



Welcome to our first newsletter. Below are recent highlights regarding programming and events of the Ralph T. Coe Foundation for the Arts, Inc.

## **Board and Committee Announcements**

The Ralph T. Coe Foundation for the Arts is pleased to announce the appointment of Gerald G. Stiebel as our most recent Board member. Stiebel, a close friend of Ralph T. Coe, is a fine arts dealer in New York, currently living Santa Fe specializing in 17th and 18th century European art. He has lectured and published widely, as well has directed various art dealer associations including the International Confederation of Art Dealers (C.I.N.O.A. – La Confederation Internationale des Negociants en Oevre d’Art). Stiebel’s experience and guidance will be a tremendous asset to the Foundation as it moves forward.

We are also pleased to welcome Paul and Vanessa Elmore to our advisory committee. Paul is currently a sales associate at Shiprock Santa Fe; he was previously gallery director at Steve Elmore Indian Art for over ten years. Vanessa is currently a sales associate at Blue Rain Gallery; she was previously assistant director at Morning Star Gallery for twelve years. Both knew Ted well and we look forward to benefiting from their experience and expertise in the arts and business world.

## **Events**

On April 19, 2013, Penelope Hunter-Stiebel and Gerald G. Stiebel graciously hosted an informational gathering at their home to celebrate the Foundation. Approximately forty people attended. Opening remarks were given by Gerald G. Stiebel and Bruce Bernstein, followed by Ralph T. Coe’s (Ted) niece Rachel de W. Wixom. Wixom spoke about Ted’s vision including both current and future programming. Sandy Dale, wife of Tad Dale, talked about their long and rich friendship with Ted. It was a joyous evening celebrating a man who touched many people during his lifetime, and who established the Foundation as a means to expand our knowledge and understanding about tribal cultures.

## **Ralph T. Coe Foundation Fellowship**

We are pleased to announce Lisa Hsu Barrera as the first Ralph T. Coe Foundation Fellow. Lisa received her BA in Anthropology, with an emphasis on Archaeology from the University of California at Berkeley. She is currently finishing her MA in Anthropology, with an emphasis on Museum Studies at the California State University at Chico. As a graduate student assistant with the California State Parks Capital District Museum and Historic Parks, she had the opportunity to work with the over 5,000 baskets housed at the State Indian Museum Collection. She also interned at the American Museum of Natural History, New York in collections management and at the Sicán National Museum through the US Embassy in Peru in archaeological conservation; she was a student registrar at the Valene L. Smith Museum of Anthropology, California State University, Chico. Most recently she was in residence at the School of Advanced Research in Santa Fe, NM where she worked both on collections registration projects and academic/education programming projects.

Lisa's main responsibility at the Foundation will be as curatorial assistant to our upcoming exhibition, *The Ralph T. Coe Legacy: Instruments of Passion*. Please join us in welcoming her as our first Ralph T. Coe Foundation Fellow from July 8 – August 30, 2013.

## Upcoming Exhibitions



### ***Plain and Fancy: Native American Splint Baskets***

The Foundation is lending twenty-seven works to the Fenimore Art Museum, Cooperstown, New York for this exhibition featuring ash splint basketry from the Northeast. The exhibition opens August 10 and goes through December 29, 2013.



### ***The Ralph T. Coe Legacy, "Instruments of Passion"***

*"All my life I've relied on this measured process of aesthetic absorption, whether the work is a Renaissance plaque or a Native American wearing blanket. It involves returning over and over again to the individual work of art. I revisit and bear constantly in mind the objects of my own collection, however large or small, to gain new insights. They are not trophies but instruments of passion, with the*

We would like to thank Eugene V. Thaw, without whom the Ralph T. Coe Foundation for the Arts would never have come into existence, nor would this wonderful exhibition. In addition we are grateful to curator Eva Fognell's expertise and work on the show. We would also like to thank Dr. Paul D'Ambrosio, President of the Fenimore Art Museum and the museum staff who are working very hard to make the exhibition happen.

*Splint Basket with Handle*, ca. 1830. Southern New England. Ash splint, pigments. Ralph T. Coe Foundation for the Arts, Inc. Photo: Fenimore Art Museum.

*power to unexpectedly reveal mysteries."*

—Ralph Coe, *The Responsive Eye: Ralph T. Coe and the Collecting of American Indian Art* (New York: Metropolitan Museum of Art, 2003), p 11.

This exhibition is comprised of approximately thirty-six objects from the Ralph T. Coe Foundation collection of Native American, African, and Oceanic objects. This selection is representative of Ted's collecting interests over his lifetime and is curated by Bruce Bernstein with Tad Dale and assisted by Lisa Hsu Barrera, Ralph T. Coe Foundation Fellow 2013. The exhibition opens at the El Museo Cultural de Santa Fe space on August 9 in conjunction with The Santa Fe Show. The exhibition closes on August 30, 2013.

We are grateful to both The Santa Fe Show and El Museo Cultural de Santa Fe for not only sponsoring the exhibition, but also providing essential support and expertise.

Joyce Growing Thunder Fogarty, *Horse Mask*, 2000. Northern Plains. Ash splint, pigments, beads, muslin backing, turkey feathers, metal discs, plastic rings, felt, red stroud, embroidery thread. 16.5 x 17.5 in. (feathers .4 in.). Ralph T. Coe Foundation for the Arts, Inc. Photo: Carrie Haley.

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