



Paintings are done on plywood cut-outs anchored securely in concrete.

“Giant Art” Brings Traffic To Rural Businesses

By Janis Schole, Contributing Editor

A California artist has come up with a unique way to draw attention to roadside businesses and various on-farm enterprises.

John Cerney of Salinas, Calif., is a talented artist who specializes in giant “cut-out” art. His giant lifelike scenes are most often viewed from the comfort of an automobile as people whiz by the highway. The sheer size of his work allows travelers to begin ‘taking it in’ from a distance away.

The work often tells a story with a Norman Rockwell-like sense of humor and has been displayed throughout California and in many other Western states.

The paintings are done on plywood cut-outs, and then Cerney digs 4-ft. holes and

pours concrete for the Douglas fir posts and metal bars that hold the creations securely in place.

He does commissions and sometimes collaborates with other artists, and says he especially enjoys doing “offbeat art” that makes people ask questions.

“I like my work to be something you wouldn’t expect to see when driving down the highway and I like to make people wonder about the reason behind them,” he points out. “Most of my projects are commissions, but I do a couple projects each year on my own without being paid for my time, so that I can do something really quirky.”

Cerney says it takes him about a week to a



Giant lifelike scenes along busy roads draw attention to roadside businesses and various on-farm enterprises.

week and a half to complete one 18-ft. person, and a whole project can take around two months.

The average commissioned job pays him anywhere from \$10,000 to \$20,000, and he occasionally takes on small-sized art commissions as well.

A few of his giant cut-out pieces include: 18-ft. high plywood workers harvesting ice-

berg lettuce; an irrigator with his boot on a shovel; a farmer crouching with his hand cupping some soil; and women in head scarves working to thin just-budding crops.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John Cerney Murals, 543-C Brunken Ave., Salinas, Calif. 93901 (ph 831 758-8403; john@johncerney.com; www.johncerney.com).

Big Bag Bale Feeder

Here’s a new concept in bale feeding: An air and water-permeable collapsible bag that falls away as livestock feed on the bale.

The patented Big Bale Buddy is essentially a snug-fitting polypropylene bag with an elastic top opening.

“It does a great job of keeping the hay contained with very minimal wastage,” says inventor Jenise Crossing. “When a bale is nearly gone, the animals quickly learn to push the soft folds of polypropylene around with their noses to get the last little bits of hay. If there’s any dirt or manure stuck to it when it’s empty and ready to re-use, pick it up by one edge and give it a few firm shakes to remove. Polypropylene is naturally slippery and repels dirt.”

The woven material is durable, rot and stain-resistant, and UV-treated for 1,200 hours (two years) of protection from sun damage.

“All seams are double sewn with UV-treated polypropylene thread, and the elastic in the top is sewn to the bag all the way around so it can’t come loose and become a hazard to your animals,” Crossing says. “Depending on usage and care, the bags should last for years. They’re a safe, affordable alternative to pen-type feeders, eliminating injuries sometimes caused by metal units.”

To use the bag feeder, you stand the bale on a flat end and remove all strings and bindings. Then simply pull the bag down over the bale and flip it over. “If you’re feeding smaller animals or want to provide more access to the bale, you just fold down the upper edge of the bag so that the elastic grips the sides of the bale and the upper edge is exposed,” Crossing explains.

Big Bale Buddy is available in three sizes. “Small” fits bales up to 4 ft., 5 in. dia.; “large”

fits bales up to 5 ft., 3 in. dia.; and “extra-large” fits 6-ft. bales.

“It’s meant to fit snugly, so please make sure you know your bale size before placing your order,” she says.

Product prices are: \$89.95 (Can.) for small; \$94.95 (Can.) for large; and \$99.95 (Can.) for extra-large. Shipping within Canada is free but for U.S. orders it’s \$11.70 (Can.).

Big Bale Buddy comes with a 1-year free replacement warranty against tearing and manufacturer’s defects. Dealer inquiries welcome.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Buddy Incorporated, 2267 Monck Road, Bancroft, Ontario, Canada K0L 1C0 (ph 866 389-9952 or 416 607-7013; info@bigbalebuddy.com; www.bigbalebuddy.com).



Big Bale Buddy is a collapsible poly bag with an elastic top opening. Bag falls away as livestock feed on the bale.

How To Subscribe To FARM SHOW (New & Renewal)



Take out a new subscription (or renew your existing subscription) and get a FREE copy of our new “Energy-Saving Ideas” book.

Yes! I want to be first to learn about latest new products. Please sign me up for FARM SHOW and send me a FREE copy of your just-published new “Energy-Saving Ideas” book.

Check here to renew.

United States

- \$19.95 for 1 yr.
- \$37.95 for 2 yrs.
- \$51.95 for 3 yrs.

Canada

- \$25.95 (Can.) for 1 yr.
- \$49.95 (Can.) for 2 yrs.
- \$65.95 (Can.) for 3 yrs.

My check (\$ _____) is enclosed. (Add 7% GST in Can.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State /Prov. _____ Zip _____

Make check payable to FARM SHOW.

Clip and mail this coupon to:

FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044

Or phone toll-free 800 834-9665

VISA, Mastercard & Discover accepted.