

“I think of the first few years I lived in Naples, how beautiful and peaceful—all the wonderful, natural things. All the good oysters in the bay, good clams and so much good fishing. And good hunting so close to home.”



Never No More: Storter’s Southwest Florida

Exhibition Prospectus

We only took what we needed to eat or make a living ...So many wonderful things that are gone now.”

-Rob Storter

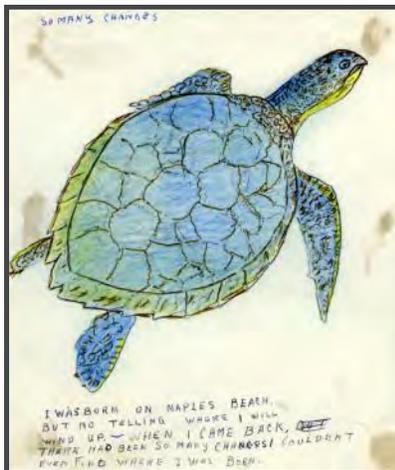
(1894-1987)



COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUMS
NAPLES EVERGLADES IMMOKALEE NAPLES DEPOT MARCO ISLAND

At A Glance

Paintings by Florida artist, Robert Lee Storter, Jr. (1894-1987) are featured in this exhibit. His largely untutored and unvarnished style chronicles a time when much of southwest Florida was considered America's last frontier. A product of his environment, he earned his living by fishing, guiding, and boating. His days spent in the waters of the Ten Thousand Islands; and the hammocks and prairies of the Everglades, made him a keen observer of nature.



He drew the countless fish and birds that once darkened the waters and the skies, remarking that now creatures in such numbers are *“never no more.”*

Rob's portrayal of the Everglades is a celebration of the attendant exuberance and beauty of a frontier land that he understood and loved.

The exhibition was developed by Donna M. Shelley, past manager of the Museum of the Everglades, Everglades City, Florida, in conjunction with Jennifer Guida, Curator of Collections, Collier County Museums, and the Friends of the Museum of the Everglades.



Exhibition Specifications

Large scale text panels feature:

- Introduction
- Family photographs
- Maps of the Ten Thousand Islands/
Everglades

Contents: Three (3) introductory panels, 24" w x 36" h each; thirty (30) framed artworks in a variety of sizes; and thirty (30) labels, 12" x12" or 8" x 8" each in size.

Space Required: 80 running feet

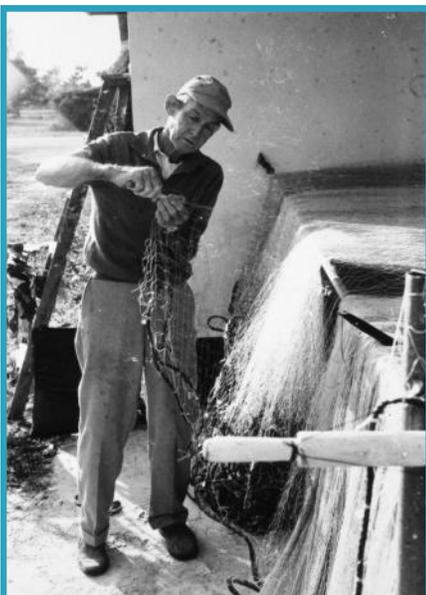
Crates: Three (3) **Sizes** (1) 48 3/16" x 15 7/16" x 29 11/16"
(2,3) 47 7/16 " x 30 3/16" x 21 15/16"

Security: Medium

Participation Fee: \$2,500 per-12 weeks

Shipping: Incoming

- Some hanging materials and hardware included



Also included are:

- Passages from Rob Storter's journals
- Observations that compare the pioneer past to the modern environmental conditions present in the Everglades and coastal southwest Florida.

Engage Your Audience



***Never No More: Storter's Southwest Florida* will provide communities with a chance to address:**

The History of Daily Life

Rob Storter's artwork provides us with a window into the daily life of the Everglades and Ten Thousand Islands region. From hunting scenes to fishing boats, and tractors on the farm, his work allows us to see past our notions of southwest Florida as a mysterious, wild landscape; and more as a resilient and vibrant community.

Environment

Storter was a keen observer of nature and documented the abundance of southwest Florida's flora and fauna in his paintings. A variety of fish and other sea-life, as well as wild boar, bears, and native plants are exhibited in his art. Storter shows how people not only used their natural environment as a resource, but how they learned to coexist with their wild neighbors, as well as documenting its noted depletion with development.

Art & Culture

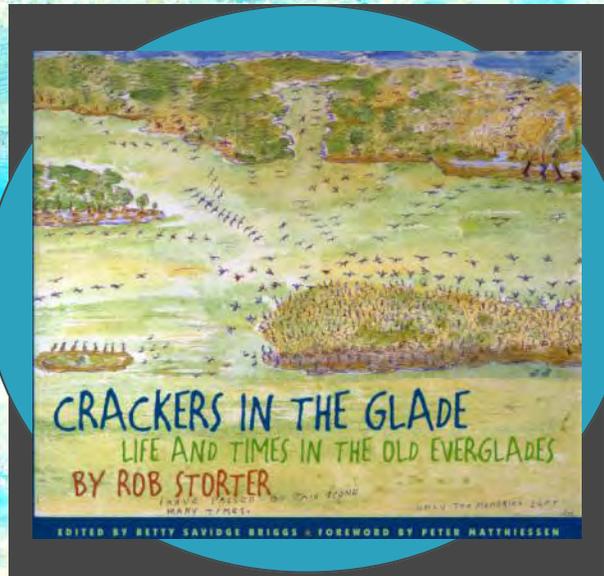
This rich collection of folk art weaves brilliantly untutored imagery and straightforward story telling into a tapestry of life in America's last frontier, one that was gradually fading away. Thankfully, Storter captured the essence of this region through his artwork in a variety of mediums. It is a way of life to be explored, shared, and remembered as a unique piece of American culture and history.

"Rob Storter was one of those uniquely gifted individuals whose humility, faith, love of fishing and the environment shines through in his simple works of art, reflecting the life and times of the early pioneers of southwest Florida. Let us not forget what once was."

-Patricia A. Huff, Friends of the Museum of the Everglades

“Robert Lee Storter illuminates life on the south Florida frontier through his paintings, drawings and writings. Born in 1894 and raised in the Everglades, his observations are essential to understanding the state of the natural environment he once knew and how it was transformed from wilderness to luxury resort. His unvarnished artistic style and honest prose have a quality that is refreshing and engaging. In the exhibit, “Never No More: Storter’s Southwest Florida” his charming yet cautionary message is memorably delivered.”

-Donna M. Shelley, past manager of the Museum of the Everglades, Everglades City, Florida



“[Storter] closely described his coastal world (often right on the painting itself), so that what he has left to us is not merely quaint or picturesque but a true historical documentation, in word and image, of a precious world and way of life that was fading very rapidly even as he recorded it.”

-Peter Matthiessen, author of the forward to Crackers in the Glade: Life and Times in the Old Everglades

Scheduling

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