

Tyler Beard is a native Texan and is considered the foremost expert on American West style. In 1998 he curated "The Cowboy Boot: The Soul of the American West" for The Museum of the Horse in Ruidoso, New Mexico; it was the most comprehensive exhibition of cowboy boots ever assembled under one roof. He is the author of *Lone Star Living: Texas Homes and Ranches*. His homes have been featured in dozens of books and magazines on décor and lifestyle.

Jim Arndt is a nationally recognized advertising and editorial photographer. He maintains studios in Santa Fe and Minneapolis and shoots for clients such as Wrangler, Chevrolet, and Harley-Davidson. His personal work has also been exhibited in galleries in Santa Fe, Taos, and Austin.

As the world's leading authorities on the cowboy boot, Tyler and Jim have also collaborated on *The Cowboy Boot Book* (1992), *100 Years of Western Wear* (1993), and *Cowboy Boots* (2004).



"A KICKY COMPENDIUM ON THE SOLE OF THE AMERICAN WEST."
—TEXAS MONTHLY

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ART OF THE BOOT

BEARD ARNDT



ART OF THE BOOT

What is it with cowboy boots that makes millions of people all over the world feel at home in a pair? With enduring allure, the boot is one of the great enigmas of modern society. Now, more than 150 years after the cowboys roped the ranges and galloped through the tallgrass and sagebrush, we're simply enamored with what they wore on their feet.

Plain brown and black boots are still the mainstay of cowboy boot making, but the eye-poppin', snake-stompin', spine-chillin' designs created by individual artists are the ones that capture our hearts and imaginations.

Since the publication of *The Cowboy Boot Book* in 1992, the number of boot-makers across the country has nearly doubled, waiting lists have compounded, and the art of the boot has risen to mind-blowing proportions. The men and women who create our fancy footwear are both fascinating and funny. Their tales and artworks exhibited here are testament to the high-minded dedication of a down-to-earth contingent of craftspeople.

Tyler Beard and Jim Arndt have created an incredible gathering that will leave your toes twitchin' and your dogs barkin' for a new pair of boots.

