

Robert Lougheed

Robert Lougheed (1910-1982)

Organizations: CAA

Painter of animals in the outdoors, born in Gray County, Ontario in 1910 and living in Santa Fe, New Mexico since 1970. “I always use nature as my Model,” Lougheed says. “If I should paint a horse from memory, it would be a Bob Lougheed horse and not a real horse. All the horses, in fact, all the animals in my paintings, are real. To the young, unspoiled artist, I would say...learn to draw and paint from life. Don’t get trapped by photography.”

As a child on a Canadian farm, Lougheed sketched animals from nature and at nineteen was employed to do illustrations for a catalog. He went to the Ontario College of Arts and the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Montreal and worked as a commercial artist on the Toronto Star for six years. To perfect his skills, he studied with Frank Vincent DeMond and Dean Cornwell at the Arts Students League in New York City, supporting himself by continuing in commercial art. One product was Mobil’s “Flying Red Horse.” To get closer to his peers, he moved to a barn in Westport, Connecticut, a town where 60 artists lived.

When they were starting out, fellow painter John Clymer told Lougheed to “forget doing those horses. Do pretty girls. That’s what’s selling.” Lougheed declares that he “never did learn to paint girls. I kept on doing horses and cornered the market for ads that called for animals. Now, John is doing horses.” Lougheed usually begins an animal picture by painting the landscape on the spot and the animals from life. On locations or at a zoo or game farm. He was a member of the Cowboy Artists of America, and won its “most popular” artist award.

#16 Lufkin City Hall – “On the Edge of Golden” oil on board. Signed, dated. Cowboy with string of golden colored horses.