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Important Borein Watercolor at Auction

Edward Borein's "California Vaquero," from the collection of the late Katherine H. Haley, will be sold at Brian Lebel's Old West Auction this June in Denver.

Denver, CO – Katherine “Kay” Haley so loved the work of Ed Borein she filled two galleries in her home with his work. A passionate collector and patron of fine western art, she amassed a legendary collection, much of which sold at auction in 2000 after her death. The “California Vaquero,” which Mrs. Haley called her “favorite” Borein, was not offered in the sale. Considered by many to be among Borein’s finest watercolors, it will now be sold at Brian Lebel’s 22nd annual Old West Auction, June 25, 2011. It is estimated at \$60,000 - \$90,000.

“It’s definitely one of his best,” says auction founder, Brian Lebel. “It’s easy to see why it was one of Kay Haley’s personal favorites.” Katherine Haley began collecting Borein in 1959 with the help of Harold Davidson, who would later call her collection, “unmatched in private hands.” The “California Vaquero” has an extensive exhibition history that includes dozens of museums in America and abroad, and once graced the cover of the program of the famed San Francisco Cow Palace. Roger Haley, Mrs. Haley’s son, says of the painting, “It is time that the California Vaquero have the chance to be in the public again, carrying on the legacy that my mother started over a half century ago.”

The auction takes place at the Denver Merchandise Mart during the accompanying Old West Show, which features expo-style shopping for antique and contemporary Western art and merchandise. Formerly the Cody Old West Show & Auction, Lebel moved the event to Denver in 2009 on its 20th anniversary. Visit www.denveroldwest.com for more information or to download images and press releases.

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