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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Spirits of the Feather
The natural mixed media work of Roger Hoffman
May 11 to July 15, 2007

On May 11, 2007 West Valley Art Museum welcomes the art of Roger Hoffman being displayed in the Heffernon Gallery. Roger's unusual use of natural materials to express the forces of nature as Native American art does, creates an exhibition of mystery with spiritual overtones entitled "Spirits of the Feather".

Hoffman is not a Native American. Yet his sensibilities towards the materials of leather, stones, shells, beads, bones and feathers belies that origin and offers the viewer what seems to be an authentic experience with an expression of an ancient culture. A retired educator, Roger began interpreting Southwestern Indian lore in 1994 through the medium of materials not often seen in art circles. Patronage for his art has grown steadily.

Roger uses only natural materials in these works utilizing antler rosettes or turtle shells to portray ageless and ancient faces without features. Natural hides from deer, antelope, goat, rabbit and others create the bodies of enigmatic and ghostly embodiments of spirits that strike a chord in almost any viewer. Entering the gallery for the first time visitors are likely to feel a church-like atmosphere as they take in the ethereal visages gazing out at them and hear the gentle Native American flute music. Combined with the poetry relating to the images by Hoffman's sister-in-law Joan Novy, the exhibit becomes more than an art show. The experience yields more than just aesthetic rewards.

West Valley Art Museum is open 10 AM to 4 PM Tuesday through Sunday. The Museum is located at West Bell Road and 114th Avenue. With five exhibition galleries, a Museum Store, *Classic Café*, and regularly scheduled education programs, the Museum welcomes all visitors. There is an admission charge for non-members. \$7 adults, \$2 students, ages 5 and under are free.

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“Morning Child” mixed media Roger Hoffman



“Grandmother”
Mixed media by
Roger Hoffman



“Blue Wren” mixed media Roger Hoffman

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