

WITTE MUSEUM

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RELEASE DATE: NOVEMBER 3, 2008

Take a Ride to the *Wild Wild West* at the Witte Museum

SAN ANTONIO— The Witte Museum is bringing the Wild West back to Texas with an exhibit of Western frontier artifacts from the post Civil War era to the 1920s. *Wild Wild West: True Stories and the Arena*, curated by the Witte's Brown Foundation Curator, Bruce Shackelford, is on view in the Piper Memorial Wing **December 20, 2008** through **August 23, 2009**.

Wild Wild West demystifies pioneer life in the American West and American Indians, presenting real-life stories of Western heroes, as opposed to those reenacted in the Wild West shows, such as Wild Bill Hickok, Sitting Bull and others. From how they made their names out West to finding second careers performing in Wild West shows and on Broadway visitors will learn of life on the frontier and how its famous and infamous figures were the stuff of which myths are made.

Pulled from the Witte's unique artifact collection and some never-seen private collections, more than 100 objects are on view from boots, spurs, belt buckles and saddles to American Indian artifacts, dresses, bonnets, historical photos and guns. Furthermore, the exhibit includes rare posters from the Wild West and Broadway shows from the Witte's Hertzberg Circus Collection.

Wild Wild West: True Stories and the Arena is free with museum general admission. For more information call 210.357.1900 or visit www.wittemuseum.org

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