

**UPCOMING SHOW**

Up to 12 works

March 25-April 6, 2013

Trailside Galleries  
7330 Scottsdale Mall  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
(480) 945-7751

**SHOW LOCATION SCOTTSDALE, AZ**



## MIAN SITU

### *Rural living*

Award-winning artist Mian Situ returned to his native China last April to gather reference material for his masterful oil paintings. Wengding, in the Yunnan Province, a well-preserved tourist spot where the Wa people still practice ethnic customs and traditions, was among the remote villages he visited. The Wa mother in the new 36-by-30-inch oil painting *Quiet Time*, who is seated holding her son, was Situ's guide during his sojourn and the two became friends.

She invited him to lunch at her home, which provides the backdrop for the piece.

"I love her face; the skin color and features are so different from other villages," Situ remarks. Of the Wa people in general, he says, "Their lifestyle is different from ours, and they preserve traditions lost over time. This is an area I always like to go back to visit."

Such excursions provide Situ with fresh impressions and firsthand insight into his subjects, which results in a direct approach

to the canvas. The artist's new deep-toned impressionistic paintings capture the daily life of rural farming communities in China today.

In *Quiet Time*, the vertical wooden post supports the house, of which the upstairs is living quarters and the downstairs is used as a barn. Like their ancestors before, the spinning wheel is used to make wool for clothing and other textiles. Situ added a dog to both *Quiet Time* and *Best Friends* for factual and compositional reasons.



*Market Day*, oil, 12 x 16"





*Best Friends*, oil, 16 x 12"



*Quiet Time*, oil, 36 x 30"



*Tibetan Farm Girl*, oil, 24 x 30"

"I always try to put dogs in paintings because they're so common and it fits the environment," he adds. "When I grew up [in southern China in Guangdong we had chickens, rabbits, dogs and cats—they were all over the house. I love dogs."

By adding the canine in *Best Friends*—which actually happens to be his daughter's pet—Situ illustrates the special bond between villagers and their animals. Here he also suggests action, allowing the viewer to complete the narrative.

"I like to catch the moment when there's room for imagination," Situ continues. "I leave it up to the viewer to determine what the subject is doing."

Trailside Galleries will present 12 of Situ's latest oil paintings of various sizes in a special showcase that opens March 25. It's unusual to find such a large body of work by the artist available in one place. Stop by the gallery on Thursday, April 4, from 6 to 8 p.m. for a rare opportunity to meet the artist. 🐾

For a direct link to the  
exhibiting gallery go to

[www.westernartcollector.com](http://www.westernartcollector.com)

