

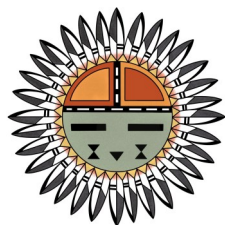


The Life and Times of
JO MORA
 Iconic Artist of the American West
PETER HILLER



VISIT OUR TRADING POST

Peter Hiller's biography *The Life and Times of Jo Mora* and several Mora prints are for sale. Selected artworks on exhibit are available for purchase also, but must remain on display until the exhibit's end in December, 2024. Please inquire at the Trading Post.



Museum of Indigenous People
 147 N. Arizona Ave., Prescott, AZ 86301
 (928) 445-1230
www.museumofindigenouspeople.org

**The Staff and Board of Trustees
 wish to thank those who made
 this exhibit possible:**

Peter Hiller

Gary Spradlin, President, and the
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*Monterey History and
 Art Association*

Sarah and Jim Taylor

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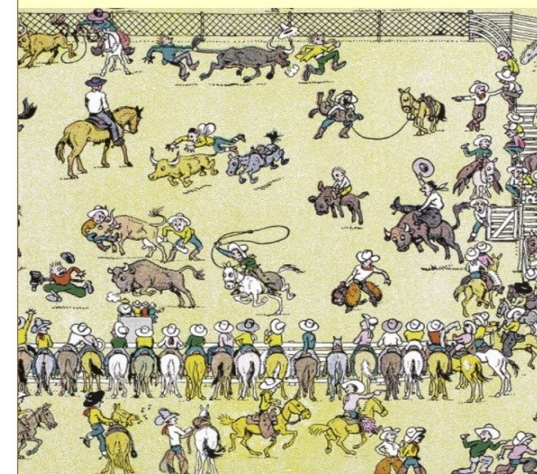
The Jo Mora Family

The Museum of
 Indigenous People Volunteers

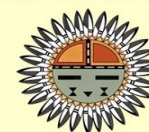
Thank you to volunteers
 Priscilla Anchondo
 and Greg Byrum
 for your contributions
 to this brochure.



A Chapter in the Life of
JO MORA
The Arizona Years

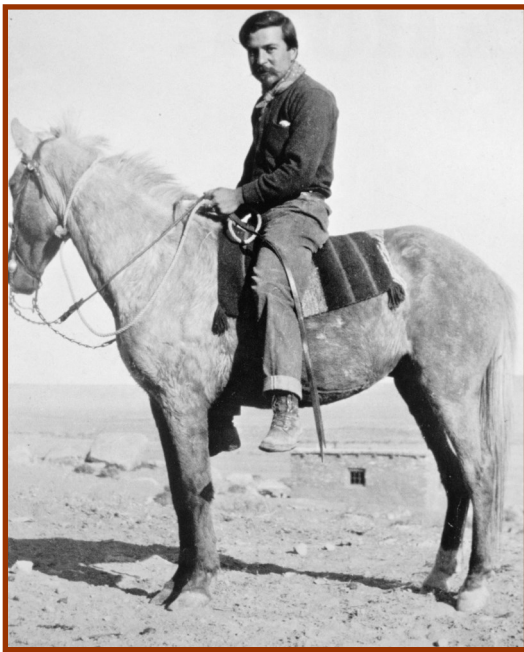


June 1 - December 2024
Mon - Sat 10 AM - 4 PM



**Museum of
 Indigenous People**





WHAT BROUGHT JO MORA TO ARIZONA?

The mission of the Museum of Indigenous People is to instill understanding and respect for the indigenous cultures of the southwest. This exhibit tells a story of an artist whose curiosity spurred him on to an adventure for deeper understanding of Native life at a time when mainstream America had much to learn.

Joseph Jacinto Mora (1876-1947) was born in Uruguay. His father was a sculptor from Spain and his mother was from France. When he was only age three, the family moved to New York. As a child, Jo developed a fascination for the American Southwest and a yearning to visit the people there.

EXPERIENCES THROUGH ART AND WORDS

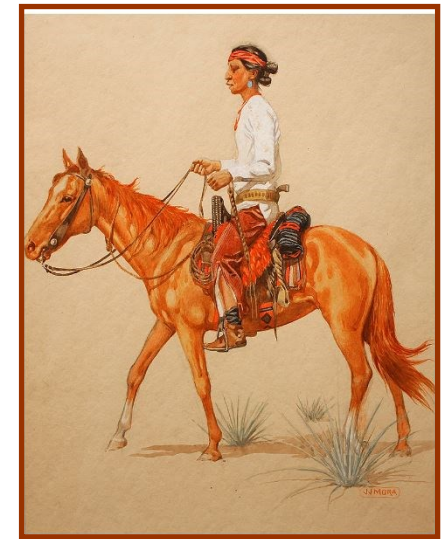
When Jo arrived in Arizona 120 years ago, his thoughtful disposition was accepted and welcomed among the Navajo and Hopi people he met. He was permitted to rent lodgings at Hopi. He was allowed to take photos, to sketch, and to paint what he saw— activities which are now prohibited for outsiders.

On Hopi land, there are still no photographs, sketches, recordings, or any of that sort allowed in any of the villages or anywhere on Hopi for non-Hopi people. They can come up for certain ceremonies that would be open for visitors, but we always inform visitors to leave their cell phones etc. in their vehicles. It's just not allowed.

~Filmer Kewanyama, *Hopi*

Jo considered his life among the Navajo and the Hopi as a turning point in his life. It was when he became the true artist he was meant to be. Included along side his ink drawings and watercolors are excerpts from his journals about his love of indigenous culture and the freedom of his life.

His writing reflects the time period. “A mite,” “wee chaps,” and “weird” (meaning unfamiliar to him) are some examples of that language.



He learned to speak the Navajo and Hopi languages and became a friend to many men in the tribes, joining in their activities.

HIGHLIGHTS OF HIS CAREER

Over the span of his career, Jo became known for his multi-faceted talent. In addition to his paintings, photos, and sketches, he was an architect, a printmaker, a cartoonist, and a sculptor. He is pictured below with the bronze plaque he created for Rainbow Bridge.

