

ELDRIDGE HARDIE (b. 1940), Homeward, 2014, oil on canvas, 24 x 36 in., collection of Robert Goodyear

THE SPORTING LIFE

ELDRIDGE HARDIE: ART OF A LIFE IN SPORT

El Paso Museum of Art 1 Arts Festival Plaza El Paso, TX 79901 915.212.0300, elpasoartmuseum.org October 20—March 5 The El Paso Museum of Art is presenting an exhibition of more than 20 oils, watercolors, and drawings created over five decades by Eldridge Hardie (b. 1940). Having grown up in a hunting-and-fishing family resident in El Paso for more than a century, Hardie earned his B.F.A. at Washington University in St. Louis and has lived in Denver ever since.

He has earned an international reputation for capturing humans, animals, decoys, and gear in highly appropriate atmospheres of fresh air, sunlight, and wind. A seasoned sportsman himself, Hardie researches every aspect of his scene — the creatures, weather, vegetation, geology, light, even the speed of moving water — then endows it with the subtle psychological tension necessarily present in every encounter between hunter and prey. He makes his paintings both outdoors and in the studio, and has assisted the museum by lending generously from his own collection and introducing its curators to various private owners.

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