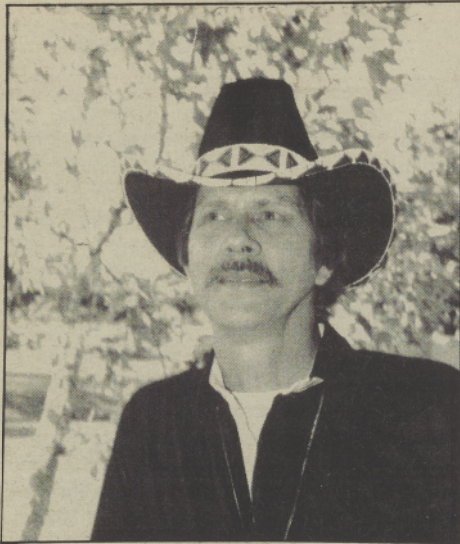




AMERICAN INDIAN LIFE-WAYS ARTIST

By: S.A. Lees

A Native American Indian who has lived all over the West, R.L. (Bob) Taylor says his "art is detail oriented" and that he "Hopes his pieces reflect his deep feelings." He works in pastels, an art medium he began using twenty years ago.

Taylor has shifted the emphasis of his art from detailed oil rig scenes and portraiture that he did as commissions years ago, and now works on portrayals of his native Indian heritage, scenes he calls "Life-Ways."

"My real love is the historic Indian life ways", said Bob, a member of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz, Oregon. "I get a lot of satisfaction out of taking a moment out of time in the life of the American Indian in the 1800's and portraying it in art."

"So much of the American Indian culture needs to be told. I'm now more aware that it should be shown and presented as it was. I want to present Indians with the pride and dignity their daily life style warranted, to show that we were not just warrior oriented."

"I have been amazed and extremely pleased by the acceptance of my "Life-Ways" pieces by the Indians. They have come to me with ideas, stories of their families that were handed down to them, family items, photographs and so on. They are very interested in my pieces, and the portrayal of their history; a way of life that really is no more, a way of life that we've all lost."

A lot of research is done for each piece. Taylor states "I don't just rely on my heritage, I do my best to research clothing, tools, tribal customs at the time, even the area the event took place in. Each piece brings me closer to my heritage. It isn't just our heritage---it is actually part of the history of America, and definitely a large part of the history of the

West."

"I use every type of pastel (hard, soft, mixed mediums) and I mix my own pastels. I can achieve so many subtleties in shading and blending by using various pastels, and I get my skin tones to come out better", said Taylor.

An example of what Taylor so sincerely believes in is his 22 by 28 inch pastel "Making Buffalo Medicine", which has mystic qualities, both in the subtle shading of the buffalos in the background coming out of the mist, as well as the Indian in the foreground, standing in a rock strewn landscape making his buffalo medicine.

The work is now available in Limited Edition, signed and numbered prints.

Taylor, although incredibly detailed in his art, said "I enjoy using the freedom of pastels." Some say his medium is too disciplined and restrictive. An international artist commented that Taylor "has total control of pastels."

A man with intense introspection and a very quiet manner, Taylor, who spent much of his early years in the Indian Community on the northern coast of Northern Oregon, is working on a series of Indian "Life-Ways" pieces, presenting Indians "as they lived and what comprised their daily lives, what they really were in the 1800's.

LELOOSKA LIVING HISTORY

The world-famous LELOOSKA LIVING HISTORY PRESENTATIONS began their fall season on October 21, 1989. The Saturday evening programs feature traditional Northwest Coast Indian masks and costumes, and take place in a fire-lit replica of a Kwakiutl long house.

A Lelooska Family museum and gallery are open prior to the program. They open at 6:30 P.M. and the programs begin at 8 P.M. Tickets are \$4 for general admission and \$3.50 for children under 12.

The Lelooska foundation is located at 5618 Lewis River Road in Ariel, Washington which is in the Cascade foothills just east of Woodland, Washington. For further information, call (206) 225-8522.

SILETZ NEWS DEADLINE FEBRUARY 15, 1990

mail articles and B/W photos to:
Siletz News, P.O. Box 549,
Siletz, Oregon 97380

ABOUT THE CENSUS...

WE NEED YOUR HELP..TO MAKE
THIS NATIONAL COMMUNITY EVENT A
COMPLETE SUCCESS!

WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THE 1990
DECENNIAL CENSUS OF POPULATION AND
HOUSING WHICH TAKES PLACE ON SUNDAY,
APRIL 1.

It is important that everyone in your community be counted because so much depends on an accurate count. The importance of the uses of census data cannot be understated. Census data collected in the Decennial Census are used to apportion the seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and to determine boundaries for state and local electoral districts. Census data, also, has major implications for local community programs. Some of these programs are health, education, employment, senior citizen care, day care centers, low income housing, highway and street construction, and transportation. The responses collected in the Decennial Census are the basis for funding allocated for these services.

Not only are census data important on a local level for the funding of these services but local community organizations may find census data useful for the relocation or expansion of its programs. For example, population demographics as collected by the census provide block and tract data which documents the number of persons living in a geographic area serviced by a particular organization. These demographics on age, race, income, size of families, employment, and education can be useful tools in the decision making for size and type of programs needed for that organization.

The National American Indian Council (NAIC) realizes the importance of census data and has been working to inform urban and off-reservation American Indians and Alaska Natives of the importance of answering the census. To formally announce its support, NAIC passed a resolution of endorsement for the goal of an accurate count of all people in the 1990 census and to urge its membership to work with the Census Bureau to raise their community's awareness of the census.

NAIC's commitment includes assistance in recruitment and referral of qualified candidates for temporary jobs with the Census Bureau. April 1, 1990 is not the end of the census but is just the start of the massive effort to insure that all people have been counted. Census enumerators will be needed to do follow-up in those locations where census questionnaires have not been returned.

Remember: The census is only as accurate as those who answer it. Answer the census and be counted!!