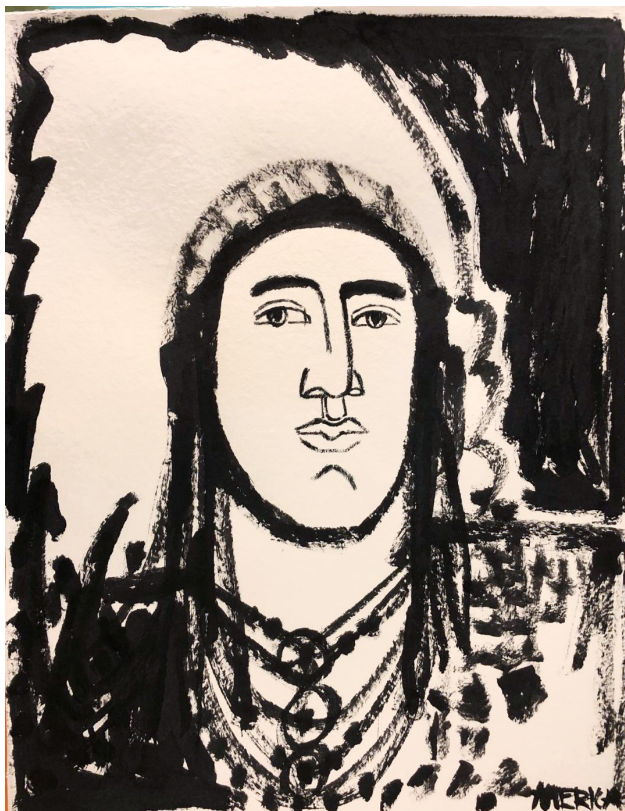


JoANNE ARTMAN GALLERY

511A W 22nd St. New York, NY 10011 | 326 N Coast Hwy. Laguna Beach, CA 92651
949.510.5481 | www.joanneartmangallery.com | joanneartman@aol.com

“THE WILD BUNCH” - A Conversation with America Martin



JA: What does the Wild West represent for you? What inspires you to recreate it within your art?

MARTIN: When I was 12 I read the book “My Friend Flicka” and discovered this place called Montana. If you are not familiar with this book – It’s about a girl who grows up on a ranch in Montana, and she has a pony name Flicka. As she comes of age she goes through the trials and tribulations of raising a pony. The Horse part was great, but the description of the land was so spell binding that I went bananas for Montana and somehow convinced my parents for our summer holiday to drive there from Los Angeles. And we did. We camped all along the way and when we got to the Condon River Valley just north of Missoula and before White Fish, my parents drank the Kool-Aid, – They were hooked.

They ended up finding and buying a cabin in the woods on the Condon River. And I spent the rest of my summers running wild, thinking I was Tom Sawyer and Robinson Crusoe. It was the Land of The Black Feet Nation and my Love, Respect and Admiration for the Wild West has continued to be a place of inspiration.