



The Last Cowboy

"...leavin' things behind, hopin 'to find somethin' better."

The Last Cowboy is a one-man play starring R.W. Hampton, one of the leading Western Entertainers in America today. A riveting presentation of historical fact and fiction intertwined with humor, insight, and an abundance of song, *The Last Cowboy* has been bringing audiences across the United States to a new appreciation of America and the American cowboy.

Written in the early 1990's by R.W., his brother, noted Dallas journalist and editor, Jeff Hampton, and Dallas playwright, David Marquis, the play draws its inspiration from two sources: the general history of the American cowboy, and the particular experiences of R.W. and other cowboys he came to know during his years as a working cowboy

employed by many of the big ranching outfits across the West. The result is an historically correct theatrical piece that is not only educational, but at the same time entertaining, poignantly touching, and even inspirational.

Public exposure for *The Last Cowboy* began with the writers producing several small showcases and receiving endorsements from the National Cowboy Hall of Fame Museum and the Smithsonian Institution. A theatrical production company then picked up the rights to the play hoping to take it "off Broadway." A summer run in Dallas at Loews' Anatole Hotel Theater received good reviews, but a major sponsor was never found and *The Last Cowboy* lay dormant for several years.

In 1999, the Western Folklife Center of Elko, Nevada encouraged R.W. to bring the play back to life, selling out all three nights of their dinner theater performance months in advance. From Elko, R.W. went on to record the album: *The Last Cowboy - His Journey*, which won a special Director's Wrangler Award from the National Cowboy Museum and Western Heritage Center in 2000 for Excellence in Dramatic Presentation and Original Music Composition.

Since then, R.W. has performed the play for audiences across the United States. Notable venues have included the Gene Autry Museum in Los Angeles, the WRCA Ranch Rodeo Finals in Amarillo, Missouri's Cowboys, Heroes, and Friends Festival in Branson, the Southwest Cowboy Celebration in Hobbs, New Mexico, the Saddle Up Celebration in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, and the Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival in Monterey, California.

Acclaimed highly by adult audiences and fans of R.W. Hampton nationwide, *The Last Cowboy* is also very suitable for a younger crowd. The words touch the heart; the songs carry it away. For in addition to being a successful singer, R.W. is also an experienced actor, having appeared in numerous Westerns over the years. With his soaring baritone voice, R.W. takes the stage and carries the audience throughout the history of America's cowboy and into the future. As *The Last Cowboy*, R.W. magically moves the audience to laughter, tears, and in the end, to a wonderful insight.

For *The Last Cowboy* has a job - no, a destiny - to teach America about who we are, where we came from, where we are going, and most of all - what we stand for. Because no matter what our own personal history may be . . . *there's a little bit of cowboy in all of us.*

Information about booking *The Last Cowboy* can be obtained by contacting R.W. Hampton's manager, Brian Ferriman, by phone at (615) 369-0810 or by email at savannahmusic@att.net.

www.rwhampton.com
www.myspace.com/rwhampton