Chester Cornett Exhibit

VFTH

9/25/14

A unique folk art exhibit is on display at the Kentucky Museum.

Amy Bingham has a preview in this week’s View from the Hill.

He’s known as one of the finest folk artists of the 20th century. Chester Cornett made very little money from his talent while he was alive, but his works are impacting people more than thirty years after his death.

He had a troubled life full of marital discord but Chester Cornett, from the Appalachian region of Kentucky, found peace in a skill he acquired at an early age.

 “He was raised by his grandfather, grandmother and his uncle and they taught him his chair making skills.”

The complex artist died in 1981 but an important part of his legacy lives on.

More than two dozen of the famed folk artists rocking chairs and other objects are on display at the Kentucky Museum in an exhibit called “Chester Cornett: Beyond the Narrow Sky.”

 “Folk Art is dynamic and every person who puts their knife, in this case, knife to wood shares a part of their personal life’s journey.”

From the most vibrant and eye catching piece of the collection—the serpent chair…..

 “Even the eyes of the snake are pegs that hold it all together so it’s an amazing amount of pegging work, intricate.”

To the Presidential Chair that was presented at the White House.

 “Richard Nixon”

….the exhibit is a lesson in lifelong learning for all who visit.

 “The story of one creative individuals life as told through the art he created.”

Chester Cornett: Beyond the Narrow Sky will remain on display at the Kentucky Museum through November 9th. If you’d like to arrange a tour, please call 270-745-2592.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

###