ancient one chants to me," Orduño reflects, "I listen. My body becomes a vehicle for the dance and I abandon myself to the process, the journey of painting. I cross the abyss and when the old ones cease to speak, the dance comes full circle."

Orduño is listed in *Who's Who in American Art*. His work is now emerging as an important contender in the international contemporary art market and is rapidly gaining prominence for major private, museum and specialized collections. Orduño had a featured role in two episodes of Steven Spielberg's critically acclaimed mini-series, *Into the West*. ♣

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Robert Whitecrow Orduño

LAURA STENSGAR – MARCH EXTRAORDINARY EMPLOYEE



Laura Stensgar

Indian Gaming magazine has named Laura Stensgar Extraordinary Employee for the month of March 2010. Laura is Marketing Director for Coeur d'Alene Casino Resort Hotel in Worley, ID, promoting not only the casino, but also Circling Raven Golf Club.

"Laura directs dynamic, proactive, cutting-edge brand and marketing initiatives which have enabled Coeur d'Alene Casino and Circling Raven to

garner local, regional and national best-in-kind awards, as well as maximize revenue opportunities," said David Lasarte-Meeks, CEO of Coeur d'Alene Casino Resort Hotel.

A member of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, Laura has been with the property since its inception back in 1993. Prior to working at the casino, Laura was Planning Director for the tribe and played an instrumental role in the tribe's decision to enter tribal gaming. "We were able to look at other tribes that had successful gaming and considered the pros and cons of gaming," she said. "It's been very rewarding, fulfilling, to see everything come to fruition and to see the revenues go

toward tribal social programs."

Laura enjoys her position at the property, especially working with her closely knit, high-energy team. "It's like a family here," she said. "We all enjoy what we do and we all want to succeed." With the goal of drawing players to the facility, her team is constantly inventing promotions and planning events that will attract potential guests. "It's very rewarding to see this process from start to end. I've been doing this for 17 years and it's not boring at all; there's always something to do."

The most rewarding aspect of her job, though, is witnessing the positive impact that the casino has had not only on her tribe, but also on the surrounding region. In addition to employment, the tribe has generously supported charitable organizations in surrounding communities, which fills Laura with pride. "We got into gaming to generate jobs," she said. "Another goal was to generate revenue for tribal social programs. I'm very proud that we have fulfilled those goals."

A very dedicated member and employee, Laura takes her cues from the tribal council as well as her father, former tribal leader Ernie Stensgar. "Our council has always worked as a team and has always thought about what is best for the membership, as well as for future generations," she said. "I think we've gone over and beyond all of our expectations." ♣