

Press Release:

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Toast of Taos Arts & Wine Festival 2011 Poster Artist Chosen

When the Holy Cross Foundation ended so it seemed, did the Annual Toast of Taos Wine Festival. Not so – Jan Mellor, owner of the taos gallery and taos art experiences, stepped in. “The Toast of Taos ‘ Art D’Vine was a huge success for me, and many other gallery owners. It was a great way to bring people into the galleries while enjoying and being introduced to wonderful wineries and restaurants. It resulted in a good time by all and often led to art sales – all for a very worthy cause. The town was alive – it was fun – and locals and visitors alike had a good time. When I heard that it might go away I decided to step in. Sally Trigg was the brain child and work horse behind the 6 year event and was very gracious in her support of my efforts to keep the festival alive. We were too late for last year but worked steadily behind the scenes and garnered ongoing support from the industry and the Town of Taos to make it happen again – so 2011 marks the beginning of the new Toast of Taos Arts & Wine Festival. No longer a fundraiser for the hospital it will have a silent auction to benefit Taos Community Foundation and the Arts & Cultural District.

In keeping with tradition a poster was a must – so a call for artist went out and the chosen artist is esteemed artist in his own right (author, teacher, poet, composer and more ...) Alvaro Cardona- Hine.

Alvaro’s painting reflects the new direction the festival is going in – an event designed to tell our stories perhaps... stories of hundreds of years of wine making in New Mexico told through the grapesstories of gatherings and celebrations ... drowning our sorrows ... toasting the good times ...sharing dreams, company, good times Life.

"Memory's Bar is open to storytelling. Everyone ought to be able to identify with the moody guy recalling danger at sea or with the gal who wants an angel for a husband. Drinks are on the house, the red parakeet says. It's also open to improvement: When one reaches the eighties, technique goes out the window. That may be why there are no windows to the bar, just hints of them."

As the mission of the Annual Toast of Taos Arts and Wine Festival is to promote, sustain and embrace the unique traditions of the cultures and arts of northern New Mexico, by offering the opportunity to showcase and experience the blending of fine dining, fine wines, art and history.” Alvaro’s piece seemed more than fitting.

The celebration begins on Thursday August 18th and continues through Sunday 21st. Planned events include: wine dinners at various restaurants, wine seminars, gallery openings and numerous events throughout the historic district. The Grand Tasting will take place at the Convention Center from 3-5 pm on Saturday August 20th.

About the artist:

Alvaro Cardona-Hine is an artist whose creativity spans three disciplines: musical composition, poetry and painting. In these last two, he is well-known internationally. Two of his books of poetry in Spanish

were recently published by Catriel Publishing in Madrid, Spain. As a contemporary fine art painter, his paintings are in collections all over the US, Europe, the Middle East, Asia and Australia. He has been painting most of his life and is an admired master of both acrylic and oil canvasses. His work ranges widely from small, whimsical bird paintings, to medium-sized and large land and seascapes, Moroccan landscapes, nudes, abstracts, still life and Egyptian, Greek, Buddhist, and Jewish myths and legends.
www.cardonahinegallery.com

Alvaro will have a solo show at Gallery on the Green July 26 through August with a reception August 6 5-7 pm

The goal of Toast of Taos Arts & Wine Festival is to create a Taos based and Taos centered event that showcases the fabulous Art, Food, Landscape and Magic that is our unique cultural heritage and pair these elements with a wine festival that will attract the interested tourist and consumer to our unique community. To this end, we have the full support of the Town of Taos, the Taos Community Foundation, the Taos Police department, and many industry partners. We now invite you too!

www.toastoftaos.com

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