

For Immediate Release

November 18, 2009

Painter Jerry West's film ***A Prairie Night***

What: *A Prairie Night* Film Screening

Where: Tipton Hall

When: December 21, 2009 @ 6pm

How Much: \$5 General Public | \$2.50 students/seniors/SFAI members

The Santa Fe Art Institute is pleased to bring you a beautiful film by painter Jerry West, ***A Prairie Night*** as part of our 2009 Visiting Artist & Lecture season, **Memory: Shadow and Light | Art as individual/collective memory**. Join Jerry and us for a screening of *A Prairie Night* on Monday, December 21st.

The DVD, ***A Prairie Night***, by Jerry R. West combines a compelling sound track by West with visuals from his paintings, sculpture and sound installation of the same name. The sounds for this piece come from early tapes recorded by West in the 50's and 60's. The video was shot by Steina and Woody Vasulka during and after the artist's installation at Heydt-Bair gallery in Santa Fe in 1982. The subsequent video was shown in installation form with the paintings and sculpture at Sebastian Moore Gallery in Denver in 1983.

Short but intense, this moving image piece demonstrates West's use of dream and memory to inform visual work. *A Prairie Night* shows the underbelly of growing up in the socially complex but beautiful prairie world of post WWII Santa Fe. Conjoined with myriad cultural and family stories, these experiences become fodder for metaphors in paint linking his own experience to that of the enlarged planet and widened human condition.

Born in the height of the great Depression Jerry grew up in the environs of Santa Fe. His oeuvre draws on memories from childhood, of a world containing unspeakable beauty and mystery, as well as the vast changes he has witnessed in the high desert environs of Santa Fe.

For more information, images, or interview requests, please contact Michelle Laflamme-Childs at mchilds@sfai.org or call (505) 424-5050.

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The Santa Fe Art Institute, an independent educational non-profit organization founded in 1985, is committed to programs that nurture artists and enhance and promote the arts as an essential element of American culture and society.

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