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INTRODUCTION

In 1992, Los Angeles freelance writer Maggie Devcich reflected on the life and work of Kiowa photographer Horace Poolaw (1906–1984) after visiting the exhibition “Kiowa Culture in Transition, 1925–1955: The Photographs of Horace Poolaw.” She observed that Poolaw was “a witness to the tragic passing of the Kiowa world. In less than twenty years, Poolaw saw his people move from tipis to frame houses, from horses to automobiles, from a life of nomadic hunting to one of private farming.”

Poolaw was one of the first American Indian professional photographers in the early twentieth century. Most have come to know his work as a result of the above mentioned traveling exhibition initiated at Stanford University and directed by his daughter, Linda Poolaw, and Charles Junkerman.

Devcich’s observations are typical of many U.S. Americans who perceive the death of Plains Indians in the nineteenth century and are unaware of or unwilling to consider the ongoing vitality of indigenous cultures into the twentieth century and the contemporary world. What was Kiowa to Devcich had died, and Poolaw’s photographic efforts constituted a salvage project. Until recently, sentiments like hers have haunted much academic scholarship on Plains Indians and their art work. This issue of Great Plains Quarterly devoted to Horace Poolaw’s work provides a much-needed reassessment of this artist’s contribution to a critical turning point in American Indian history and art history. The earliest third of Poolaw’s approximately sixty-year career coincides with the first major political challenges and reforms to the late nineteenth century federal Indian policies that were grounded in a philosophy of assimilation. The potential for indigenous peoples to construct modern communities based on their own terms finally seemed possible. It was during this period that Poolaw developed and refined his artistic mode of engagement with Native identity and sovereignty.

While several articles have been published on his work since the time of the Stanford project, there has been little extensive analysis of his images until recently. I completed my dissertation on Poolaw in July of 2008 and invited Hadley Jerman, Tom Poolaw, and Morgan Bell to participate in a special session on this artist at the Native American Art Studies Association in Norman, Oklahoma, in the fall of 2009. The papers were submitted to Great Plains Quarterly for review, and were selected for publication in this thematic issue. Special thanks goes to Linda Poolaw and her brothers Robert and Bryce who all very generously shared their knowledge and time over the past several years while these works were being written.

—LAURA E. SMITH
Michigan State University

NOTE


This book highlights the nation's most comprehensive collection of art and artifacts of the American West and tells the story of how the pieces came to Tulsa.

***


The sequel to the award-winning Chickasaw: Unconquered and Unconquerable (2006), this title features over a hundred new images from Oklahoma photographer David G. Fitzgerald’s celebrated collection and a narrative constructed from interviews with Chickasaw elders.

***


The volume reproduces Father Émile Grouard’s Syllabic-scripted Cree Prayer Book, supplemented by an English translation, Standard Roman Orthography transliteration, and an introductory essay by Patricia Demers.


The second and third volumes of Richard Green’s tribute to the Chickasaw population feature thirty-two new articles, essays, and profiles apiece on notable Chickasaw individuals ranging from an Olympic athlete to a Harvard researcher of economic conditions in Indian Country to three successive Chickasaw governors.

***


Alicia Christiansen’s collection brings together some of the University of Nebraska Press’s best Western poetry, fiction, folklore, and memoirs over the fifty-year history of the Bison Books imprint.
NOTES AND NEWS

FREDERICK C. LUEBKE AWARD

We are pleased to announce that the 2011 Frederick C. Luebke Award for outstanding regional scholarship has been awarded to Dr. Kathy Bahr, Chadron State College, for her essay “Collateral Damage: Veterans and Domestic Violence in Mari Sandoz’s The Tom-Walker,” (Spring 2010, Vol. 30/No. 2; 83–96). The prize, named for the founder of the Quarterly, is given each year for the best article published in the Great Plains Quarterly. The Frederick C. Luebke Award includes a cash stipend of $250.00.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The 52nd Annual Conference of the Western History Association will be held October 4–7, 2012, in Denver, Colorado. The theme of the 2012 conference is Boundary Markers and Border Crossers: Finding the West and Westerners. Western historians are invited to re-examine the history of an American West that is being made anew in our own time. The nature of borders—whether political, cultural, or other—as well as the places that they enclose are fitting subjects for consideration. When submitting an entire session or panel, include a brief abstract that outlines the purpose of the session and designate one participant as the contact person. Each paper proposal, whether individual or part of a session, should include a one-paragraph abstract and a one-page c.v., including address, phone, and email address for each participant. Indicate equipment needs, if any. The committee assumes that all listed individuals have agreed to participate. Email each submission, with supporting materials, as a single document (PDF) to <wha2012call@gmail.com> or send by mail service to Brian Frehner, Department of History, Oklahoma State University, 115 Murray Hall, Stillwater, Oklahoma 74078-3054. The submission deadline is September 1, 2011. For more information, visit <www.westernhistoryassociation.org>.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Department of History at the University of Colorado at Boulder announces the 2011 Rocky Mountain Interdisciplinary History Conference to be held September 9–11, 2011. Submissions are invited from graduate students working in any discipline and national context. Possible topics include, but are not limited to: Regional, National, Transnational, or International History; Visual Culture and Art History; Race, Ethnicity, and Cultural Identity; Jewish Studies; Gender or History of Sexuality; History of Ideas; and Environmental History. Past participants have come from history, political science, cultural studies, film, art history, philosophy, comparative literature, and theatre. This academic conference provides a congenial atmosphere in which students may present papers, network with fellow graduate students, gain experience in public speaking, and attend workshops specifically tailored to graduate student interests. First-time presenters are especially encouraged to participate. Please submit a one-page abstract of your paper and a current c.v. by May 30, 2011, to <rmihc@colorado.edu>. Additional information is available from Robert Morrison, Department of History, University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, CO 80309-0234, and on the conference’s website at <www.colorado.edu/Conferences/RMIHC>.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Center for Great Plains Studies’ 38th Interdisciplinary Conference will be held March 28–30, 2012, on the University of Nebraska–Lincoln campus. The theme is “1862–2012: The Making of the Great Plains,” and is a collaboration between the Center and Homestead National Monument of America, National Parks Service. For more information, see the ad on page 174. Follow instructions on the website to submit your proposal/abstract and resume by November 1, 2011 <www.unl.edu/plains>.
Great Plains Quarterly seeks a readership among scholars and interested laypersons. U.S. subscription rates are $15.00 per year for students, $25.00 per year for individuals or $48.00 for two years, $50.00 per year for institutions or $90.00 for two years. Single copies of current issues may be obtained for $8.00, plus postage and handling. Nebraska residents, please add state and city sales tax. Canadian subscription rates are $34.00 per year for individuals and $60.00 per year for institutions. Other foreign subscription rates are $38.00 per year for individuals and $75.00 per year for institutions. E-mail: cgps@unl.edu.

The Quarterly welcomes the submission of manuscripts and essays that are both solidly researched and engagingly written. In all cases contributions must be free of specialized jargon so that they can be read, understood, and appreciated by persons in other academic fields and by interested laypersons. Blind review procedures are followed for all contributions to the Quarterly. The decision to publish an article rests with the editor in consultation with associate editors.

We do not accept articles previously published or currently under consideration by other journals. Authors in doubt about what constitutes prior publication should consult the editor.

Total length of manuscripts, including notes and illustrations, should not exceed 14,000 words or 30 pages, but shorter contributions will be preferred. All copy, including notes and captions, should be double spaced. References in the notes should conform to the mode specified in The Chicago Manual of Style (16th ed. rev., 2010) or the "Quarterly Style Sheet" or "Images Style Sheet" on the website.

Electronic submissions via e-mail are encouraged. Manuscripts submitted by mail should be accompanied by a CD-R disc. The CD should be formatted for IBM PC and the article in MS Word, or rtf file format. All correspondence on editorial matters should be addressed to: Editor, Great Plains Quarterly, University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 1155 Q Street, Hewit Place, P.O. Box 880245, Lincoln, NE 68588-0245; e-mail: gpq@unl.edu; website: www.unl.edu/plains

FREDERICK C. LUEBKE AWARD

The Frederick C. Luebke Award is offered annually for the best article published in Great Plains Quarterly during a volume year. All articles submitted to the Quarterly are eligible for the award. Judges are drawn from past winners and the Publications Committee of the Board of Governors for the Center for Great Plains Studies. The award is presented at the Center for Great Plains Studies' annual Fellows meeting and includes a cash stipend of $250.00. Frederick C. Luebke was the founding editor of Great Plains Quarterly.

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