

Explanation for: “Higher impossible”

What you see: A woman stands on the top of the highest mountain in a desert landscape, after apparently climbing to the top.

The location is hidden in clues embedded in the painting. Near the foot of the model is a lemon suggesting that this high top is “Mount Lemon”. But where is it located? On the upper left hand, floating in the air is a 17th century Spanish mission typical to the southwest USA. Below and upside down are Chinese characters meaning North and directed towards the mountain. On the left there is a rustic shack called “OK Corral”. Below is a common North sign with an arrow and where Mount Lemon might be.

Some basic knowledge of the local US history is needed to find the mountain. The mission is San Xavier del Buc, the most northern Spanish mission in Arizona, south of Tucson. The building in the ghost town of Tombstone, where a famous gun fight of the Wild West in the 19th century occurred. If you follow the clues, Mount Lemon must be north of Tucson. (There is a Mount Lemon.)

Note that the head of the woman is intentionally slightly bigger for her body. The reason that it was painted that way is open for interpretations.

(This explanation was written in response to request to explain this work.)