



Views From The Flying Carpet

FINE ART AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHER GREG BROWN THINKS OF HIMSELF AS AN ARTIST WHO FLIES MORE than a pilot who takes pictures. With an MFA in his background, close to 9,000 hours and 41 years in the air, and a Nikon D7100 fitted with an 18–200mm Nikkor zoom lens in the cockpit of his small Cessna, he’s been in the right place at the right time—1,500 to 5,000 feet above the ground at the golden hour—more than once to capture the wonders of the West at their elevated best.

That was certainly the case when he shot *Sunset Rains*, one of the images on display in the exhibit of his work *Views From the Flying Carpet*. Brown, who writes (and shoots) a monthly column for the national pilot magazine *Flight Training*, and his wife, Jean, were on a routine flight from Phoenix to Flagstaff, Arizona, when they found themselves between two lines of thunderstorms, “far enough apart to be quite safe. On one side of us, the sunset was filtering through these showers, and on the other side, away from the sun, the showers were all crimson and silver with rainbows. That was a once-in-40-years experience. Jean and I were fighting over that camera.”

—Dana Joseph

Views From the Flying Carpet is on view through April 27 at Sharlot Hall Museum, Prescott, Arizona, 928.445.3122, www.sharlot.org. Read our interview with Greg Brown and see more of his aerial photographs of the West at www.cowboysindians.com. www.gregbrownflyingcarpet.com

ABOVE: *Sunset Rains.*