

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***Shaping Arizona Statehood: The George Stuart Historical Figures of the Movement West* Opens at The Mini Time Machine Museum of Miniatures in Time for Centennial Celebrations**

Tucson, Ariz.—November 15, 2011- The Mini Time Machine Museum of Miniatures in Tucson, Arizona will open a new temporary exhibit; *Shaping Arizona Statehood: The George Stuart Historical Figures of the Movement West* on Tuesday, January 31, 2012 to coincide with the celebration of Arizona's Centennial. The exhibit will be open through Saturday, April 14, 2012.

George S. Stuart creates one-quarter-life-size historic figures of individuals who were the driving force that shaped history throughout the world. This exhibit brings together fourteen figures from his Movement West group that represent more than 400 years of New World discovery and exploration, carving the path to Arizona Statehood in 1912.

Among the figures on display are 15th century Spanish monarchs Ferdinand and Isabella—reminding viewers that the path to Arizona statehood was rooted in Spain's desire to expand their power and religious beliefs beyond Europe. Christopher Columbus, Pope Alexander VI, Hernán Cortés, Malinche, Montezuma, an Aztec Leopard Warrior, as well as Father Eusebio Kino define the European conquest of the New World from Mexico into present day Arizona. Jedediah Smith, Kit Carson, Territorial Governor John Fremont, his wife Jesse Fremont and Abraham Lincoln take us through the 18th century and the development of Arizona as a Territory, which it was for nearly 49 years before becoming the 48th and last of the contiguous states to enter the Union in 1912.

The exhibit is significant for many reasons. "It is one of very few Centennial exhibitions statewide to encompass the complete arc of the historic record of the Arizona territory." says Mini Time Machine Museum Executive Director, Nina Daldrup. It will also be the first time these Historical Figures have been exhibited in Arizona.

Mr. Stuart's life work grew from a desire to meet the artistic challenge of creating life-like sculptures of individual personalities. Since the 1950s he has rendered more than 400 historical portraits in mixed media and continues to create figures to this day. Between the mid-1950s until 1979 Mr. Stuart traveled throughout the Midwest and West coast as a raconteur; writing and presenting monologues about the characters he portrayed in mixed media. Currently he presents

his monologues only at The Ventura County Museum, which owns and exhibits a number of his pieces. Mr. Stuart resides in Ojai, California.

In honor of Arizona's Centennial, Mr. Stuart has designed a monologue especially for the selection of figures on view at The Mini Time Machine Museum. This monologue will be a limited seating engagement as part of The Mini Time Machine Museum's first annual gala, [*Vegrandis*](#), to be held on Friday, January 27, 2012.

About The Mini-Time Machine Museum of Miniatures

Located in Tucson, Arizona, the mission of the museum is to share the artistic, historic, architectural and creative aspects of miniatures in an entertaining and interactive way. Since opening in September of 2009, more than 86,000 people have visited this Tucson museum. For more information about the museum and this exhibit, please visit www.theminitimemachine.org or call 520-881-0606. Photos available upon request. Select thumbnails on page 3 of this document.

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Shaping Arizona Statehood: The George Stuart Historical Figures of the Movement West

a special exhibit at The Mini Time Machine Museum of Miniatures January 31, 2012—April 14, 2012



Columbus



King Ferdinand 1492



Queen Isabella 1492



Pope Alexander VI 1492



Aztec Leopard Warrior v.2



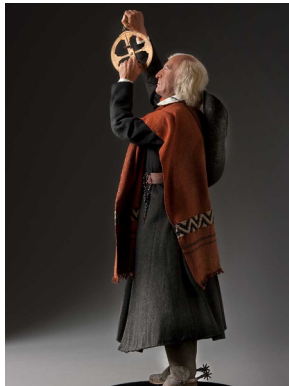
Hernán Cortés



Montezuma II v.2



Malinche



Father Eusebio Kino



Jedediah Smith



Kit Carson



President Abraham Lincoln at
Gettysburg 1863



John Fremont



Jesse Fremont



the process



George Stuart, 1957
photographer unknown



George Stuart

Select thumbnails of the 14 figures included in the exhibit and of George Stuart and his process. Photos by Peter D'Aprix except where otherwise noted.

These images and more available in high resolution upon request. Please contact Director of Marketing and Communications Gentry Spronken at 520.881.0606 ext. 104 or gentrys@theminitimemachine.org
www.theminitimemachine.org