

DAVID YARROW

nome photographs beg to have the backstory told. with Studi posing stone-faced behind the bar, on which at Casterline|Goodman Gallery in Aspen, Colorado, you just have to find out how British photographer David surrounding them includes supermodel Alessandra Yarrow set the scene.

the plan. When the gonzo journalist Hunter S. Thompson Yarrow reasoned. So on a snowy and frigid afternoon in March 2022, the photographer brought a cast of supermodels, Instagram celebrities, a "wolf," and the actor Wes Studi to the late Thompson's favored watering says. "It was revisionism having fun." hole, the Woody Creek Tavern, in the hopes of making an image that captured the swaggering spirit of Aspen's antiestablishment heyday.

"I wanted it to be fairly disorganized and with no sense of order and with a lot of alcohol," Yarrow says. "I think Hunter's primary influence is probably the amount of alcohol consumed, because my bar bill was \$8,500."

neighboring trailer park toasted Thompson outside, Yarrow and his production team staged the shot inside. and I thought, OK, let's find out what these things are," Studi said Yarrow placed a Thompson look-alike near its center, on the set, where he also reunited with fellow Dances With

Lock in at Woody Creek Tavern is one of them. Seeing it the wolf — actually a domestic Tamaskan dog — steps curiously toward the camera. The cast of characters Ambrosio and Sports Illustrated swimsuit models Kate Bock The shoot outside of Aspen was chaotic, but that was and Brooks Nader, along with influencer Aleska Genesis and reggaeton star Nicky Jam. They represent the glitzier is your muse, you buy the ticket and take the ride, side of Aspen, though Yarrow didn't get wrapped up in earnestly defining what era they're from or where Studi's character originated.

"It wasn't revisionism with a surgeon's eye for detail," he

Studi was drawn into Yarrow's orbit by Santa Fe gallerist Shanan Campbell, daughter of the former Colorado Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, a close friend of Studi's who also happens to represent Yarrow through her Sorrel Sky Gallery in Durango and Santa Fe. She made the introduction that ultimately led to the shoot.

Studi was intrigued by Yarrow's high-production While dozens of extras, friends, and locals from the "storytelling" images and curious about how the photographer creates his signature scenes. "This came along Wolves cast member Buffalo Child, who lives nearby.

The starry cast deferred to their "wolf" co-star, who came in with trainers for only a few minutes at a time after the human performers were in place. "It was just a question of getting everyone to focus and concentrate. And then getting the wolf on the bar," Yarrow says.

His large-format black-and-white wildlife imagery and his vivid storytelling pieces have been a popular part of the artistic inventory at Sorrel Sky, where Yarrow is having a one-day one-man show and a signing for his new book, Storytelling, when he returns to Durango for more on-location shooting for his Wild West series.

"What I find exciting about David's work," Campbell says, "is also what resonates with people. He is both a gifted artist and a gifted storyteller. That combination pulls me in and keeps me engaged, even when I've stepped away from a piece. We often observe people at the gallery who are immediately drawn to his images





TOP: True North. BOTTOM: Buffalo Soldier.

ABOVE: Lock in at Woody Creek Tavern.









and then held captive by them. When they step away, it's what they'll be talking about for the rest of the day, and it's what they'll return to because they want to experience it in their personal environment. To be able to do that with your audience, that's a real gift."

-Andrew Travers

David Yarrow is represented by Sorrel Sky Callery (sorrelsky.com). Be there for his one-day one-man show and book signing February 16 at Sorrel Sky's Durango location (970.247.3555). Find out more about the artist, including his philanthropic projects benefitting wildlife and endangered species, at davidyarrow.photography.

TOP: Brutus. BOTTOM: The Bird on the Beach.

