# Equine Images by Catherine L. Gauldin

The Art of the Illustrated Horse



The horse, supreme among animals as a symbol of power, splendor, speed and agility.

From the warlord, the knight, the cowboy to the weekend competitor in the show ring, the rider in the saddle has always remained somewhat above and apart from the rest of humanity, and throughout the centuries artists have endeavored to capture on paper

and canvas the majesty that is the horse. Stubbs, Remington, Da Vinci, Daumier, Velazquez,

Bonheur and others considered it a privilege to approach the subject of the horse in Art because they loved the form and considered it to be one of the premier achievements of Creation.

So do I.

My name is Catherine Gauldin and I am by profession an Architectural Illustrator. I obtained a degree in Architectural Design from Texas A&M University in 1980 and have produced quality Architectural renderings for Architects and Builders for



the past twenty-five years. Any image however, whether classified as illustration or fine art, only reflects the skill and the dedication of the artist behind the paintbrush and my love for illustrating horses comes from my lifelong love and devotion to these wonderful creatures. I was involved with Arabian horses as an owner and rider for about 10 years, and as an artist continue to be enthralled in trying to capture the magnificence of the equine form. I am especially intrigued by the complex and personal interaction that always exists between the horse and the people

around it and take great pleasure in illustrating a moment in time that best illuminates this relationship, a relationship that transcends the superficial link between an animal and its master and connects with a new realm; that between a person and a trusted animal friend.

I am pleased to offer these images to you as examples of the kind of work that I can do. I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to talk to you about translating your living work of art into a frozen moment in time; the Art of the Illustrated Horse.

## FORMAL PORTRAITS



**FORMAL HEAD PORTRAIT** - This is a drawing I did of the head of my Arabian mare, CAV April Storm. It is rendered in Pastel and Colored Pencil and is a true representation of her likeness, and I believe, her personality as well.

In addition to a formal portrait of the horse's head, I can also do a FORMAL STANDING PORTRAIT, similar to the one that I did of April

Storm, showing the entire body of the animal and some of the surroundings. The surroundings add to the composition because they add context. You might, for example, want to show a portion of your barn behind the animal or some part of your property that is of special importance to you. This drawing, like the Formal Head Portrait, is done in Pastel and Colored Pencil on high quality, acid-free paper.



# **ACTION PORTRAITS**

Architects, designers and artists must be by nature very visually-oriented people. Like most others who view the world in terms of the graphic image, I have the ability to see pictures everywhere but can seldom anticipate what visual opportunity might yield a good drawing until it is directly in front of me. The very best images are completely unstaged, so I stalk the world with a camera and enjoy the unplanned action of capturing a fleeting moment in time before it is gone forever. My background as an Architectural designer and Illustrator has taught me over the years to be attentive to the details around me, and my love of and familiarity with horses has taught me to



never take any of these remarkable animals for granted as living works of art.

The horse world is of course never static and for many owners, their weekends are spent competing in horse shows. It's a family-oriented sport and gathers together horse enthusiasts for a time of friendly competition in the show ring. This drawing, called **ARENA RIDERS**, shows a horse and rider at a horse show waiting to enter an arena, and it shows the quiet yet anticipatory nature of both. To execute a drawing like this I would be happy to take photographs at your own event, which would then be transformed into a personalized work of art. I call these types of drawings **ACTION PORTRAITS**,

because they illustrate the ever-changing world of equine life yet are formal likenesses of a specific animal. Here are some examples:

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I am particularly fond of this image, entitled SHE WORE A YELLOW RIBBON. I caught this horse and rider walking at a slow pace back to the barn area of the Equestrian Center after having competed in a jumping competition. Even though you don't see the rider's face, I like the composition and also made the background dark in order to emphasize the lovely chestnut color of the horse's coat.





This drawing (left) is for obvious reasons, entitled NUMBER 330. I happened to see the rider sitting casually in the saddle and waiting to compete, so I took her picture and then did a detailed Pastel and Colored pencil drawing from it.

The drawing called **READY TO LAUCH** 

shows a horse and rider getting ready to go over a jump. This was a particularly beautiful and athletic animal and the girl was poised and confident in the





I must admit to being a fan of these striking horses, even though the visual attraction is always the coat color because Palomino is a variation of Chestnut and not a breed. This stunning animal caught my eye at a horse show and it was my intention to make the background of the drawing as dark as possible in order to bring out the bright, burnished "new gold coin" color of the horse. I never resort to using a black pencil in my drawings unless it is specifically a line or monotone drawing. Black deadens the color around it so I use instead a progressive overlay of one muted color on top of another. The dark in the drawing, entitled simply **PALOMINO** was produced by 6 layers of alternating violet, dark green and burgundy.

### **INFORMAL PORTRAITS**

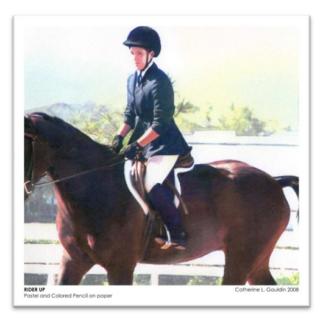
PALAMINO Pastel and Colored Pencil on paper

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These drawings are less formal renderings of the equine form than Formal Portraits and may include only the image of the horse against a colored or greatly simplified background.







Focus on the Rider - In some cases, depending on your preferences, the emphasis of the drawing may be on the rider instead of the horse. This is illustrated in the drawing called **RIDER UP**.

**Photographs** - The breed of the horse, the color, the conformation...all of these factors are comparatively unimportant in producing a good equine image. There is something noble and genuine in the character and attitude of each animal, from the most humble backyard friend to a Grand Champion, they are all magnificent creatures and deserve great attention to detail when trying to produce a successful horse portrait. Good lighting and composition of the image is essential, and that's why it's best to take the preliminary photographs on a bright sunny day unless a specific atmospheric effect is the intention. I generally like to take my own photos but I can work from one of your favorites if that is your preference, however it is essential that the original image be of good quality and clear enough to see all of the details. To take this preliminary set of pictures from which to select one or two images to render, I will be happy to come to your barn or meet you at the horse show if it is within driving distance from the city of Houston. For an action shot, such as an active horse in pasture or a sport horse going over a jump, I like to rely on video from which I can isolate just the right frame that best illuminates the attitude and expression of the moment. Once all of the images have been developed and edited, I will send what I believe to be the most promising images to you for your selection and approval before beginning the Pastel and Colored Pencil drawing.

### **EQUINE FINE ART**

### It's a good thing for me that the world, and especially Texas, is full of horses.

I like nothing better on a summer's day than to go out into the countryside in search of pastures full of animal friends. These drawings are some examples of what those excursions have yielded. All are equine in theme but none are portraits or representations of specific animals or people. High-quality giclee prints are available on request, so please refer to the web site for a price of each available image.



INVITATION TO THE RODEO Pastel and Colored Pencil on paper

Catherine L. Gauldin 2008

**INVITATION TO THE RODEO** is a drawing that I did of some junior riders who rode from Houston to Schulenburg, Texas to deliver a proclamation inviting the citizens of Schulenburg to attend the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. It was a colorful group that had assembled on that gray morning in February of 2007 and they had ridden a long way.

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RODEO RIDERS Pastel and Colored Pencil on paper

Catherine L. Gauldin 2008

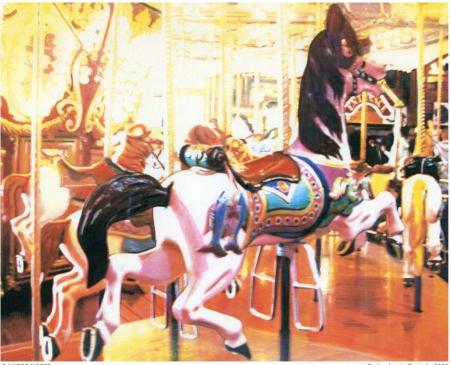
INVITATION TO THE RODEO and this companion piece entitled RODEO RIDERS both illustrate the same event.



BEST FRIENDS Pastel and Colored Pencil on paper

Catherine L. Gauldin 2008

I saw these two horses quietly resting under the shade of huge oak trees during the heat of a bright summer's day. They looked like a companionable pair, so I entitled this piece **BEST FRIENDS**. I especially liked the way the dappled sun illuminated the flanks of the Chestnut.



CALIOPE HORSE Pastel and Colored Pencil on paper

Catherine L. Gauldin 2008





A friendly mule with kind eyes came to the fence of his pasture to say hello, so I call this pencil drawing **HELLO MULE** in commemoration of the fact that he willingly interrupted his dinner to make my acquaintance. I liked the way the shadow of the fence played across his face and body.

HELLO MULE Black Prismacolor Pencil on paper

Catherine L. Gauldin 2008



BRUSHING HIM DOWN Pastel and Colored Pencil on paper

Catherine L. Gauldin 2008

This is a colored pencil drawing of a woman brushing down her horse after it has been ridden. The photograph was taken at a breeding facility for Danish Warmbloods that I had the opportunity to visit in Denmark.

For more images than these, please refer to the website <u>www.gauldin-illustration.com</u> or simply email me at <u>Catherine.Gauldin@gte.net</u> for more information regarding either my pricing or any of my services. My office is located at 5100 Westheimer Suite 200 (located across from the Galleria in Houston, Texas) and my business phone number is (713) 952-9280. If I am not there, please leave a message with the receptionist and I will return your call.

### **Price List**

- Formal Head or Standing Portraits \$350 each if I take the preliminary series of photographs or \$250 each if I am working from one of your photographs.
- Informal Equine Portraits \$275 each if I take the preliminary series of photographs or \$175 each if I am working from one of your photographs.
- Action Portraits A realistic likeness of the horse, the rider or both in an action setting such as at home in the outside arena or at a horse show. \$350 each if I take the preliminary series of photographs or \$250 each if I am working from one of your photographs.
- Equine Fine Art See the web site for specific pricing on any piece that is available for sale. Prints are highquality color giclee prints, matte, heavy acid-free stock.

**Delivery** - I deliver only originals, and all drawings are rendered using a combination of pastel and colored pencil on heavy acid-free paper. (The tone and color are established in pastel and details are added in colored pencil.) The size of the paper is 16 x 20 and the image size varies according to the composition but all images fit within the 16 x 20 format. I deliver the final drawing packaged flat under a temporary matt to protect the surface and between two sheets of heavy stock cardboard. You may then matt and frame according to your preferences. If you provide your own photograph, you may send me a copy via email or a copy of the original in the mail, but the image must be in true color and must be of a high-enough resolution to see detail or the quality of the final product will be compromised.

Additional charges: In addition to the flat fee for each drawing type, the following charges may apply. I do not charge for the amount of time that I spend at your barn or event taking pictures and am happy to spend as much time and take as many images as is necessary to produce a quality equine portrait.

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- Travel to and from your barn or event To take the preliminary set of photographs and/or to deliver the final product. This is for mileage and is computed as the total number of miles from my office to your destination x .45 per mile.
- Final large format scan I scan each final image for both my records and to publish on my website. The cost of this scan in color is \$35.00. I will provide a copy of this high-resolution scan to you, free of charge, and saved to a CD-R when I deliver the final drawing.
- The cost of the temporary matt and packaging This price will vary but will be less than \$50 as this is only temporary protection for the drawing. The matting will be comprised of a backing cardboard and a white matt. Neither of these will be acid-free so it is suggested that the drawing be framed as soon as possible.
- Photo processing I process all photographs to a Photo CD and the cost of each CD (100 images per CD) is about \$4.00 plus tax.
- Shipping I prefer to make my own deliveries but in the event that a drawing must be shipped because of distance I will ship UPS standard rate. Some additional packaging may be required to further protect the drawing and I will insure the package for the appropriate replacement amount. Rush shipping will be slightly more. All drawings will be shipped flat.

Conditions - The following conditions exist regarding these original works of equine art.

- I retain the right to publish each image for the purposes of self-promotion as a digital copy on my websites, blog and in appropriate printed material (such as flyers, brochures, postcards, etc), but each purchased drawing on the price list of the website will be accompanied by a disclaimer stating that it is the property of the purchaser and neither the original nor prints are available for sale.
- Once purchased the image becomes the property of the purchaser but the artist retains the copyright. This
  entitles me to a professional by-line in the event that the image is published, and this by-line will read (TITLE) by
  Catherine L. Gauldin (year of copyright) (website address). Once final payment is received, I give permission for
  limited publication rights on the condition that the image is not altered in any way and that I be given proper
  credit each time the image is published.
- I agree that I will not publish the image or enter the image into competition without the written permission of the purchaser, except in the case of publication for the purposes of self-promotion on my websites, blog or in printed advertising material.



I love horses and I love drawing horses. I can assure you I will work towards giving you the highest quality equine image should you choose to contact me at the information provided below, and that it will be a unique and personalized fine art image worthy of the Art of the Illustrated Horse.

#### Catherine L. Gauldin Illustration

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