

Amos Carter Museum of Western Art

3501 CAMP BOWIE BOULEVARD, FORT WORTH 7, TEXAS PERSHING 2-2847

Ara code 817

February 10, 1964

Miss Laura Gilpin
Camino del Monte Sol
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Laura:

A hasty memo to come back to your Navajo pictures.

I have just returned from Utah where the final manuscript for the book to accompany the exhibition was ready together with most of the pictures to go into the exhibition. I was appaled at the impoverished Indian Material and have underwritten the other members of our group in making the decision that we must have top flight Navajo subjects regardless of geography. I was not aware of it before, but our author, Dr. Crampton, has a blind spot on Indians.

Could you send me some proof prints to select from which we might use in the exhibition? To date, we have been negotiating for use of photographs on the basis of a fee of \$20 for each picture plus, of course, the cost of prints which we would ask you to prepare. In the case of color, we would ask Meisel in Dallas to prepare either an exhibition print or transparency assuming, of course, that you are not prepared to handle this type of work in your own dark room. Credit is, of course, given to the photographer immediately on the label accompanying the photograph.

Pictures which I recall which I think would be useful are:

- (1) The Indians at a tribal council meeting. This is the picture which I used in the exhibition at Colorado Springs in 1950 which we reproduced in the accompanying leaflet publication. No need to send a proof of this as I have the reproduction. However, you might have another suggestion which would be better.
- (2) Navajo women and children in the summer Hogan. This was an extremely informal view of a group of women seated on the ground, children playing and crawling over them, etc.
- (3) A healing ceremony of some sort or possibly one of the early pictures of Betsy Foster with some of her Navajo patients. Maybe a picture which would suggest the changes wrought in native life between healing via the chant method and modern medicine.

February 10, 1964

- (4) A Fire Dance, Squaw Dance, Mud Dance or whatever.
- (5) Navajo herdsmen, sheep herders, live stock in one form or another. I am not clear what I am looking for here but want to indicate the close association of live stock to Navajo economy.
- (6) Navajo family. I think back, of course, to the famous one of the family in the wagon.

On all the above we should be working with enlargements about 16 x 20. If there were really a sensational view, I might be able to go even larger. Therefore, in making selections for me to run through, you should have in mind the capabilities of the negative for this purpose.

As I have said, I am taking this action because I feel we must have good Indian material and I know that you have the quality we need in your pictures. However, I would like to avoid positive identification so far as locale is concerned unless, of course, it could be spotted as Utah or Monument Valley. In other words, a picture which is identifiable as Gallop, New Mexico, Shiprock, etc. is not appropriate.

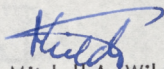
In answering, could you let me know approximately what you would charge to make 16 x 20s and/or a 30 x 40 print glossy unferrotyped. They need not be mounted as we will be doing all the mounting at once in order that they will conform.

Color suggestions that you might have available in any of the above categories will be considered. However, I am certain that I can not go for more than two color pictures in the show due to the arrangement of the design of the panels, etc.

I have a letter from Betty re Indian Arts Fund and will be answering her shortly. I hope to be out around the end of the month at which time I think we need to catch up on I.A.F. planning.

Fond greetings to you and Betsy.

Sincerely,


Mitchell A. Wilder
Director

MAW:mp