

An Artful Ranch Hand

Ranching is Linda Davies Gage's heritage and, through her art, she passes it on in enduring and captivating images. Growing up on remote cattle ranches in Oregon before rural electricity came in, Linda developed a love for art, but it wasn't until high school that she realized it could be a way to make a living.

After graduating from the Oregon College of Art in Ashland, she worked as an illustrator, but her heart was in ranching. When she married buckaroo Leon Gage, it was back to remote country, with painting squeezed in

between chores and raising and home-schooling two children.

Linda's eye for contrast and bold use of color would make her award-winning work outstanding anywhere. But the depth of experience and appreciation of western life add a unique dimension. "The pieces I get emotionally involved with," Linda says, "are the ones people like best." ■

Linda can be reached in Jordan Valley, Ore., at 541-586-2308.



"QUAKEY SPRINGS" causes people to "know where that is." But Linda changed and modified her original image until, she says, "The place doesn't exist, except in my mind."



*"LADIES OF JORDAN CREEK"
Linda enjoys the lively interplay of cool and warm blacks.*



*"OWYHEE SHADOWS"
Masterful use of line and color contrast makes purple sheep seem entirely appropriate and beguiling.*



*"CHICKIE I"
Rooster is bright and lively, loosely executed in a painterly style.*