

DAVID J. WAGNER, PH.D.

Author, Curator, Lecturer, Museum Exhibition Tour Director
american-wildlife-art.com

Dr. Wagner is founder, President and Curator of a limited liability corporation located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, established for the principle purpose of organizing and marketing wildlife art exhibitions and educational programs to museums nationwide. Dr. Wagner was recognized as the world's leading wildlife art scholar in 2000 by Robert Bateman at the *WILDLIFE ART BROUGHT TO LIFE, A World Wildlife Art Symposium* held in conjunction the 40th Annual Exhibition of the Society of Animal Artists at the Björklunden Campus of Lawrence University in Door County, WI. Dr. Wagner wrote his Ph.D. dissertation on American wildlife art at the University of Minnesota while he was Scholar-in-Residence at the Sitka Center for Art and Ecology, and subsequently expanded it into a 1,000-page manuscript entitled *The Story of American Wildlife Art* for Cornell University Press. The Robert S. and Grayce B. Kerr Foundation funded a post-doctoral fellowship for its research and writing. Publication of the book was subsequently assigned to Marquand Books in Seattle, which released the book under the revised title of *AMERICAN WILDLIFE ART* early in 2008.

Dr. Wagner previously co-authored *Natural Habitat, Contemporary Wildlife Artists of North America*, for Spanierman Gallery in New York City. At the request of Roger Tory Peterson, Dr. Wagner organized a world-wide conference entitled *Value in American Wildlife Art* in up-state New York at the Chautauqua Institute to commemorate the opening of the Roger Tory Peterson Institute in Jamestown in 1992; he subsequently organized two similar landmark conferences, the first at Lawrence University in 2000, the second in Phoenix in 2001, consisting of a week-long symposium jointly sponsored by the West Valley Art Museum in conjunction with the Art Department of Arizona State University-West and the Phoenix Zoo.

David Wagner has served as a Juror for the U.S. Department of Interior Migratory Waterfowl Stamp competition in Washington, D.C.; Awards Judge for several Ward World Championship Wildfowl Carving Competitions in Ocean City, MD; American Association of Museums Consultant for the National Museum of Wildlife Art in Jackson Hole, WY; and Director of the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum for its first decade, where he named *Birds in Art* and internationalized it and the museum by arranging and directing tours of the exhibition to world-class institutions including The Smithsonian Institution's National Collection of Fine Arts, the British Museum of Natural History in London, and The Beijing Museum of Natural History in the People's Republic of China. As Director, Dr. Wagner also directed tours of the National Wildlife Federation Annual Photo Contest. After Wagner left the Woodson in 1987, he proposed and directed the nationwide tour of the National Park Academy for the Arts exhibit, *Arts for the Parks*, for the next five years.

In 1988, Guy Coheleach, then Vice President of The Society of Animal Artists, Inc., a world-wide artists membership organization headquartered on Fifth Avenue in New York City, recruited David Wagner to serve as its Tour Director. The SAA has been a principle client of David J. Wagner, L.L.C., ever since. David J. Wagner, L.L.C has organized nearly 100 back-to-back, non-stop displays of the Society of Animal Artists flagship exhibition, *ART AND THE ANIMAL*, at venues nationwide including arts and science centers, zoos and museums. Other exhibitions organized and managed by David J. Wagner, L.L.C. have included: *AMERICAN BIRDS: A Flight Through Time* (featuring paintings, prints, sculptures, and Carvings of American Birds before, during and after John James Audubon, Denver premiere at The Wildlife Experience); American Academy of Equine Art exhibitions including *THE HORSE IN FINE ART, THE EQUINE*

SPIRIT, and *WILD HORSES*; *AMERICAN STUDIO GLASS: A SURVEY OF THE MOVEMENT* and *WISCONSIN'S GLASS MASTERS*; *THE ART OF ROBERT BATEMAN* (Toronto Premiere at McMichael Canadian Art Collection, which set the all-time museum attendance record) and *ROBERT BATEMAN: A RETROSPECTIVE*; *BLOSSOM ~ ART OF FLOWERS* (Susan K. Black Foundation, Houston Premiere) and *BLOSSOM II* scheduled in 2011; *ART OF THE RAINFOREST*; *ENDANGERED SPECIES, FLORA AND FAUNA IN PERIL* (The Wildling Art Museum, California premiere, with tour to The U.S. Department of Interior Museum, Washington, D.C.); *MARION PIKE RETROSPECTIVE* (Los Angeles Estate, Palm Springs Premiere); *KENT ULLBERG: A RETROSPECTIVE* (Joslyn Art Museum Premiere); *MASTERS OF AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHY* (Ansel Adams to Steichen, Stieglitz, etc.); *PAWS AND REFLECT: Art of Canines*, the sequel to *FELINE FINE: Art of Cats*; *LEROY NEIMAN: A RETROSPECTIVE* (including National Art Museum of Sport, Indianapolis) and *LEROY NEIMAN, ON SAFARI* (exclusive showing, The Wildlife Experience, Denver); *BIODIVERSITY IN WILDLIFE ART: THE ART OF CAREL PIETER BREST van KEMPEN*; *PORTRAITS OF THE DEEP / ART OF THE DIVE*; and a five-year Annual Outdoor Sculpture Courtyard at National Geographic Society Headquarters near Dupont Circle in Washington, D.C. Up-coming exhibitions include:

AMERICAN WILDLIFE ART
(Based on the Book of the Same Title)

ART OF THE DIVE / PORTRAITS OF THE DEEP

THE SEA OF CORTEZ

MANGROVES

EXQUISITE MINIATURES BY WES AND RACHELLE SIEGRIST and
THE WORLD OF NATURE IN MINIATURE BY WES AND RACHELLE SIEGRIST

David J. Wagner, L.L.C. also conducts research and writing for museums and other non-profit organizations, and provides consulting services in areas including fundraising, non-profit management, and publishing, e.g., Peninsula Art School, 2000 Capital Campaign Fundraising Consultant; Ridges Nature Sanctuary Book Publishing Consultant; Guild.Com Art Website Consultant; Lead Consultant for Capital City Partnership spearheaded by Mayor of St. Paul with team comprised of Economic Research Associates of Washington, D.C., and Hammel, Green, Abrahamson Architects of Minneapolis, to develop the Business Plan for new museum. (Plan included site recommendation, preliminary cost estimate, attendance and operating budget projections, facility concept and space allocation, staffing requirements, educational and exhibition programming; and guidelines for development of Master Plan). David J. Wagner, L.L.C. also designs and manages educational events.

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