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## *United by Thunderbird Artists*



***Jimmie & Denise Dodson***

Thunderbird Artists, the leading producer of fine art and wine events in the Southwest, is known to the public as "...A Collector's Paradise"™. The company was founded in 1981, by Judi Combs, and has since developed a reputation as collector's shows, due to the unwavering standards that are applied during the jury process. Thunderbird Artists' festivals are a haven to vendors and artists' alike; the festivals have given emerging artists a marketplace to sell their works and contribute to the launching of their art careers in a family atmosphere. In fact, several artists have united in marriage after meeting at a Thunderbird Artists festival.

President of Thunderbird Artists, Denise Dodson, married contemporary metal sculptor, Jim Dodson Jr in 2008 after meeting at the Carefree Fine Art & Wine Festival.

In addition to the Dodson's, contemporary jeweler, Sarah Foster and southwestern potter, Robert Hughes, united in marriage on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Another couple, Aryana Londir and Kit Carson met at the Edwards Fine Art & Sculpture Festival in the summer of 2001. They are happily celebrating their 5<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in October.

Thunderbird Artists' success prompted the birth of the Arizona Fine Art EXPO, nearly 7 years ago, a 10 week running show (January 20<sup>th</sup> – April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011) dedicated to showcasing artists in a working studio environment. Last March, during the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Arizona Fine Art EXPO, wood sculptor, Charles Taube and wildlife photographer, Susan Byrd, married in the beautiful sculpture garden after meeting at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Arizona Fine Art EXPO.

Thunderbird Artists' is excited for the 2010/2011 festival season and is sure more precious memories are in the making! Join us for the first festival of the season- the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Carefree Fine Art & Wine Festival, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>! The festival will take place in downtown Carefree, intersecting at the corner of Easy and Ho Hum streets. Hours are 10am to 5pm each day. Admission is \$3.00 and free for Carefree residents. Parking is free all weekend.



***Robert Hughes & Sarah Foster***



***Aryana Londir & Kit Carson***