



Insider's Look at Grand Canyon

Webisode #9 – Quick Draw Art Contest and Auction Transcript

Ranger Patrick: This morning Insider's Look at Grand Canyon is here, part of Celebration of the Arts.

Mary: I'm Mary Lois Brown. The most thrilling thing that happened to me this week was along the rim. While doing a painting demonstration, a family from Australia stopped by to watch the demonstration. Their daughter of approximately nine years old was completely mesmerized by the painting process. I gave her the paint brush, she finished the painting and she will have a memory to take back to Australia with her that will probably last forever. It was just a real thrilling time.

CODY: Cody Delong. It has been a great week here painting. It's kind of an honor to be a part of the inaugural "Plein Air" on the rim. It kind of feels like making history a little bit. I always enjoy painting with other artist. I always learn something. A lot of them I already know, some of them are new, so that has been fun. Guess it has been a great week.

Michael: Alright, my name is Michael Obermeyer from California. Painting here at Grand Canyon is an incredible challenge. I love painting the outdoors, but there is so much to paint here in a small amount of time. Trying to create this beauty on a small canvas is almost impossible. But, I thoroughly am enjoying the whole experience. I can't wait to come back and try the other paintings that I didn't get around to doing this week.

Nancy: Hi I am Nancy here and I am one of the "Plein Air" painters for this celebration. I use a lot of color in my work. Basically I do not want to compete with a camera, so I use my artistic license. I use some colors that I wish were there, because the light changes all the time. If you cannot paint it in two seconds everything changes. So you try not to keep changing your painting as the light does. So that is the challenge, but I love doing it and I hope the people like it too.

Joshua: I'm Joshua Bean. It was quite an honor to be invited to the Grand Canyon out here. I'm painting next to some of the masters of the medium. This particular location, the Grand Canyon, there is no shortage of amazing outcrops and I think it is awesome what we are doing here. We are trying to raise money for the new museum to showcase some of the collection that the Grand Canyon Association has. They have old Thomas Moran's and yesteryears' masters. They are just sitting in a closet somewhere. So what we are doing out here is creating an awareness and also raising some money to showcase those old works. I think that is a special thing that we are doing here.

Mike: Good morning, I'm Mike Coleman. M.L. Coleman is what I paint under. I am an artist from Sedona, Arizona. I've lived in Sedona for 27 years, but I have actually painted the Grand Canyon for about 35 years. It is always special to come up here and paint. I think this event the Grand Canyon Association is sponsoring is an excellent way to promote the canyon and help people understand that art has always been an important part of the canyon.

Linda: O.K., hi I am Linda Glover Gooch from Mesa, Arizona. I am excited about this event. I think it is a wonderful venue. The canyon offers just so much for everybody and I think it is neat people can see artist portraying it up here and just enjoy it. I am just excited to be here.

John: I am John Cogan. I enjoy painting the Grand Canyon more than any other subject matter, because it is so changeable. It changes from minute to minute, hour to hour, day to day, season to season. There is always something new. I'll never quit painting this place as long as I live.

Will: Yes, my name is Will Tapia. I like landscape "Plein Air". It has been a preoccupation of mine for about 32 years and I love painting the Grand Canyon. The colors are magnificent. The scenery is constantly changing, that is the challenge, and that is also the fun of it for me. I am just glad to be here. Great weather, nice people, beautiful surroundings.

Rowley: Hi, I'm Rowley Kenny. I'm up here from Mesa, Arizona painting in this 1st annual. We absolutely love it. It has been such a great experience. It is a lot like going to the dentist when you paint. (Laughter from Ranger Patrick)

Rowley: It is a fun challenge; believe me, to paint the canyon. But, what a wonderful experience. This is one of the top things, I think; I have ever done in my life. It is just absolutely stunning!

Peter: Hi, I am Peter Nisbet. I am out here, I am hour into this painting and I am having a terrific time. I am actually enjoying the people more than the painting process itself. People that are coming around are great, they really love this. It is a big plus for the park.

Curt: Curt Walters. I was just thrilled to be invited to be a part of the "Plein Air" festival, to be included in the "Master Show". It is a great honor. There is some really great work there. I think that the coolest thing that happened on this trip is that I've met people from all over the world. I think Helen Reney has done an amazing job about getting the word out about this show. I've met..., for instance, Nancy, came because of the "Plein Air" event. I've met people from Connecticut, from Virginia, California, from Idaho. All have been here because of this event. I think it is really cool.

John: You know, I have never been to the Grand Canyon before and this is my first time. The first time I stepped up to the rim over at Mather Point you just kind of catch your breath because it is so vast and beautiful. One of the things that I like about it is that you can be there in the morning and then two hours later with the shadows a little different the same scene looks completely different, and then in the evening it looks different again. You come the next day and you got cloud cover and you get these patterns of shadow going back in space and it looks different once again. You could stand in one place and get 100 paintings just by the changing conditions. So that is one of the things I like about the canyon. The other thing is that there is just not many places that I have been where I have painted that you can see that much of an expanse and at the same time quite a challenge to get all those layers of atmosphere. It is also a lot of fun and really beautiful.

Ranger Patrick: Great! Thanks, that was artist John Poon.

Ranger (auctioneer) David Smith: The reason that we are doing this today and all of you have been invited to take part in this is to raise money for a potential museum that we will have here at the Grand Canyon. We have an art collection here at the park. We have scores and scores of paintings that are hidden away in warehouses and other locations that never see the light of day. We are hoping to share that with the public someday. The proceeds that are generated today, the proceeds that will be donated tonight from the Master Art Collection that will be happening, the money from that will go into a special account that will help pay for that. You will have a special place to go to see these incredible works of art! We will start the bidding opening price that has been determined by our friends from GCA and the artist..... 5,..425...it is abiding war ...425 over here with the lady with the instamatic camera. Do I have \$450 dollars, going once, going..... (Crowd goes OOOOOhh...), it goes to the man in the attractive neon shirt.....550, 550 going once.....do I have \$650 dollars? Going once, going twice.....SOLD!!!!!!

Audience: Applause...