

Lowell's Blog Issue # 1 – January 4, 2015

My World of Selfies – Part 1

by Lowell Davis

He who dies with the most selfies wins!

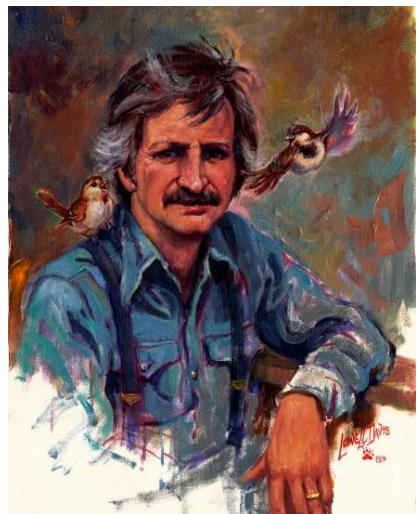
And the winner is? ... Lowell Davis, Farm Artist from Missouri!

Throughout my lifetime career as an artist, I worked with several companies to produce over a hundred thousand of my self-portraits or “selfies” in an assortment of media including porcelain, pewter and die-cast figurines, porcelain plates, lithographic and Giclée prints, printed media including books and magazine covers, large “junk” sculptures, none as photographs. My selfies have been sold in gift shops, department stores and farm stores across the USA, Europe and Canada.

I am not quite sure why my selfies sold but they did and so the companies kept on making them. I am launching my new blog with a series of articles about the different selfies that I produced over my career.

Selfies don't just have to be photographs – they can be in any medium including paintings and sculptures cast in a number of different media. They had always been called self-portraits until a couple of years ago someone coined the word selfie to represent these self-portraits.

The other night my wife Rose was on Facebook and as I looked over her shoulder, I noticed all those selfies that the kids were posting. I said to her



“Self Portrait”

Original oil painting / Giclée prints
This was back when I was dark
headed and handsome

“Wow! We are raising a generation of vain kids taking all these photos of themselves.” She turned around and said, “Mr. Lowell, what are you talking about!! You’ve got more selfies than anyone that I’ve ever heard of. Maybe none with a camera but your selfies are in your paintings, sculptures, junk art and every other medium known to man.” After I reflected on what she said...I started thinking about all the art that I have created in my lifetime and thinkin’ about how much of that art was selfies. You know it wasn’t until a very few years ago that the word selfies was coined and before that these self-portrayals were called self-portraits.



"Chicken Thief"

Porcelain Figurine (Ltd Ed of 950)

This selfie is of me the time I got a direct hit from a skunk and my wife made me take a bath in an ole No. 2 washtub. One of my roosters came by, started pecking at my pocket watch, picked it up and carried it off—thus the name “Chicken Thief”.

My animals seemed to never leave my side and I seemed never to be able to have any private time. This next selfie is a winter scene of me going to the outhouse and really demonstrates that I had “No Private Time”.



"No Private Time"

Porcelain Figurine (Ltd Ed of 1,250)

Border Fine Arts of Scotland produced hundreds of thousands figurines mostly of the animals on my farm from sculptures that I created. Each motif was produced in cold cast porcelain, hand painted and then shipped to the US for distribution by Schmid of Boston for sale in around 2,000 gift shops and department stores in the US and Canada. Along with using my animals as my models, I often incorporated my self-portrait into my sculptures.



“The Critics”

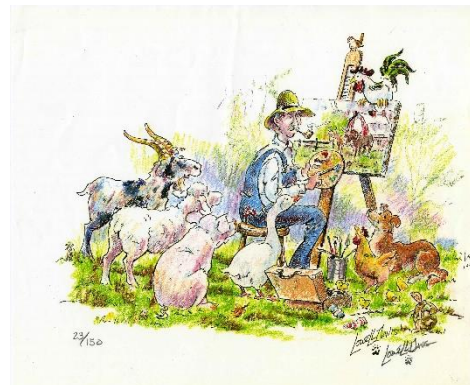
Porcelain Figurine (Ltd Ed of 1,200)

My first selfie in porcelain with Border Fine Arts was in “The Critics”. This went over very well with my collectors so I just kept on making selfies with my farm animals for Border Fine Arts to cast in porcelain. I think one of the reasons I did so many selfies is so that I didn’t need to pay modeling fees!! I also did “The Critics” as a limited edition porcelain plate and color sketch.



“The Critics”

Collectors Plate (Ltd Ed of 12,500)



“The Critics”

Color Sketch (Ltd Ed of 150)

I am very excited to be able to share all of my selfies with you as the initial series of articles on my new blog. Be sure to check back regularly for new issues. All past issues will be kept on line for viewing as well. After I complete the series of articles on my selfies, I will continue my blog with other articles about myself, my art and the town that I created in SW Missoura, Red Oak II.