



(Inset above), "High Dive", Watercolor.

(Above), "3 Broncs", Watercolor.

(Inset right), "Bustin' Out", Watercolor.

# RANCH & BRONCS

## RODEO BUCKERS

Art and Article by Jack J. Wells, Western Artist, *PRCA*

“Over the years, I’ve come to understand that people who like western art, whether they live the life-style or not, seem to always like to see pictures of a cowboy on a good horse, and mostly in action. And you just can’t get much more action than a high jumping, dust kicking, sun-fishing, son-of-a-gun with his rider screwed on tight, whipping and spurring, or at least looking like he wants to be there.





Above left: "Two For One", (9"x12") Pen and Ink on paper.

Above right: "Bustin' The Grulla", (11"x15") Watercolor on paper.

Below right: "Ridin' The Ranch Bronc", (12"x18") Charcoal.



"And looking back over these past few years, I'll allow that the bucking horse has been a real favorite subject of mine. So much so, that friends have remarked that if they don't see a new bucking horse picture at each and every show I do, they don't think I've done much at all.

"When I study on it a little closer, perhaps its because there's so many wonderful ways a horse can move. There's so much expression and energy in every twitch of his muscles and twist of his head. With his mane and tail following his every motion, and chaps and straps flapping one step behind his next jump, its not hard to find a pure artistic composition in every snort, and so I do.







"Ol' Blue Rocket", (12"x18") Watercolor.





“Red Duster”, (9”x12”) Watercolor.





Above left: "The Pick-Up Man Rides In", (11"x14") Gouache on board.

Above right: "No Place To Step Down", (9"x12") Watercolor on paper.

Below left: "Riding At Cheyenne", (12"x18") Charcoal on paper.



"Some horses buck kinda natural like, in a self-preservation kind of way. Some horses just like to buck, and some horses learn it as a trade. A good rodeo bronc knows its his job to jump and kick till the buzzer sounds or the rider is thrown.

"A good buckner can be fun to ride when you get in time with him, or so they tell me. Some horses don't learn so well and they never are pretty or stylish, they just get the job done.

"Ranch broncs are a little different. If you're with a young horse, you expect him to try you every now and then, just to keep you aware that he knows he is bigger and stronger than you are and he could be boss if he so desired.







Above: "Bustin' A Wild One", (12"x18") Charcoal on paper.

Above right: "Flying Chaps", (12"x18") Watercolor.

Right: "Dustin' Up The Camp", (11"x15") Watercolor.

Below right: "Ridin' At The NFR", (16"x20") Oil on canvas.



"Even an older 'well handled' horse will get spooked, or tired, or just plain onery once in a while. Sometimes they'll catch you off guard, and sometimes you just know its coming. But it doesn't matter where or when, it'll just happen. The amount of pitching and squealing is usually in direct proportion to the way he is being rode.





"A Pair Of Aces", (11"x14") Watercolor.





"Trying His Best", (12"x18") Prisma Colors.



"Rompin' & Stompin'", (22"x35") Charcoal.



"Trouble Maker", (12"x18") Prisma Colors.

"A good horse will acknowledge when he has been bested. He'll raise his head and go to acting like a world champion saddle horse. He'll be the best horse you've ever ridden... til the next time."



"Worth The Ride", lower quarter panel of an (11"x15") Watercolor.