

## Along the Seine River by ALBERTO ESCAMILLA



Born in Sanderson, Texas, Escamilla's early interest in art began with drawing comic book characters. Escamilla came to El Paso to Texas Western College, now known as the University of Texas at El Paso, on an invitation to try out for the basketball team. Discovering that art education was offered as a degree, he decided to take a turn for what he wanted to pursue, and thus began his life's passion.

His early works consisted of western and southwest scenes, which captured mostly earth tone colors. This type of work was not fulfilling, so he began to study in depth the works and lives of former artists. The more he read and studied the work of the "Independents", he felt a strong connection with the way they believed and painted. He continuously worked on mastering the blending of colors, brush strokes and subject matter to achieve an effect that gave the viewer a sense of beauty and tranquility. Hence, Escamilla's work entered a new dimension which strongly shows a continuation of those great painters known as the "Independents."

An award-winning artist, Escamilla was inducted into the El Paso, Texas Artist Hall of Fame. A bronze plaque bust of Alberto is on permanent display in the "Hall of Fame" gallery at the International Museum of Art in El Paso, Texas. He has the distinction of winning First Place in El Paso's most prestigious juried art exhibit, Sierra Providence Arts International. One of Escamilla's collectors is renowned author Cormac McCarthy, who

is known for writing "All the Pretty Horses, "No Country for Old Men", "The Road" and other books that were made into movies. A painting of Isaac Newton that Cormac commissioned Escamilla to paint hangs in the Santa Fe Institute. He was also the exclusive poster artist for the International Festival de Las Zarzuela from 1992-1999, and has been featured in the following:

The Gallery Guide, New York City, NY

Manhattan Arts, New York City, NY

Las Ventanas Del Valle Magazine (Las Cruces, NM architectural magazine)

Artwork on the front cover of The El Paso Scene

The Form Magazine (El Paso student art magazine)

Live remote KTSM broadcast promoting Escamilla as El Paso's premier Impressionist artist

Featured in the award-winning video documentary, "Hal Marcus 2001"

Front and back covers of the UTEP Student Publication, "The Rio Grande Review"

Image of Escamilla's painting, "La Del Soto Del Parral", used on front book jacket and recognized in the text of, "Zarzuela, Spanish Operetta, American Stage", by U. of A.

Professor, Janet Sturman, University of Illinois Press

Guest Artist of the 1998 Hispanic Showcase, University of Tulsa, OK

Featured in KVIA television news segment, "A Southwest Treasure", El Paso, TX

Featured in KCOS/PBS regionally televised video, "Making of a Zarzuela", El Paso, TX

Feature story in the Cenizo Journal (Big Bend Area) 2014

... and numerous feature articles in the local newspapers.

*Violin photographed by Carlos D. Luevano*