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 processes.

A high school dropout from Los Angeles, I was an unemployed filmmaker, chewed up and spit out by the industry, until I began living in my car and traveling the West. Ever curious, I wanted to understand why people flocked to the outlaw country I was raised 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 drawn to the West like a magnet. Instead of working myself to the bone because creating art was the only thing that could quiet my mind, I had an unwavering belief that I could make a living and a life for myself and my family as a Western photographer. Somewhere along the way, the work changed me. My stone heart softened, my life became meaningful. I had to relearn how to trust and be vulnerable. Years later, I realized that around 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 discovered, I found God. My camera isn't just a tool — it's a testimony. Every image I capture is a reminder that a barn a broken life and a story warm being." — Seth Stern

About Craft Lake City: Founded in 2020 by Angela M. Brown, Executive Editor of SLUG Mag, Craft Lake City is a 501(c)(3) Craft Lake City is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with the mission to educate, inspire and empower the creative community. We accelerate cultural innovation and creative empowerment through science, technology and art. Our vision is to make Salt Lake City the new Silicon Valley of the creative economy.

Contact: Seth Stern | 310-779-1000
Email: sethstern@g.com

About Celebration of the Hand: Craft Lake City's "Celebration of the Hand: The Soul of the West" is a European metal frames exposed to the elements in downtown Salt Lake City. Photographer Seth Stern's black and white photographs, 30x 30 inch, between 200 lbs and 300 lbs, are mounted on the metal frames and are visible to the public 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

SLUG MAG