

## Word About Book

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Book: Luis B. Ortega, Luis Ortega's Rawhide Artistry  
Braiding in the California Tradition

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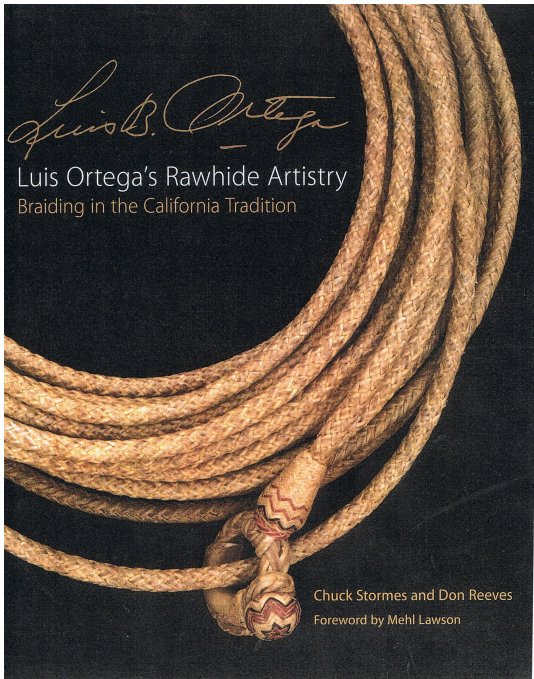
Publishing year: 2010

Publishing firm: University of Oklahoma Press, USA

ISBN: 978-0-8061-4055-1 (Hardcover).

ISBN: 978-0-8061-4091-9 (Softcover).

Languaged: English



This book is a biography about the artist Luis B. Ortega and his art as was rawhide braiding. A artform with long traditions in the California territory. Or- in the west/south west part of the world. It's a artform as perhaps not are so well known on the northren degree of latitudes (read scandinavia) as braiding with tanned hide is. Something as by the years have become more common and popular after that Bruce Grant books became published and the content known also in this part of the world. Luis B. Ortega was one of the real great artists inside this type of western art as rawhide brading is. And he compears with artist as Fredric Remington and Charles M. Russell. He was born in 1897 and died in 1995 and became thus nearly 100 year. He \* started in ages of twelve to learn about traditional California vaquero rawhide brading of Fernando Librado. A american indian vaquero as by then was over 100 years old. Such that together tied they allmost 200 year of the Calefornian tradition on the field together. And perhaps, a bit on the road, was some of it?

The braiding tradition Luis B. Ortega was a part of had its origin in the spanish/moors cultur in Spain and was brought to the «new

world» of humans in the conquistador Hernando Cortez's company when he conquered Mexico about 300 years earlier. The braiding tradition became developed little by little as time went by. In connection to the vaqueros herding of cattle, as horseman and horsemanship and the equipment they used. And that was Luis B. Ortega's background. He was a vaguero or cowboy, as is a more well known name in this part of the world on the occupation, as became an artist.

And most about Luis Ortega rawhide braiding can perhaps be told with Don Luis Alberto Flores (Buenos Aires-Argentina) word in 2002, as is \*\*vignette to the chapter «Braiding for Connoisseurs» when he said; « Is Ortega still the standard for braiding in your part of the world?». And you must pressum that it perhaps should means the western part of the world?. And a version of the same question in the part you are into could be (without comparison for the rest) «Is \*\*\* Voldbakken still the standard for braiding in your part of the world?». Then you understand it's something great with the artist Luis B. Ortega and his art. Even if it not is a book as immediatly make you think have something to do with Aasmund Voldbakken. And dirict have it not that eighter. And you end a bit

outside the books content with a raid in the topic. As not hang together on any other way that A. Voldbakken was inspired of \*\*\*\* Bruce Grants book and that the name Don Luis Alberto Flores for the first time show up here north in the world in it. As text under a photo, By the time became it for the undersigner a curious question who Don Luis Alberto Flores in Buenos Aires was. The text under the photo in Bruce Grants book mentioned him as a author and writer in the horsemagazin El Caballo (p.482). And the photo most possibly be from the 1960's. And it should perhaps end there, in a quiet wondering.

But the name Don Luis Alberto Flores have also in the later time in 2000's showed up in connection to the young arcrafters in Argentina. He is among other\*\*\*\*\* mentioned as a mentor to a artist as Pablo Lozano, as shall have learned braiding from him. Thus like this, must perhaps Don Luis Alberto Flores know something about braiding also, as not are so known in this part of the world. But he must perhaps also be part of a bigger unknown history on the field. Where the book about Luis B. Ortega only are the top of the icemountain. And a question little outside the content in the book about Luis B. Ortega is if it should have with something about it?. Something more than just a vignett sentence? Such that loos historical treads could be tied more together?. It could perhaps such also have made visible the connections between the generations?. I land on a doubtful «maybe». Without that there is a weakness of the book which content is a biography; and not a book about art and craft history in more enlarged terms. And is the fact perhaps rather such that the book about Luis B. Ortega have serveral sides, and is one of them showing that it's a lack on a type of littrature on the field of hide and leather as can be in accordance with the contemporary time?. It is a topic as not belong home in this article. Or in a raid outside the books real matter.

Luis B. Otegas family was one of the first spanish familys as settled in California in the 1700's. His ancestor was a officer in the army and get such assigned ranchland as they build a ranch on. The ranch was getting a colorful history in connection to the family right up to 1978. This is of course interesting, as much from a histrical as a from a art/craft point of viwe, Particular for a reader as not have found so much relevance littrature as could be elaborated from a starting point in Bruce Grant books about braiding/ history on the field. Bruce Grant books is what the most outside the bigger culture tradition on the field learn as well braiding as history from.

Short said, so is the book Luis B. Ortega, Luis Ortega's Brading Artistry, Brading in Calefornia Tradition filling a emty room where the wondering on a little field is big, will the undersigner belive, to quite many interested. And it show perhaps also a lack on a type of littrature conserning hide/leater/rawhide/ brading. But the main matter to the book, as have 138 pages, divided on 6 chapters, is that it is a biography about a human and a artist and his art. And the book should reach out to a very many more public than those who find oneself in a woorkshop in company with hide and leather. Further have the book a list over articles Luis B. Ortega wrote for the american horse journal Western Horseman, a glossary, a essay about the work with the book and a index survey. And it have many nice photos, such even if you not have so much knowlegde from before about the topic, so give the photos and text a excellent impression of an artform that maybe immedeatly can look a little strange to a scandinavien, but still be inspiring. And suitable to wake up the interest for the topic as a practical art and craft too. The increasing horsehold the later years, much as a part of spare time, could perhaps be with on to give a place to this art and craft in this part of the world..

Source reference.

\*Book, Luis B. Ortega, Luis Ortega's Rawhide Artistry p.28-

\*\* Book, Luis B. Ortega, Luis Ortega's Rawhide Artistry p.79

\*\*\* Aasmund Voldbakken, Norwegian artist (1943-1990).

\*\*\*\* Book, Bruce Grant, Encyclopedia of Raw Hide and Leather Brading, p. 482

\*\*\*\*\*Internett, Pablo Lozano

Else fact information about Luis B. Ortega, Book: Luis B. Ortega, Luis Ortega's Rawhide Artistry.

