

“During the sixteen-year history of the rendezvous, [no one] left a more detailed [visual] description of this wilderness experience than did Alfred Jacob Miller.”

– **Fred Gowans**, author of *Rocky Mountain Rendezvous*

“The project is a tremendous opportunity to bring this important segment of Wyoming history to a general audience in an entertaining way.”

– **Clint Gilchrist**, president of the Museum of the Mountain Man, Sublette County Historical Society

“The interchange of goods, information and ideas among the frontier trappers and traders, American Indian and European cultures is fertile ground for dynamic and valuable interpretation.”

– **John Logan Allen**, professor emeritus of history, University of Wyoming

“I believe the project will prove to be a highly effective means not just of teaching about the fur trade and the work of Alfred Jacob Miller, but also of learning more about the paintings themselves.”

– **Lisa M. Strong**, author of *Sentimental Journey: The Art of Alfred Jacob Miller*



HUNTING ELK, ALFRED JACOB MILLER, OIL, C. 1837. UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING, AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER, ACCESSION NUMBER 4912.

PROJECT PRINCIPALS

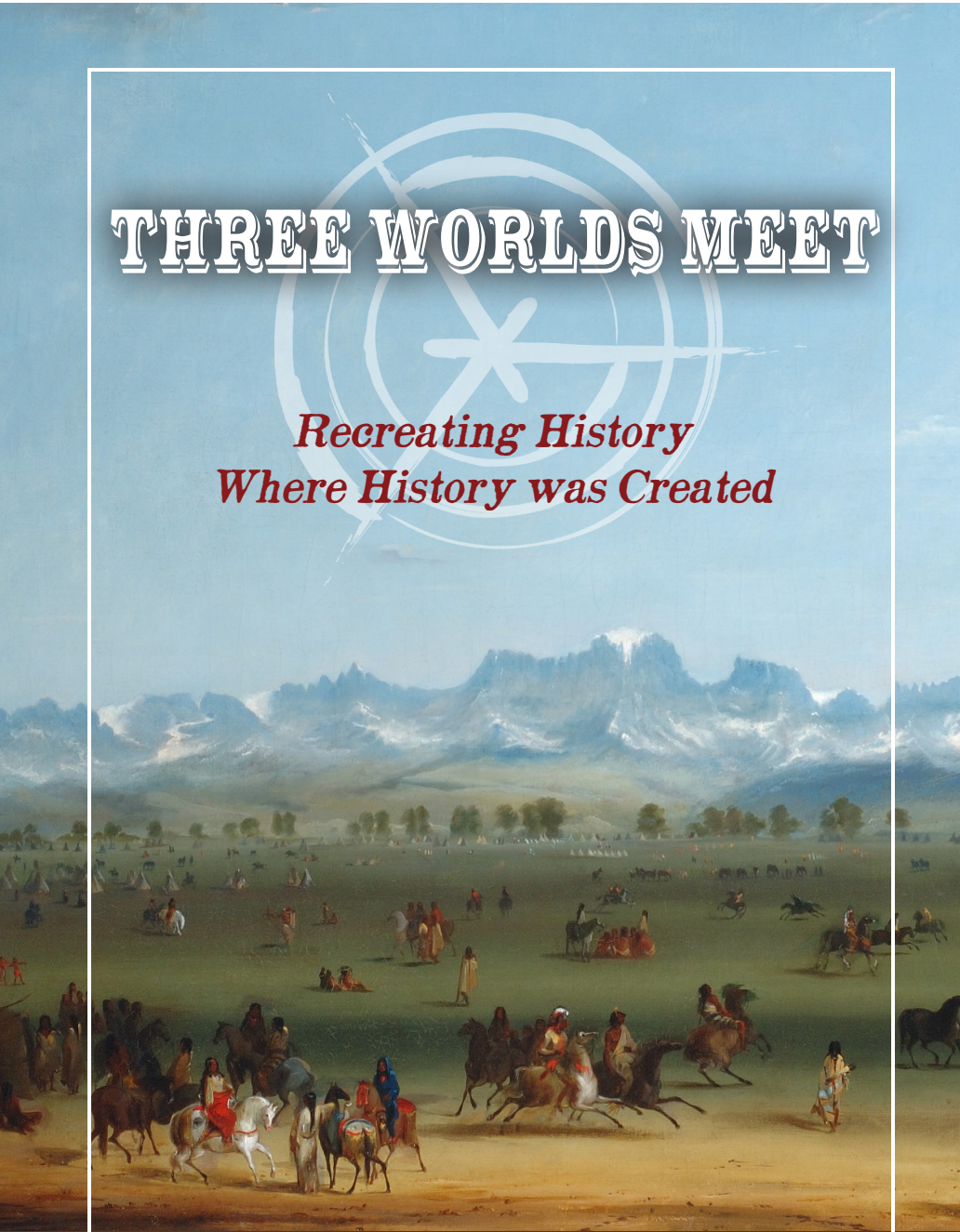
- James C. Auld**, project director, author, and history scholar
- Kathleen Barlow**, professor and chair, Anthropology and Museum Studies, Central Washington University
- Jerry Enzler**, founding director of the National Mississippi River Museum, author, and history scholar
- Otis Halfmoon**, Nez Perce elder and American Indian scholar, tribal liaison for National Park Service
- Jim Hardee**, editor of the *Rocky Mountain Fur Trade Journal*, author, and history scholar
- Charles Schroeck**, education and outreach Consultant

ADVISORS

- John Logan Allen, PhD**, distinguished professor emeritus of geography, University of Wyoming
- Barton Barbour, PhD**, professor and chair, Department of History, Boise State University
- Clint Gilchrist**, President, Sublette County Historical Society
- Laurie Hartwig**, Director, Museum of the Mountain Man
- Willie LeClair**, Eastern Shoshone storyteller, lecturer and presenter
- Alan McFarland**, Tyrone Campbell Society, Scotland
- Lisa M. Strong**, PhD, Manager of Curatorial Affairs, Corcoran Museum of Art
- Scott Walker**, living history specialist, Fort Laramie National Historic Site

This project is supported in part by funding from:





# THREE WORLDS MEET

## Recreating History Where History was Created

THE RENDEZVOUS NEAR GREEN RIVER - OREGON, 1837 (GENERAL VIEW OF INDIAN CAMP), ALFRED JACOB MILLER, OIL ON CANVAS. UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING, AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER, EVERETT D. GRAFF COLLECTION, ACCESSION NUMBER 4912.

# The Green River Rendezvous of 1837 through the Art of Alfred Jacob Miller



Imagine the western paintings of  
Alfred Jacob Miller performed onstage  
with rich narration and action.



Above: Historical interpreters enact a tableau vivant of Miller's *Dinner Party* sketch, Fort Laramie National Historic Site, 2012.

Right: *An Early Dinner Party Near Larrimer's Fork*, watercolor sketch by Alfred Jacob Miller, 1837.



COURTESY OF THE EUGENE B. ADKINS COLLECTION AT THE FRED JONES JR. MUSEUM OF ART, UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA, NORMAN, OKLAHOMA AND THE PHILBROOK MUSEUM OF ART, TULSA, OKLAHOMA

The **Three Worlds Meet** production, a series of tableaux vivants with narration, sound, and lighting effects, will debut during the Green River Rendezvous Days in July 2013. The Pinedale High School Auditorium, a modern 500-seat theatre with advanced audio-visual and set equipment, has been booked for the event. Related programs will take place at the Museum of the Mountain Man's outdoor amphitheatre, with its spectacular backdrop of the Wind River Mountains. Admission to these performances will be free.

**Three Worlds Meet** will enhance and complement the Museum of the Mountain Man's 2013 Annual Journal Forum, with its scholarly presentations and launch of the *Rocky Mountain Fur Trade Journal*, Volume 7. Pertinent details from *RMFTJ* articles will be incorporated into the narration and staging of the tableaux vivants.

The organizers plan to bring entertaining and innovative programs to additional venues, such as Jackson Hole and Murthly Castle in Perthshire, Scotland, the ancestral home of William Drummond Stewart.

**Three Worlds Meet** has received partial funding from the Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund, the Museum of the Mountain Man, and the Wyoming Humanities Council.



A historic encounter between  
• Native Americans  
• Trappers & Traders  
• European Culture

## ART, HISTORY, AND OUR HOME

As many Green River Valley residents proudly acknowledge, one of the most successful business markets of 19th century America was the fur trade in the Far West. The annual summer Rendezvous was the heart of this market, where goods were exchanged among Native Americans and Euro-American fur trappers and traders. One of the largest and most famous of these gatherings was the Green River Rendezvous of 1837, which took place near present-day Pinedale.

Attending the extraordinary July 1837 Rendezvous were: Alfred Jacob Miller, who had been schooled in European

art traditions and became the first artist to document the fur trade; William Drummond Stewart, Miller's Scottish patron and fellow adventurer; and the fur traders and Native Americans whose lives would soon be changed forever.

Alfred Jacob Miller's paintings, which grace museum walls and countless history books today, grew from the many sketches and watercolors he created that summer. Miller's scenes and portraits are an artistic treasury of the early American West.

## BRINGING ART TO LIFE

**Three Worlds Meet** animates Alfred Jacob Miller's sketches and paintings through the "magic" of *tableaux vivants*. Popular in 19th century America, tableaux vivants use costumed actors in sustained poses to imitate well-known artworks.

Based on rigorous scholarship, the **Three Worlds Meet** script and narrative features the words of William Drummond Stewart, Alfred Jacob Miller, and other fur trade personalities, as well as the languages and cultures of Native Americans.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

**Three Worlds Meet** is currently seeking donors to help secure matching funds and sponsors for the tableaux vivants and a mountain man encampment at major sites in 2013. All contributions to this 501(c)(3), not-for-profit project are tax deductible. Contributions may be made to the **Museum of the Mountain Man**, which is assisting with support and fundraising efforts.

For more information regarding the **Three Worlds Meet** project, including donations and grants, please contact:

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