

VISUAL ARTS

# Brews in the view

Harwood Museum's new fundraiser puts art on the mesa

By Johanna DeBiase

**T**aos is a community of big ambitions and small pleasures. What better way to spend a Saturday afternoon in Taos than sipping a brew in front of a great view and acquiring affordable art for a good cause? Well, thanks to the Harwood Museum of Art's newest fundraising event, Art on Tap, you can do just that this Saturday (Aug. 2) from noon until 4 p.m. at Taos Mesa Brewing.

Actually, calling the art affordable, though true, is deprecating the great deals you can find.



All original top-notch artwork will be sold below their actual valued cost.

According to the press release, 30 of Taos' best artists will offer work for sale at "art steal" prices — from \$30 to \$300.

Artists include Ginny Abblett, Marcus Best, Esteban Bojorquez, Kathleen Brennan, Maury Calvert,

Angie Coleman, Isabel Ferreira-DePuy, John DePuy, Genevieve de Vellis, Nicole Kowalski, Jeremy Landau, Dennis Larkins, Jennifer Lynch, Jennifer Lindsley, Christa Marquez, El Moises, Coyote Moon, Greg Moon, Kak Norton, Robert Parker, Betsy Peirce, Joy Purcell, Leah Slator, William Stewart, Mary Stratton, J. Matthew Thomas, Rob Wheeler, Suzanne Wiggin and David Yarborough.

Half of the sale proceeds will be retained by the artists, and the other half will be used to support Harwood Museum of Art exhibitions.

"We had a positive response from artists," said Harwood Director of Development Juniper Manley. "We feel artists get asked so much to donate. One of our main goals is to try to be sensitive with our fundraisers and not to ask too



Courtesy image

'New Normal' by Dennis Larkins, one of the items featured in the Harwood's 'Art On Tap.'



Courtesy image

A print by Christa Marquez is also featured.

much from our artists because everyone is trying to make a living. We found even artists that are well-known are very will-

ing to participate."

Each artist will have a small space in which to display their art for sale in any

manner they choose. Artists will decide what they are selling and for how much within the allotted span of \$30 to \$300. Many of the artists will be present to represent their own work. There is no bid process. Art will be sold on a first come, first serve basis. And if that isn't incentive enough to get there early, the Harwood is offering the first 50 people in the door a copy of the event poster, which features the original art of Taos artist El Moises.

"Jina Brenneman, the curator, came up with the idea," Manley said. "She had done this before at other institutes she worked at in Pueblo (Colo.). She started talking to Taos Mesa Brewing last year. Peter (Kolshorn) and Dan (Irion) have been fabulous and generous with their willingness to work with the community. They're donating the space and creating the Harwood Ale."

"Since we try to keep our beer local, we are using local fresh hops from Amalia" said Jayson Wylie, premier brewer at Taos Mesa Brewing, about the Harwood Ale. "Since we're featuring local artists, we wanted to add a local flair."

Taos Mesa Brewing will donate \$1 from each Harwood Ale sold during Art on Tap to the Harwood's Exhibition Fund. "It will be a light, crisp beer with a good base and have a distinct flavor from the hops," Wylie said. Food and other beverages will also be for sale during the event.

Harwood fundraiser, Art on Tap and Art of Wine provide critical support for exhibitions and specifically this fall's exhibition "¡Órale!" which, according to its website, will present four exhibitions exploring the art movement now referred to as Post-Pop or Lowbrow that grew out of West Coast surfer, car and street culture, as well as, showcase the contemporary expressions of Hispano, Lowrider and street culture in Northern New Mexico.

Art on Tap is free and open to the public. Taos Mesa Brewing is located at 20 ABC Mesa Road, off U.S. 64 west. Call Taos Mesa Brewing at 758-1900, or go to [taosmesabrewing.com](http://taosmesabrewing.com).