CELEBRATION OF THE HAND: THE SOUL OF THE WEST

BY PHOTOGRAPHER SETH STERN

Craft Lake City's "Celebration of the Hand: The Soul of the West" is a collection of black & white photographs depicting the dynamic culture of cowboys in Utah.

About the Artist:
Seth Stern, Craft Lake City Photographer was often a fascinating processor.

A high school dropout from Los Angeles, I was an unemployed homeless, chewed up and spit out by the industry, until I began living in my car and traveling the back roads of America photographing the people I found by the rubber (country) I was naked on like Marty Robbins and Johnny Cash. I felt a calling to photograph a world entirely different from my own: the American West.

Family and friends rarely held back their jokes or concerns, but I was driven to the point of no return. Instead of working myself to the bone because chasing art was the only thing that could quiet my mind, I had an unwavering desire to photograph people who were living the dream of being a Western photographer. Somewhere along the way, the work changed me. My stone heart softened, my life found new meaning. So I had a dream to build me (Sun) a new name. Not long after I photographed my first, folks began calling me the Cowboy Photographer.

The click of that shutter became my redemption song. Each frame, a prayer. Through the art, I healed. In the light I captured, I found light. Me (sun) me isn't just a tool — it's a testament to how a broken spirit, once reborn, can turn a broken life into a story worth telling. — Seth Stern

About Craft Lake City: Founded in 2009 by Angela H. Brown, Executive Editor of SLUG Magazine, the mission of Craft Lake City/ Craft Lake City® is a SOCIALIZE charitable organization with the mission to advocate, promote, and preserve the craftsmanship, elevating the creative culture of the Utah arts community through science, technology and the arts. Craft Lake City® is the original and the term "Craft," its modernizing it the definition for handmade creative.
@craftlakecity craftlakecity.com

About Celebration of the Hand: Craft Lake City's "Celebration of the Hand: The Soul of the West" in Kanopi metal frames pageant to the sidewalks in downtown Salt Lake City - Commercial Street between 200 South and Broadway, 300 South, between 200 West and Commercial Street. Free self-guided tour. Exhibitions are open to the public 24 hours a day 7 days a week, and are free of charge.

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