

Manuel Abad: "California Cowboy"
November 9 – December 30, 2017

The Heritage Art Gallery at the Tulare Historical Museum is pleased to bring you Manuel Abad: "California Cowboy." The strikingly distinctive paintings of Manuel Abad are no stranger to local area artists and art enthusiasts alike!

Manuel Abad was born in Ciudad Mier, Tamaulipas Mexico, and came to the United States with his parents at the age of five. After working up and down the entire San Joaquin Valley for years, the family decided to settle in Tulare, where Manuel attended Tulare Western High School.

After his service in the U.S. Army at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Manuel moved to Houston, Texas where he worked in the iron worker industry. He was soon in charge of setting glass in the big high rises of downtown Houston.

While in Houston, Manuel became interested in oil paintings after being inspired by artist William Alexander's painting demonstrations on his "The Magic of Oil Painting" programs on PBS. Prior to his, Manuel had always sketched. Shortly thereafter, he signed up for an art course of six lessons, which set him on his way. Independently, Manuel began to paint, watching videos and always reading and studying about art.

In 1987 Manuel and his wife returned to California's San Joaquin Valley and Tulare to live, working at Porterville Glass until his retirement in 2013.

Manuel's work has been exhibited at the Exeter Courthouse Gallery, Lindsay Art Gallery, River Island Country Club, and the Porterville Art Association. Manuel regularly shows at the Tulare County Fair each year, and his work also hangs at Buford's Gallery in Porterville and in Exeter Floral.

A reception for the artist will be Thursday, November 9, 2017, from 5:00–7:00pm. The reception is open to the public and is free of charge.

Hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Thursday – Saturday.
Admission to the Heritage Art Gallery exhibitions is free.