

2019 ART joshua tree national park
EXPOSITION



SEPTEMBER 14-15
OASIS OF MARA, TWENTYNINE PALMS, CA



www.jtnparts.org



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Join Us

Joshua Tree National Park Art Exposition is a juried art exhibition and celebration of art, culture, and park history at the Oasis of Mara in Twentynine Palms, CA.

The 2019 juried art exhibition received 347 entries from 136 artists across the globe. Selected for the exhibition were 57 artists from across the desert, California, and the U.S. whose artwork depicts or is inspired by the natural beauty and/or cultural history of Joshua Tree National Park.

Join us for art and festivities at the historic Oasis of Mara for the weekend of September 14-15, 2019.

Joshua Tree National Park Council for the Arts
 Post Office Box 1755 | Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
www.jtnpARTS.org



the Desert Underground

author Robin Kobaly
illustrator Juniper Harrower, PhD

Who would guess that anyone could say, with any credible authority, "Mushrooms can help save the world?" And even more preposterous, that in the desert, fungal threads that connect to plant roots combat global warming? Even though these statements sound like science fiction, we are finding that both are proving to be absolutely true.



These concepts were at the forefront of the vision to create an artistic, visually compelling presentation that would transport viewers along a graphic "tour" of the unseen desert underground.

This exhibit evolved from a request I received to write a paper explaining the almost unbelievable underground processes happening in the desert. My scientific background is as a botanist, plant ecologist, and expert on desert plants and ecology. This scientifically referenced paper would be presented to the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, at the time debating policy language on the Renewable Energy and Conservation Element 4.10 of the county's General Plan. I had been lecturing for years about the unseen but important organisms/creatures living in desert soils that affect our entire landscape. This information could provide essential background material for their decision-making process as the Board discussed guidelines and policies for future large-scale projects that could have significant impacts to desert soils.

As I worked through the "scholarly" paper, I realized that I could better bring this technical information to life with artwork and graphics that illustrated these esoteric concepts and communities living under the surface. I had sketched out several graphics years ago to illustrate these underground systems, but never seemed to find the time to fully realize them artistically. So I called on my dear friend,

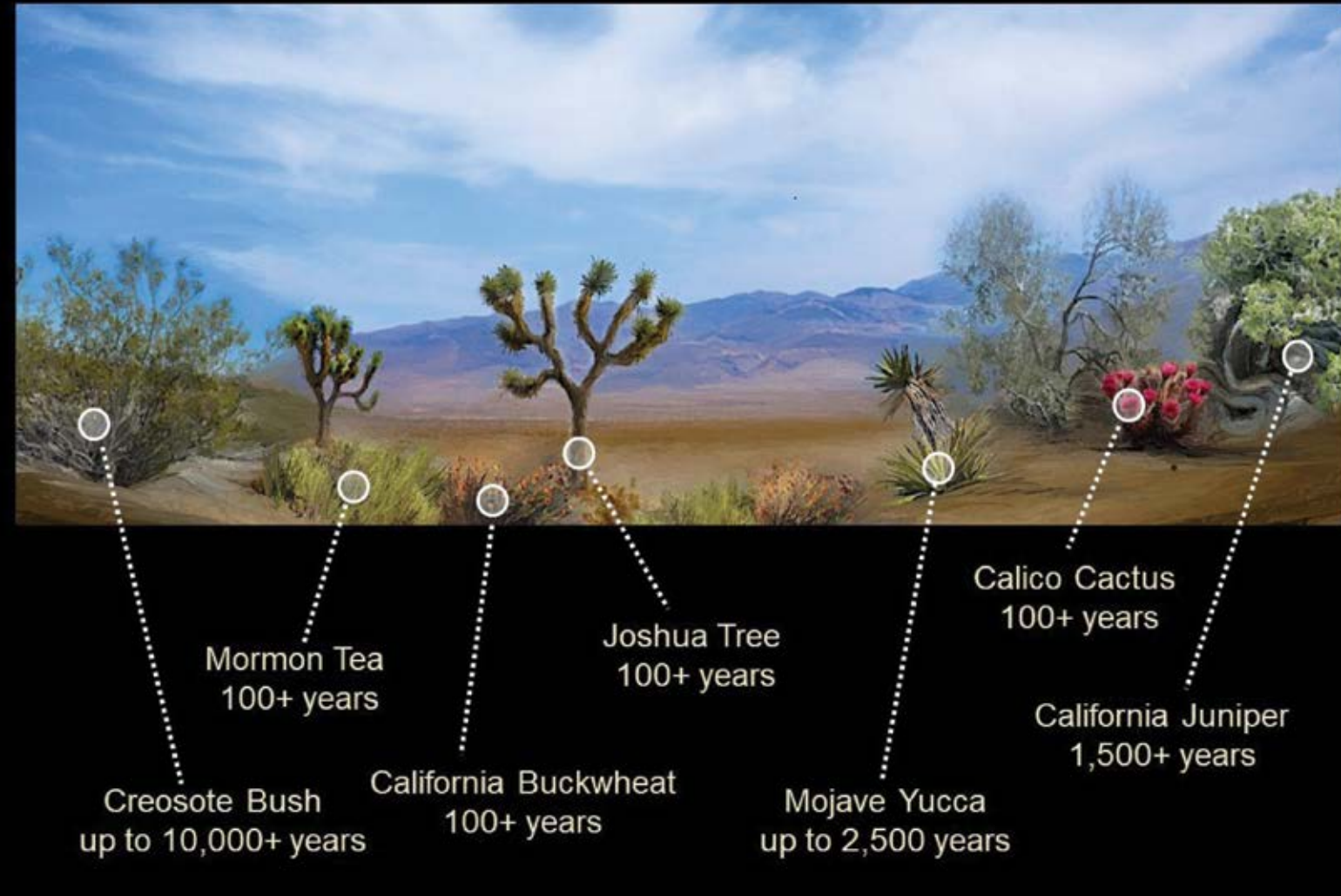
Juniper Harrower, whom I have been privileged to mentor since she was a young girl. Juniper is not only an accomplished artist, but also a scientist. Dr. Harrower recently finished her PhD dissertation on the challenges that Joshua Trees in JTNP face in responding to climate change by migrating to higher elevations or higher latitudes northward, so she is intimately aware of the vital connections between plants like the Joshua Tree and their underground partners. Together we collaborated by combining an original artistic representation by Dr. Harrower of the desert landscape above and below ground with explanatory graphics and a storyboard that I created.

Our actions today determine what processes will continue to work for our health, economy, and environment for many centuries into the future.

The results of this collaboration have been realized in a number of formats, including a book titled "The Desert Underground," a lecture series, and the special exhibit featured at 29 Palms Inn for the 2019 JTNP Art Exposition. A documentary on this important, but mostly unappreciated subject is also being developed.

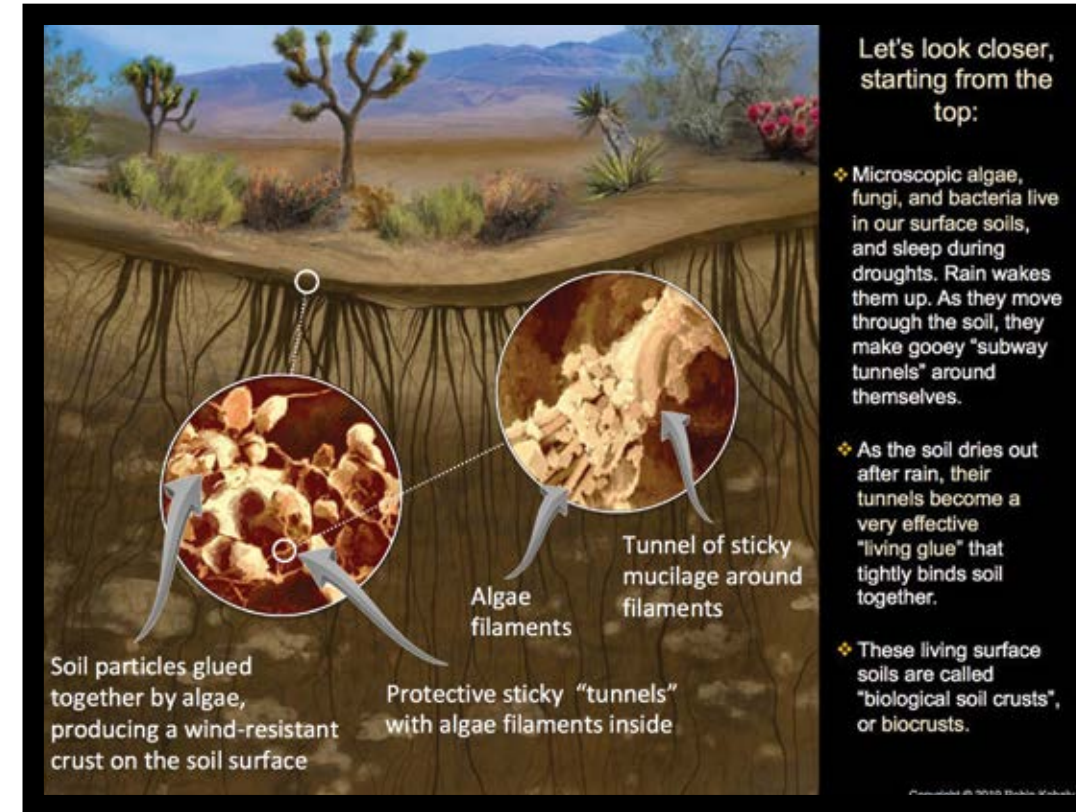
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This tour starts above ground with plants that live far longer than expected.



The immersive exhibit at the 29 Palms Inn is presented by The SummerTree Institute, an environmental education nonprofit, of which I am Executive Director. The exhibit includes a graphic, virtual tour of the hidden but magnificent "Desert Underground," a realm that silently works under our feet every day. The series of graphic displays, created with original artwork, leads viewers along an illustrated tour through our desert soils, delving deeper and deeper into the underground. This tour reveals the amazing partnerships that connect every plant underground across the landscape, and illustrates the interlocking biological and geological systems that work together to create a surprising carbon sponge helping combat climate change wherever desert soils remain intact.

Soils are not given much attention above an acknowledgement that they are the interface between the living and the non-living realms, the product of the opposing forces of geology and biology. But what goes on in that

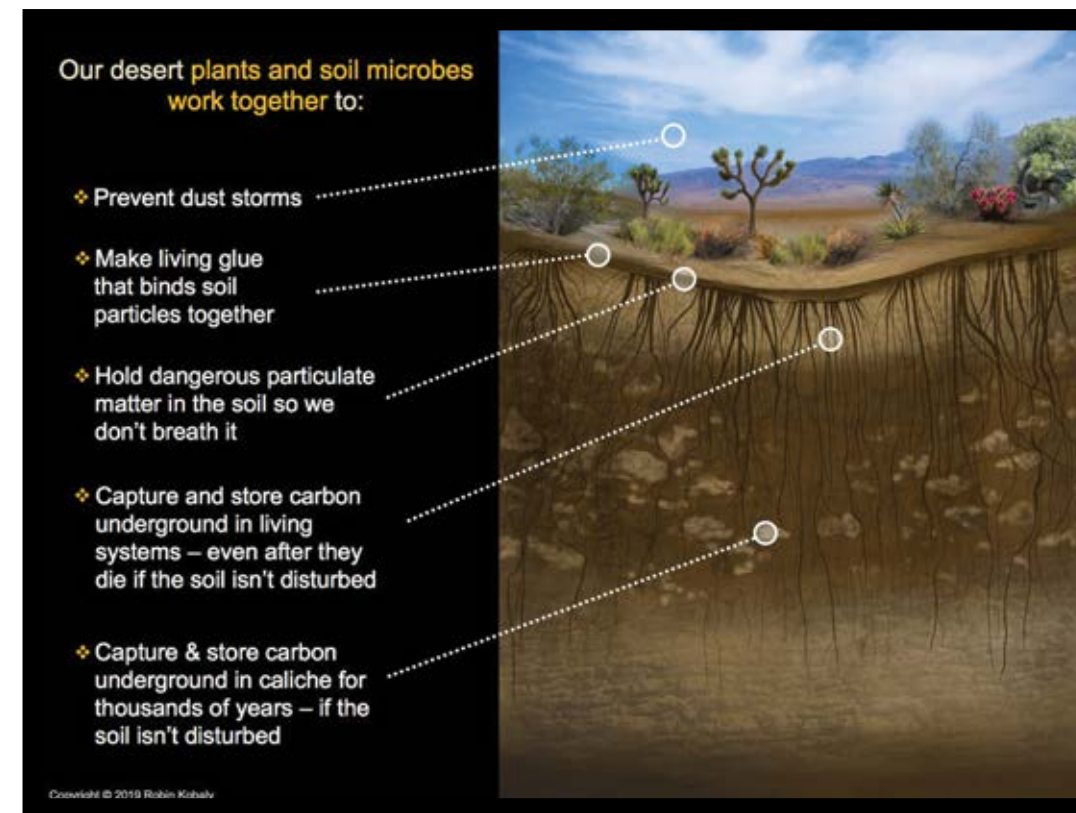


matrix of opposing forces that is continually building and breaking down both living and nonliving matter should actually be on the forefront of our minds as we plan what we do across those desert soils into our future.

We can't disturb soils without disturbing the intricate workings of life in those soils, such as nutrient cycling, soil binding, soil building, nitrogen fixation into fertilizer, and carbon sequestration. Breaking any of these important links in our soils leads to negative impacts on our own air quality, human health, and economics.

Our actions today determine what processes will continue to work for our health, economy, and environment for many centuries into the future. We hope this exhibit will help to spread awareness about the value, fragility, and significance of our desert, from its magnificent ancient plants to its complex soil relationships that we walk over with each step across the landscape, mostly unaware of the teaming relationships below our feet.

Special Exhibit for
JTNP Art Exposition at the
29 Palms Inn Pavilion
By Robin Kobaly





OASIS OF MARA



In deserts, the presence of water—that rarest of desert commodities—allows life to flourish and provides an oasis for natural and human activity. The Oasis of Mara is a cornerstone of the Joshua Tree National Park story and has been a source of life-giving water for thousands of years. The oasis was first settled by the Serrano, who called it Mara, “the place of little springs and much grass.” A line of *Washingtonia filifera* palm trees on the horizon near the oasis signaled water and shade for Serrano, and later Chemehuevi and a few Cahuilla, followed by gold prospectors and cattlemen of the 1870s, desert travelers and homesteaders of the 1900s. Desert surveyors arrived at the oasis around 1855 and found the area under cultivation by the Serrano, with corn, beans, pumpkins, and squash, all grown with the waters that rise at the oasis along the Pinto Mountain Fault. Chemehuevi settled at the oasis in 1867 and intermingled peacefully with the Serrano. Today, it is home to Joshua Tree National Park Headquarters and Oasis Visitor Center, plus several cultural venues. *(The last remaining oasis pond is at the 29 Palms Inn.)*

29 PALMS ART GALLERY



74055 Cottonwood Drive, Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
760.367.7819 | www.29palmsartgallery.com

Site of Juried Art Exhibition, Saturday Reception & Saturday/Sunday Art Demonstrations

The historic 29 Palms Art Gallery is owned and operated by 29 Palms Artists’ Guild, founded in 1951-52 by famed painter John Hilton and a group of desert artists. In 1963, the Guild purchased a 1930s adobe at the Oasis of Mara (former home of western pulp-fiction author Tom Hopkins), for a permanent art gallery and gift shop. Today, the gallery hosts monthly art exhibitions and receptions, art classes for youth and adults, and a variety of other special events. Regular gallery hours are 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. Open extended hours for JTNP Art Exposition. **NOTE:** The Juried Art Exhibition will be on display all month, September 1- 29, 2019.

29 PALMS INN



73950 Inn Avenue, Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
760.367.3505 | www.29palmsinn.com

Site of Saturday/Sunday Artist Booths, Special Exhibit “The Desert Underground,” Live Music, Food & Beverages

The historic 29 Palms Inn, located at the Oasis of Mara, was established in 1928 and has been family-owned/operated for four generations. Across the 70-acre property the Inn offers an eclectic mix of guest accommodations, including historic adobe bungalows, wood frame cabins, and guest houses. Just under 2-acres in size, the on-site organic garden called Faultline Farm produces seasonal fruits & vegetables which are harvested for use in the restaurant, which is open daily for lunch, dinner and Sunday brunch. Enjoy poolside dining, a full bar, live music every night of the week, and rotating art exhibits. The 29 Palms Inn is also a popular event venue, offering on-site catering and a variety of private event spaces.

JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL PARK HEADQUARTERS & OASIS VISITOR CENTER



74485 National Park Drive, Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
760.367.5500 | www.nps.gov/jotr

Site of Saturday/Sunday Ranger Talks

Joshua Tree National Park receives 3 million visitors each year from around the globe, who come to the park for rock climbing, birding, photography, hiking the trails amid monolithic rock formations and Joshua trees, or enjoying the park’s picnic areas and 550 campsites in its nearly 800,000 acres. Ranger-led programs offer interpretive hikes and tours of Keys Ranch. Desert Institute classes include poetry, photography, art. The Oasis Visitor Center is open daily.

OLD SCHOOLHOUSE MUSEUM



6760 National Park Drive, Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
760.367.2366 | www.29palmshistorical.com

Site of Saturday/Sunday Historic Art & Artifacts Exhibits

The 29 Palms Historical Society was founded in 1982. In 1992, they moved the Twentynine Palms 1920s schoolhouse to National Park Drive and remodeled it into the Old Schoolhouse Museum. The museum hosts historical displays, research library, gift shop, an Old Timers’ Gathering in October, and the annual Weed Show in November. Regular hours are 1 to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday.

ART MARKET ON THE LAWN



September 14 & 15 at 29 Palms Inn

73950 Inn Avenue, Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
760.367.3505 | www.29palmsinn.com

Special Robin Kobaly Exhibit “Desert Underground”, Artist Booths, Live Music, Food and Beverages

Art Market open Saturday/Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Artist’s Tea NEA “Big Read” Sunday 10 a.m. to 12 noon

www.jtnpARTS.org

29 PALMS CREATIVE CENTER & GALLERY



6847 Adobe Road, Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
760.361.1805 | www.29palmscreativecenter.com

Site of Saturday Impromptu Art Demos

The 29 Palms Creative Center offers a variety of activities for children, teens, adults, individuals and groups to experience in a multi-purpose gallery, art studio complex, workshop, and classrooms. Creative classes are offered by Gretchen Grunt. The gallery features an eclectic array of local talent, art parties, and occasional music and performance art.



Big Boulders, Rust on Canvas, 27x51

BENJAMIN ALLANOFF | Joshua Tree, California
www.benallanoff.com

Ben Allanoff is an artist based in Joshua Tree, CA, who works with plant material, steel, and wire. He also makes paintings using rust on canvas, or ink on paper, and creates large scale installations, working with institutions such as the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Garden; the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area; the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Gardens, the City of Oakland, and the Zen Center of Los Angeles. For a decade Allanoff ran an environmental non-profit devoted to minimizing the negative impacts of human activity on a rich and vulnerable watershed adjacent to the City of Los Angeles. He grew up near Philadelphia, PA, attended the University of Pennsylvania, and graduated from Duke University. Allanoff's work tends to be informed by a deep connection to nature and a desire to give physical form to the intangible forces that animate our world.

JENNY BAHAM | Las Vegas, Nevada
www.artistjenny.com



Dusty the Tortoise, Oil, 24x18

Jenny Baham was born in Taiwan in 1969, is married to Alvin Baham, and immigrated to the United States in 2013. She learned from Master Pang, Jiun and had several solo and group exhibitions. She won Honorable Mention for her painting in the Las Vegas International Juried Arts Competition in 2016, which included 12 countries and 9 different art categories.

Her artworks "Rock and Road" and "Taking the Road Less Travelled" were selected to be displayed at the Joshua Tree National Park Art Exposition in 2017 and 2018. She has been teaching art in Nevada Arts Academy since 2017, and she curated an art show for her students every year to help grow the art atmosphere in the community. Jenny keeps contributing her talent and has won several Certificates of Special Congressional Recognition from Senator Jacky Rosen, Congressman Steven Horsford, Congresswomen Dian Titus and Susie Lee, and Assemblyman Alexander Assefa.



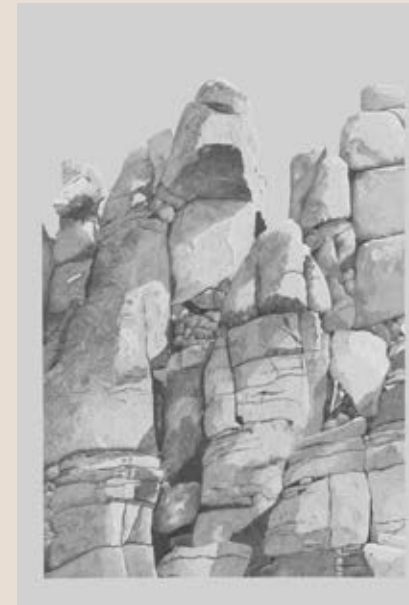
Sunset, The Marbles, Silkscreen on Parchment with Ink, Chalk Pastel and Enamel, 12x16

BRANDIN BARON | San Francisco, California
www.brandinbaron.com

Brandin Barón is a San Francisco-based visual artist and design historian. From 2006-18, he was a Professor of Design at the University of California, Santa Cruz. His work has appeared in group exhibitions throughout the United States. The image in this Joshua Tree National Park Art Expo juried exhibition is from a series of work entitled "I Wanna B a Cowboy" (2018-19), that draws inspiration from the past artists associated with American Western landscape and portraiture. Compositions within this series are "staged" through the process of layering original photographic and hand-rendered imagery with stock photography and digital textures. The final output includes combinations of mixed media, including drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and assemblage.

B.E. BAXTER | Palm Desert, California

B.E. Baxter is best known for his five books of poetry and many awards. He studied Art at Boise State University and holds a BA from the University of Texas. For the last eleven years he has lived in Mumbai, Addis Ababa, and London. Returning to his home in the Coachella Valley, he found a forgotten grace. His pencil drawings express the pacific joy of wandering in the high



Quiescence: Solitude, Pencil & Chalk on Toned Stonehenge Paper, 21x16

desert: the secret structures, the quiescence of shapes, and the settlement of stone, no less elegant than David in Florence or a soaring cathedral in Rouen. He understands there is a time for tumult and a time to urge things to move. There is also a time to be still and exult in the absence of motion.

VALERIE MESSERVY BIRKHOFF | Grass Valley, California
www.valsworth.com



Praeservare, Clay Sculpture, 17x14x12

Valerie Messervy Birkhoff graduated from Portland State University with a B.S. in Arts and Letters. Her work includes clay sculpture, hand-sewn-beaded-wire sculptures, oil/acrylic painting, and mixed media. Her beaded sculpture "In Her Hands" won Best of Show at Sacramento Fine Arts Center, and her clay piece "Sweating Dirt" also received a Best of Show; her oil painting "Humour" was given an Award of Excellence; and her clay

sculpture "Unveiled Hero" received 3rd Place in Sacramento. She also was included in the 30th Annual Clay Competition in Davis, and she has previously participated in the Joshua Tree National Park Art Exposition and received a 2nd Place Award in 2015 for her beaded sculpture "Ouch!" "Praeservare" is about observing, guarding, and keeping safe areas of the earth in a natural state. "In this work I hope to recognize those of us, past and present, who have given their energy to protect the precious areas of the earth."



9:56 p.m. The World's Biggest Joshua Tree (Dead), Photography, 16x24

BILL LEIGH BREWER | Morongo Valley, California
www.billybrewer.com

Born in California, Bill Leigh Brewer divides his time between Los Angeles and the California high desert. Photography has taken him from Los Angeles to New York, as well as Malaysia, Nova Scotia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Europe, and his primary focus, the American Southwest. He received a graduate degree from USC. He taught photography at Long Beach City College, where he was a member their Photography Advisory Committee. Brewer is a recipient of a Donaldson Trust Fellowship, a residency at the Vermont Studio Center. He was named Epson International Pano Photographer of the Year in 2010. Exhibitions include Palm Springs Art Museum, Soho Gallery-Los Angeles/New York, Marks Center for the Arts-College of the Desert, Santa Monica College Photography Gallery, Crussell Fine Arts, Orange County Center for Contemporary Art, 23rd Street USC Gallery, Marengo Collective-Pasadena, 29 Palms Art Gallery, and the Salton Sea Museum. His night images share his practice of intervention with light.



Josh's Rocks, Wood Block Print, 18x24

BENJAMIN CALVERT | Villa Park, Illinois
www.benjamincalvert.com

Benjamin Calvert's printmaking originated as a mechanism to help him deal with the grief of losing his mother. Seeking a therapeutic alternative to an unhappy state, his grandmother suggested that he reconstitute sorrow into an energy that could be channeled into art. He started wood block printing by taking an independent study course at Knox College, and the medium became a sustaining passion. "I have a strong feeling for nature, and the wood blocks compliment my images. Many of my blocks are carved on plywood. The wood grains add texture to an otherwise flat ink surface. Pulling that first print off the block is pure joy. When my grandparent retired to Palm Springs, weekly visits for 12 years provided me the opportunity to visit Joshua Tree National Park. Repetition and time percolate ideas in my mind. From these I derived the image that I have named Josh's Rocks."

WILLIAM CASOLARA | Sheridan, Montana
instagram.com/muleskinnerwoodworking



Skull Rock Landscape, Wood Marquetry, 9.5x10.25

William Casolara lives in Sheridan, MT, with his wife Margaret. Together they operate Mule Skinner Woodworking & Studio. Casolara is a retired college professor and has been working with wood most of his life. He specializes in a particular type of marquetry

known as double-bevel marquetry. This type of marquetry uses the color, texture, and figure of various woods to create images. His designs often incorporate the marquetry into baskets, boxes, music boxes, panels, accent tables, and stands. Other furniture made at Mule Skinner Woodworking include queen beds, bunk beds, Murphy beds, cribs, bedside stands, and coffee tables. New designs include epoxy river designs used in coat racks and classic river tables. Mule Skinner Woodworking & Studio is a member of the "Made in Montana" program.

MATT COLLINS | Joshua Tree, California
www.solidfoto.com



Stellar Connection, Photography, 60x48

Photographer Matt Collins is a 15-year resident of Joshua Tree. Finding a special liking for the high desert, his initial temporary move here became permanent, and so many unique things to discover opened his eyes to what he did not see at first. Collins has been a long time photographer, shooting everything from action sports, team sports, portraits, animals, and landscapes. Recently he's been chasing the Milky Way finding new places and times it shows itself. The challenge of photographing the Milky Way, it's not always available and its position changes throughout the night and throughout the year. "The shot I submitted was a location I've passed many times. I was searching for something else, but then this lone branchless Joshua tree just seemed to be looking right at me. Everything was perfect for the shot. Sometimes the gold is right in front of you, the hard part is to recognize it."

JANIS COMMENTZ | Yucca Valley, California
www.janiscommentz.com



Confronting Space, Acrylic, 30x30

and enjoyed trips to galleries, museums, and seasonal trips to Laguna Beach and Carmel. Commentz moved to the Mojave Desert in 1977 to teach high school art and English. At the University of Redlands, she earned a B.A. in Art and English and studied printmaking with John Nava, known for his tapestries at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in LA. She holds an M.A. in Education from California State University at San Bernardino, facilitated life drawing in Joshua Tree for nearly a decade, and teaches art classes at 29 Palms Art Gallery and field classes for Joshua Tree National Park Desert Institute. This painting (part of a series) explores the relationship between her figurative and landscape work.

Janis Commentz is a Southern California native who grew up near the coast and began drawing and painting early in life. As the daughter of an artist, she was surrounded by art materials

DOUG DOLDE | Joshua Tree, California
www.douglasdolde.com



Smoke Tree Wash, Photography, 28x36

as an aerospace design engineer on projects including custom aircraft interiors and rocket engines. He has been photographing the landscape of the American West since 2001, beginning with 4x5 inch transparency film, and currently a Nikon D850. A total workflow from capturing and editing the image to producing and framing the final print is essential in producing a fine art piece of the highest quality possible. Dolde's work is shown and sold at Desert Art Center in Palm Springs, Borrego Art Institute in Borrego Springs, and JTAG in Joshua Tree. "My Impressions series are not straight photographs. They are rather digitally manipulated to produce an image that expresses how I felt when I was there. They have smoother details and give the photographs a painterly look."

Born in South Bend, Indiana in 1947, Doug Dolde received a BS in mathematics from Indiana University in 1970. Prior to doing photography full time, he worked

DONNA ELLIOT | Idyllwild, California
www.peakdancers.com



A Leap of Faith, Photography, 11x15

Donna Elliot is a photographer and mixed media artist who discovered the creative freedom of digital art. She focuses on gentle, ethereal, romantic images inspired by Nature. The seamless blending of up to 20 or more images combine to move the eye through a series of unexpected vistas creating a perfect universe and a view into the soul. Elliot is a rock climber and so has felt the wondrous beauty of the rocks at Joshua Tree National Park, not only by sight, but also by intimate touch. The unique, spiny shapes of Joshua Trees contrast strongly with the smooth, sensuous female forms that are her signature images. Retiring to Idyllwild, CA, Elliot joined the Art Alliance of Idyllwild (AAI) in 2013. She exhibits and sells her award-winning art in galleries and at AAI shows, teaches art through the Idyllwild School PTA smARTS program, and is the current President of the AAI.



A Park Worth Saving, Oil, 15x30

DAVID FLATT | Vancouver, British Columbia
www.davidflatt.ca

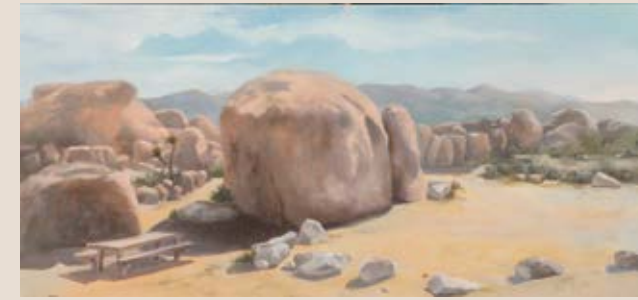
Time spent in the wild places of North America is artist David Flatt's inspiration. "Each rare encounter with wildlife informs my work. In the end my goal is to produce a piece that reflects these experiences. Motivation for this painting was the recent 35-day government shutdown in 2019 that affected Joshua Tree National Park, and the damage to the park that ensued. These wild places are worth saving."

WHITNEY GARDNER | Twentynine Palms, California
www.whitneygardner.bigcartel.com



Ocotillo Sky, Oil, 24x30

Whitney Gardner is a painter, printmaker, and published illustrator, based in Twentynine Palms. Highly influenced by her high-desert home, Gardner's work depicts her natural surroundings: the rugged terrain, weather-torn buildings, and sun-drenched figures that are iconic to the region. Her paintings have a sense of clarity, expressed in a crisp, refined style with saturated, earthy colors that tell a story of a turquoise sky with traveling clouds above, and the desert flora dancing with the winds below. She has been working in oil since the age of fifteen, teaching herself the language of the medium ever since. Though she studied art in San Francisco and attained a BFA from a reputable art school, she considers herself a self-taught artist. She moved to the Mojave Desert in 2010 to feed her inspiration with the vast beauty and to paint amongst the granite and the stars.



Campground, Oil on Canvas, 10x20

SYLVIANE GAUMER-GIACOLETTO | Grass Valley, California
www.sgaumer.fineartstudioonline.com

Born and raised in Albertville, France, Sylviane was 10 years old the first time her father took her to Le Louvre Museum in Paris. "I will always cherish the memory of travelling from a little town in the Alps to the City of Arts. I was lost in feelings of admiration, and I still vividly remember the colors and the smell of oil painting." Many years later, after being a wife, mother, and lawyer clerk, she took her first painting class which gave birth to the artist in her. She became an art instructor in 2000 and managed her own studio in France. She moved to California in 2006, and while still working with acrylics she studied ceramic sculpture, watercolor, and pastels. In 2010, the richness of luminous oil colors gave her the look she was seeking for in her landscapes.



Ohlson Ruins, JTNP, Oil on Canvas, 30x48

MARCIA GEIGER | Joshua Tree, California
www.geigarts.com

Artist Marcia Geiger moved to the Joshua Tree area in 1989, and has been painting, exploring, and discovering its secrets ever since. "During my nearly 30 years living in its outer reaches, the Mojave Desert has provided me with an infinite procession of inspiring subjects. I want my work to give the viewer the essence of what inspired me to paint it. Careful study of composition, form, and color in relation to the whole is all equally important. My remote studio north of town provides me with the open space, peace, and solitude I find necessary for my creative inspirations to grow and flourish." Geiger is a member of the Palm Springs Artists' Council, the 29 Palms Artists' Guild, Joshua Tree Art Gallery, and currently holds executive board positions in both Arts Connection of San Bernardino County and the Morongo Basin Cultural Arts Council, based in Joshua Tree.

JUNIPER HARROWER | Oakland, California
www.juniperharrower.com



The Desert Underground, Digital Illustration, 24x18

As both an ecologist and an artist, Dr. Juniper Harrower specializes in species interactions under climate change. Her interdisciplinary research focuses on the symbiotic interactions between Joshua trees, their soil fungi, and moth pollinators in Joshua Tree National Park. She uses current science methods and a multi-media art practice to investigate the outcomes of human influence on ecological systems. Harrower founded SymbioArtlab, an eco-arts production company that contracts with national parks, universities, and the private sector to impact positive environmental change. Her research is published in both science and art scholarly journals and has shaped environmental policy. She is a National Science Foundation iCorps Fellow, an Oakland Teaching Fellow, and a Cota-Robles Fellow. Her work is exhibited locally and internationally in galleries and museums, and her research and artistic products have received broad exposure in popular media such as National Geographic, the Associated Press, podcasts, music festivals and conferences.

MARILYN FROGGATT | Palm Desert, California
www.marilynfroggatt.com



Joshua Tree Valley, Oil, 8x10

Marilyn Froggatt is a Plein-Air Artist in the California Impressionist Tradition. She uses oil as her medium and creates landscape paintings both outdoors and in her studio. She participates in several art shows throughout the Coachella Valley and Southern California throughout the year. Her work has been recognized by the Riverside Press-Enterprise, Coachella Valley Independent, and the Redlands Daily Facts with feature articles. She also does demonstrations for art organizations and lectures on California Plein-Air History. Prior to becoming a full-time artist, Marilyn was Vice President of a marketing company headquartered in Orange County, CA. She has been a landscape photographer since she was 25. She holds a degree in Education from Long Beach State University.

LARRY HEMMERICH | Palm Springs, California
www.larryhemmerich.com

Artist Larry Hemmerich's life and work reflect his down-to-earth Midwest upbringing combined with the Western spirit of adventure and freedom found in California where he has lived for the past 20 years. "I am passionate about capturing the beauty of nature with my pastels. My works are the result of the hiking I do in the desert and mountains surrounding my Palm Springs home. I work from photography and on location in Plein Air." Hemmerich is an Associate member of California Art Club and Palm Springs Artists Council. His art has been displayed at the Backstreet Art District in Palm Springs and at D Gallery on El Paseo in Palm Desert. He was a juried participant in the Joshua Tree National Park Art Expo 2018, received a 1st Place award at the San Dimas Festival of Art 2019, and was published in the 2018 Nov/Dec Issue of Palm Springs Art Patron Magazine.



Yucca Still Life, Soft Pastels 16x12

LOUIS HERNANDEZ | Joshua Tree, California
aboloneking@yahoo.com



Full Moon Over Joshua Tree, Silver, Carved Moonstone, Owyhee Jasper, 50mm x 45mm

Fine art jewelry designer Louis Hernandez was raised in the industry and is a second generation jeweler. He started at age 8 in a garage where his father had his first shop, and learned to melt gold and silver, part of a process called centrifugal casting. He also learned to make rubber molds, inject the molds with wax, and clean the castings. By age 15 he worked in his father's jewelry repair shop, where they did repairs for major

stores in the San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles. At 17 he was given his own bench to learn the fine art of repair. At age 20 he began to learn the art of lapidary. Today he is an international award-winning jewelry designer, working in sterling silver and gem stones. His moniker is Abaloneking Jewelry.



Rock Hudson, Oil on Panel, 18x24

TERRY HOUSEWORTH | Tustin, California
www.terryhouseworth.com

Terry Houseworth is best known for his memorable last name (origin unknown). However, most locals know him for his captivating oil paintings. He is inspired by the simple act of painting straight from the heart, using paint to capture nature, scenery, and images that moved him most, such as landscapes, trees and nature, birds, old rustic vehicles or buildings, and vintage signs. With a keen interest and plenty of practice, Houseworth learned two skills early in life: art and music. He has been a musician for nearly his entire life, with a career as a drummer. Also, he started with being self-taught and recognized for his artistic skills in high school, then to a graphic arts degree, followed by a graphics career and business, and today he is a plein-air and studio fine art painter. His art is a combination of influences of his graphics background and a desire to paint expressively.

KAY KAPLIN | San Diego, California
www.kaykaplan.com



Desert Glow, Oil on Canvas, 24x24

The growing reputation of Kay Kaplan's works originate from her use of oils, her stylistic confidence, and the optimism with which she portrays Southern California's deserts, land/seascapes, animals, and still-lives. The vivid way in which she evokes the human capacity to consider happiness is unique. Kaplan's in-depth studies of painting began 15 years ago with drawing classes, then in 2009 she began intensive studies in oil painting Alla Prima style, with Catherine Grawin, through the Athenaeum School of the Arts in La Jolla, CA. She also took many workshops and private classes over the following years. Kaplan's instructors have included Ken and Stephanie Goldman, Catherine Grawin, and Sharon Carol Demery. She is currently studying with Claudia Verciani who is carrying on the teachings of Catherine Grawin through CG Studios in Encinitas, CA. Painting with friends is an important inspiration for Kaplan as well as painting daily in her home studio in San Diego.

DE KARLEN | La Quinta, California
dekarlenphoto@gmail.com



Pine City Overlook with Mojave Yucca, Photography, 11x14

De Karlen is a nature and architectural photographer with publications in Architectural Digest, HOME Magazine, Garden Design, NYTimes, Los Angeles Times Magazine, and more. In addition, Karlen's botanical and nature images have been featured in numerous calendars, greeting cards, and fine art galleries, both nationally and internationally. She uses medium and large format technical field cameras, along with 35mm cameras, for her nature photography to create painterly fine art images. A member of Professional Photographers of America and Women in Photography International, she explores the canyons, foothills, waterfalls, and valleys of our low and high desert regions. Karlen is a participating artist with Desert Art Center in Palm Springs and Borrego Art Institute in Borrego Springs.



Ersatz Moonscape, Photography, 18x27

DAVID A. LEE | Palm Springs, California
www.DavidALeePhotography.com

David A. Lee is an award-winning, Palm Springs-based event and fine art photographer who for the last eight years served as the official photographer for Palm Springs Modernism Week and Palm Springs Cinema Diverse, in addition to three years as the official photographer for the Palm Springs International Film Festival. Lee also shoots a host of other events—not to mention portraits, products, and architecture—locally and regionally. His work has appeared in publications such as The New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, Architectural Digest, Dwell, Elle, The Advocate, Traveler, Palm Springs Life, R/M Magazine, Huffington Post, and ABCNews.com. Born and raised in Rochester, New York, he has resided in Palm Springs with his husband, writer-editor Daniel Vaillancourt, since 2007. Together, the WGA members have various film and television projects in development, and have scripted local special events such as the Palm Springs Film Awards Gala.

ALANE LEVINSOHN | Joshua Tree, California
www.alane.fineartstudioonline.com



Cracked, Oil on Linen, 8x8

Alane Levinsohn attended California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland, now California College of the Arts. Before graduation, she had the opportunity to move to Europe and lived in Brussels, Paris, and Frankfurt and traveled extensively through Europe

for three years. She studied at Académie Royale des Beaux-Arts in Brussels, and "lived" in the museums. Returning to the States, she worked as a fashion illustrator for several department stores. She has exhibited nationally and locally in juried shows and has won best in show with both figurative work and landscapes. Her figurative work is represented by A Gallery in Palm Desert. She has shown at JTAG Gallery in Joshua Tree, and Colliding Worlds Gallery "As God Intended" 3-artist show in Cathedral City. Juried shows include: Oil Painters of America Salon Show; JTAG Invitational Drawing Show (Best in Show); Joshua Tree National Park Art Expo (First Place); Debra Huse Gallery, Laguna Beach; and Saga Gallery, Montrose.



The Obstacle is the Way, Oil on Canvas, 18x36

LISA LIANG | Millbrae, California
[instagram.com/leeleebytheaart](https://www.instagram.com/leeleebytheaart)
www.gnailasil.blogspot.com

Lisa Liang received a BFA with honors in Illustration from ArtCenter College of Design in Pasadena, California. Upon graduation, she worked at Industrial Light and Magic, creating matte paintings for films such as Pirates of the Caribbean and Evan Almighty. From there, she designed concept environments for games such as Call of Duty, Star Trek Online, Neverwinter Online, among others. She began her teaching in 2015 when she developed an advanced digital painting tutorial on Pluralsight. Currently, she teaches at the Academy of Art in San Francisco. Besides teaching, she also creates fine art paintings and travels to discover new experiences.

ELAINE MATHEWS | Rancho Mirage, California
www.elaineartist.com



Joshua Tree Sunset with Ocotillo, Oil, 20x16

Elaine Mathews grew up in Southern California and began painting as a child using watercolor paints. In elementary school, she won several awards for her artwork, including a trip to Warner Bros. Studios. In junior high, she won a

district-wide art contest. Upon graduating high school, she attended college, earning a BA in studio art and a MA in teaching. She taught art in high school for 30 years. Upon retiring, she moved to the Coachella Valley and resides in Rancho Mirage. Moving to the California desert was an inspiration to become a full-time artist. Mathews is presently head of the plein-air painters of Desert Art Center in Palm Springs and chapter chair of the California Art Club. Her works are in the art collections of Nissan Motor Corp. and Avco Financial along with many private collections. She is a member of California Art Club, Laguna Plein-Air Painters, and Oil Painters of America.

BERT MATTINGLY | Anchorage, Alaska
www.bertmattingly.net



After the Storm, Photography, 20x30

Bert Mattingly is an Alaskan-based, Californian-born, award-winning fine art landscape photographer. He is self-taught, pursuing his professional pursuit for over 30 years and identifies Pablo Picasso as a major influence in developing his vision. Lighting is the critical element in all of his images. All other components are in response to and in alignment with the lighting.



Winter Wonderland, Photograph on Metal, 24x36

DEAN MAYO | Indio, California
www.foretophography.com

Dean Mayo's career as a professional photographer started in 2005 when he established foretophography. At the time it combined his experience as a PGA Golf Professional and his love for photography, and foretophography was born. "My early work consisted of the beautiful courses we have here in Southern California but quickly developed to include all the beautiful scenery that I had access to on a daily basis. Joshua Tree was the first national park I ever visited, and I immediately fell in love! As a photographer I concentrate on two main elements to create my image. In my eye those elements are exposure and composition. I like to draw the eye to one main star in the picture and at most one or two supporting stars. With this approach I find that my photographs are uncluttered and thus convey the feeling I set out to capture."

DAVID JESSE MCCHESENEY | Joshua Tree, California



Whiskers, Photography, 20x14

Since his earliest days of owning a camera, David Jesse McChesney has photographed nature in all of its fascinating forms. In 1973 he took his first trip for the purpose of photographing national parks. "Every day on the trail was an adventure offering

memories to last a lifetime. Always planning the upcoming journey, I had early fascinations with Hawaii and Alaska, bears and wolves, whales, the Galapagos and Pribilof Islands. I found unlimited natural treasures in the national parks and would visit them regularly. Initially, I loved photographing the mammals and saved money for long lenses that allowed me to get closer to my subjects. Over the years, I discovered that I had accumulated hundreds of images of beautiful birdlife species while on journeys." McChesney has published several books, including *Muir Roots: At One With the Wild*; *The Mojave Desert: Miles of Wonder*; and *American Birdlife: Treasures of the True Southwest*.



Timeless Joshua Tree, Ink Line Drawing, 10x12

MICHAEL MCKAY | Bozeman, Montana
 Michael McKay always travels with his sketchbook as his companion. He finds that there is nothing like having the sketchbook so handy and taking that precise moment to capture the subject of his sketch. He calls his drawing style plein-air ink drawings. Deceptively simple line drawings that capture the essence of the scene in just a few strokes of the pen, can often be more powerful than a photograph or a detailed image. Looking back in his sketchbook over many years, when he sees a certain sketch, he can still feel the wind, the sun, and the smells of that moment. McKay is a Landscape Architect with an International practice that has enabled him to travel and enjoy the world. For him, Joshua Tree is a special place, where he has rock climbed for 50 years, sketched and explored, and it is one of two places in the world that he calls home.

MITCH MILLER | Joshua Tree, California
www.FineEarthPhotography.com
 Photographer Mitch Miller, an avid backpacker, has been photographing the mountains and deserts of the southwest since 1981. "I first ventured into Joshua Tree National Monument, Memorial Day, 1980, and although unimpressed by the heat and flat light, I continued to return in more beautiful light, and weather. I fell in love with the monument so much I returned each year for my birthday throughout the 1980s, and married my wife Kathy there



Upload, Photography, 45x30

in 1999." The Professional Photographers of America have scored two of Miller's compositions in the 'Excellent' category. The Orange County Fair Visual Arts Competition awarded him a first place ribbon for color photography in the wildlife category in 2002, and first place for black and white landscape in 2012. He was published in Backpacker Magazine in November 2015 and has presented multiple slideshows to REI and the Sierra Club, to high acclaim.



Mysterium, Photography, 30x40

ROBERT MIRAMONTES | Desert Hot Springs, California
rtmiramontes@gmail.com
 Award winning photographer Robert Miramontes has been a permanent resident of Southern California since birth, and has spent nearly his entire life exploring, rock climbing, and photographing Joshua Tree National Park. He has written seven books about the Park. His extensive collection of Joshua Tree National Park photography spans nearly 30 years, chronicling a deep connection with the Park. Miramontes's photography can be seen in books, magazines, and fine art prints distributed world-wide.

EMILY NUNEZ | Pasadena, California
www.emilysnunez.com

Emily Nunez is a native Californian who was raised in Virginia and has resided in the Los Angeles area for the past nine years. She first picked up a paintbrush as a means to help her cope with chronic illness and quickly discovered her passion for creating art. Nunez uses primarily oil paint to depict Southern California landscapes and plants and incorporates bold color and fine details into her work. Though she paints from her photographs, her work is not meant to be photorealistic, but rather a simplified, enhanced, and idealized version of the original image. By painting in this style, she aims



Desert Magic Hour, Oil on Canvas, 18x14

to convey her deep respect and admiration for the natural world. She strives to open the viewers' eye to the intricate details, textures, and patterns of the nature that surrounds us, which we often overlook. The desert plants she paints symbolically represent growth, resiliency, and survival.

VICKI PEDERSEN | Riverside, California
www.vickipedersen.com



Timeless Encounter, Oil, 16x20

amazing artists. Those who have impacted her the most are: Richard Stergulz, William Schneider, Debra Huse, Jim McVicker, Joseph Todorovich and Thomas Blackshear. She is enthralled by light, particularly reflected light. "My goal with my art is that the viewers notice the light and that they feel a connection with the subject of my paintings and a deeper appreciation for the splendor of the world we live in. I am grateful to see the world through artist's eyes as there is so much beauty to be seen. Ralph Waldo Emerson once said: 'Never lose an opportunity of seeing anything beautiful, for beauty is God's handwriting.'" Her work is currently showing in the AAM Academies and Galleries in Skyforest, CA. She an associate member of the Women Artists of the West.

Vicki Pedersen's love of art started as a child and has been a constant companion to her since then. She has been fortunate to study under some



Joshua Tree Hack #2, Photography, 32x48

KARCHI PERLMANN | Los Angeles, California
www.karchip.com

Born in Budapest, Hungary, Karchi Perlmann is a photographer, independent filmmaker, and imaging artist. He has been shooting commissioned and fine art work for over 25 years. He lived and worked in Canada, Australia, and the east cost of the United States. He settled in Los Angeles in 1999. The sundry energy of Southern California became the focus of his work. Among these works are: "My Backyard," a lyrical depiction of Venice Beach during the "closing hours"; "Another Planet," a contemplative and surreal interpretation of Joshua Tree; and "Together/Discombobulated," an abstract cubist exploration of harmony within chaos. Perlmann is also an award-winning filmmaker, receiving honors from such festivals as the Venice Film Festival, Palm Spring International Film Festival, Brooklyn Film Festival and many others. He recently concluded a solo show of his LA Rhapsody, large scale photographic installation at Gallery 825. LA Rhapsody has been invited to exhibit at LAX in 2021.

ELISABETH POLLNOW | Twentynine Palms, California
www.elisabethpollnow.com



Over the Rocks, Cast Plaster with Bronze Finish, 23x19x2

Elisabeth Pollnow's art borders between three-dimensional and two-dimensional forms working out themes found in the natural world. Her early years of living in isolated areas of North Dakota and Alaska gave her a deep sense of connection to nature. Finding inspiration from her surroundings has been a lifelong focus. Pollnow has a BA in art from Evangel University and has

worked as a professional artist for 15 years. She has done work for the entertainment industry as well as professional contract sculpting on large-scale projects for public monuments within the Los Angeles area. She has exhibited in Pasadena, San Fernando, the Morongo Basin, and taught drawing in Orvieto, Italy. She is currently a member of California Art Club, Morongo Basin Cultural Arts Council, Gallery 62, and Twentynine Palms Artists' Guild. "My goal is to find the soul of the materials I'm using, whether clay, bark or palm fronds. Each one has a beautiful story to tell."



Ascent, Photography, 16x24

KEVIN POWELL | Joshua Tree, California
www.powellimages.com

The natural world has been the object of Kevin Powell's artistic desires since he first picked up a camera 32 years ago and began creating images focused on simple, clean compositions that depict the natural world just as it is—natural and raw. He has visited Joshua Tree National Park for 46 years and been a full time resident for 25 years. "During this time, the Park has always been an alluring, creative environment in which to photograph the natural world. From the classic early morning sunrise, to the fleeting glimpse of the elusive bighorn sheep, to the spring carpet of colorful wildflowers, to the granitic oddity of the jumbled masses of rock, the Park constantly invites my presence." Photos representative of his work can be found in his first book, *40 Classic Day Hikes of Joshua Tree National Park*.



Joshua Blooming, Acrylic on Canvas, 30x40

ROBIN RAZNICK | La Quinta, California
www.RobinRaznickFineArt.com

Robin Raznick is a versatile artist who works in oils, acrylics, and clay. Utilizing nature as her muse, the work can be described as abstracted representation. Her paintings are influenced by the Post Impressionists and Expressionists movements, and contemporary artists Jennifer Bartlett, Elizabeth Murray, Allison Schulnik, Joan Mitchell, and David Hockney. The scale, intensity of color, and energy of brushwork communicates a visceral relationship with nature and invites the viewer to participate in that emotional experience. Growing up in the Hollywood Hills, Raznick was exposed to a diverse group of creative thinkers including painters, actors, directors, and rock performers. She spent hours watching her father sculpting in his home studio and was encouraged artistically at an early age. Raznick holds numerous degrees in fine arts and education, and is a Credentialed Mentor Teacher, Studio Arts and Art History/Criticism Instructor, as well as a professional Visual Artist. She resides and teaches in the Coachella Valley.



Eastern Outpost, Photography, 16x20

MARK ROBBERN | Rancho Palos Verdes, California
www.skylightphoto.net

Mark Robben is a 22-year resident of Southern California, by way of southwestern Ohio where he first began his lifelong love of outdoor photography. From Pacific Ocean vistas to the wide open desert, Robben tries to capture the beauty of solitude in his landscape images. In recent years he has focused on capturing the beautiful night skies over Joshua Tree National Park, featuring many of the less traditional areas and rock formations as his foreground subjects. When not wandering the park in search of his next composition, he works as a Visual Effects Artist in feature films, commercials, episodic television, and the occasional music video for various post-production facilities in the Los Angeles area. He lives in Rancho Palos Verdes, CA.



Desert Vista from My Screen Door, Fiber Art, 48x43

LAURIE SCHAFER | Yucca Valley, California
[facebook.com/laurieschaferdesigns](https://www.facebook.com/laurieschaferdesigns)

Laurie Schafer lives in the high desert near Joshua Tree, California; a sharp contrast to her birthplace in Minnesota. Born in 1955, at the height of Mid-Century Modern, her innate artistic abilities were apparent from the start. Schafer received her degree in Clothing Design, and this evolved into her creating Artwear, a deliberate collision of art and fashion. Schafer's Artwear has received numerous awards and has been published by distinctive books and magazines. Her Artwear is found in museums, galleries and private collections. Her focus has evolved from Artwear to creating Textile Art, literally painting with fabric, inspired by the desert vistas surrounding Joshua Tree.



Scorpius Arch, Photography, 20x16

TAMI ROLEFF | Yucca Valley, California

After traveling the world, the Marine Corps brought Tami Roleff and her husband to the Morongo Basin in 2004, where they've lived ever since. Roleff has been taking photos since she was a teenager, but after moving to Yucca Valley, she became passionate about photographing the beauty of the desert and Joshua Tree National Park. "I especially love to photograph the iconic Joshua trees and animals who inhabit the Mojave Desert. I've fallen in love with night photography, capturing the eerie landscapes and historical artifacts and ruins, and showcasing the desert's dark skies bursting with stars." Her photos have been accepted into the juried "Open Desert: Music and Photographic Arts Showcase" at the Annenberg Theater in Palm Springs in 2016, and the juried Joshua Tree National Park Art Expo in 2013 and 2016. Her awards include Best Photo Taken Inside Joshua Tree National Park in 2011 in honor of Joshua Tree National Park 75th anniversary.

ESTHER SHAW | Yucca Valley, California
www.estershawsart.com

Esther Shaw has lived in the high desert for 15 years and continually surprises herself with discoveries of visual interest and beauty. The change of light throughout the day and the seasonal changes during the year are constantly renewing the desert's spectacle of arid nature. Her work attempts to take the viewer from up close observation to sweeping landscapes; from snow scenes to a calling bird at dawn. The paintings are a celebration of life with hope to evoke a mood and an emotional response. "My painting usually starts and develops by way of inspiration and experimentation,



Bird Call at Dawn, Acrylic, 40x36

letting my materials guide me. I find that the act of painting is as important as its content. I value the essentials of the painting process, yet I must also work in an improvisational way to try to create another view in which we can examine the world."

JEFFREY SKELLY | Sunland, California
www.jeffskellyart.com



A Pastel Sky, Pastel, 24x18

"With the use of bold brushwork and unique color harmonies, my paintings are not only faithful representations of places I've been but spiritual impressions as well." Southern California artist Jeff Skelly graduated from Cal State Northridge in 1989 and continued his studies at the California Art Institute and UCLA. With over 20 years of experience and widely collected on three

continents, Skelly continues to find expression in the beauty of our natural world. He has exhibited in numerous venues such as the Palm Springs Desert Art Museum, the National Arts Club in New York, and many other juried shows. Awards include the 1st place blue ribbon at Yosemite Renaissance XXVIII juried competition and the Superintendent's Award at the Joshua Tree National Park Art Exhibition 2015 and 2018.

JIM SMART | Joshua Tree, California
www.jimsmartphotography.com



Saucer Clouds Over JTNP, Photography, 7.5x12

Jim Smart developed an interest in photography more than 50 years ago when he took a high school course and made a pinhole camera, and shot with a Speed Graflex. Since then he has used Leicas, Hasselblads, Mamiya, Nikon and Canon equipment. He now uses film cameras exclusively, shooting black and white and color images. He develops most of his own film and prints his own images. He has been selected as an artist in residence in the Mojave National Preserve and has had several shows in Southern California. Smart has taught classes for the Desert Institute in Joshua Tree National Park, both color and black and white photography, and he retired recently as an adjunct professor in Communications at California State University, San Bernardino. Smart lives a few miles from the west entrance to Joshua Tree National Park.

MARK SPICAK | Twentynine Palms, California



Where's Hidden Tank, Oil on Canvas, 24x30

Artist Mark Spicak began painting with oils in 1970. A self-taught artist, he has created over 1,000 works and has painted the California Desert, high and low, from

1991-2019. "My goal is to engender the spirit of past landscape artists who found beauty, inspiration, and meaning in Nature which surrounded them. It is our good fortune to have inherited their work, much of which portrays sites now unrecognizable. I have painted locations in the California Desert where wildflowers colored the dunes in spring; now within a few short years, much of those dunes is covered with ubiquitous and monotonous lawns and structures. Assuming the human aesthetic spirit will live on in subsequent generations, perhaps my work, and that of artists past and present, with similar inspiration, will inform of what was here, at least visually. But the exhilarating perfume of a spring day among flower-strewn desert dunes with unscarred, uncluttered mountain horizons may soon no longer be."

RICK STROBAUGH | Yucaipa, California
www.photographybyrickstrobaugh.com



Storm Over Joshua Tree, Photography, 13x24

Rick Strobaugh got his first real photography training as a Police Officer who also did crime scene investigations as part of his Police duties. Later, as a Detective in charge of the Crime Scene Investigation department, photography was an even bigger part of his duties while documenting crime scenes, traffic accidents, injuries, dead bodies and autopsies. "I retired 12-1/2 years ago but still go in a couple days a week to the Police Department and volunteer my services. Wanting more pleasing subjects to photograph, I got more into landscapes, macro and wildlife photography when not working. I travel a lot throughout the western U.S., exploring the countryside and photographing my adventures. I am often hiking or backpacking in the mountains, far away from other people." Strobaugh belongs to the Redlands Camera Club, and enjoys teaching photography to others to help them improve their photography skills.

KATHLEEN STRUKOFF | San Juan Capistrano, California
www.kathleenstrukoff.com



Winter Magic, Oil, 8x16

Painting "alla prima" or "at the first" is what thrills Kathleen Strukoff most about painting--capturing the essence of a scene on location in one quick and energetic session. Often she takes those on-location smaller paintings and develops them into larger ones in her atelier. Strukoff uses a combination of palette knife and vigorous brushwork with bold colors to express her translation of the scene. She is known for her brilliant colors and capturing the light whether it is an urbanscape or a landscape. Her love for painting landscapes began as a young girl growing up in New Mexico where she was moved by the vistas and colors of the high desert. In recent years, she has become obsessed with the spirit and challenge of plein-air painting. She loves the spontaneous nature of this form of painting, trying to capture the impression of a place, time of day, and the weather that is occurring at a moment's notice.

SICONG SUI | Pasadena, California
[Instagram.com/gengisicong](https://www.instagram.com/gengisicong)



8 a.m. February 6, Watercolor, 8x5

Sicong Sui is a Los Angeles-based painter and illustrator, who was born and raised in Beijing, China. Inspired by Asian folk tales, expressionism and manga culture, Sicong's recent work is based on simulations of self-flagellation and optimism. He usually works with mixed media painting, drawing, and photography. He received a BFA

in Fine Art, with honors in Illustration, from ArtCenter College of Design in Pasadena, in 2018. He is a Curator at MSG Collective in Pasadena. His curatorial experience in Los Angeles includes "My Dream of the American Dream" (2018) and "Funsized" (2017) at Leiminspace Gallery, and "Menagerie" (2018) at TAJ-ART Studio Gallery; and he has collaborated with other artists to develop site-specific installations and exhibitions.

ALEXANDRA DAWN TAGGART | Albuquerque, New Mexico
www.alexandratagg.art

Alexandra Dawn Taggart is recognizable for American Southwest mountainscapes that juxtapose clear foreground objects with translucent backgrounds. Painted colorfully in oil, animated rocks appear before mountains, the latter blurred by mist and clouds. At a deeper level, then, Taggart's subject is metaphysical: the perceptible folded into the imperceptible, the finite arising from the infinite. Taggart became fascinated by the ways that mountains welcome as well as elude us while living in Joshua Tree for two years. A native of New York City, she traveled extensively throughout the American Southwest until finally settling in New Mexico. To come to know the



Rock Forms That We Do Not Understand, Oil on Canvas, 12x16

natural world intuitively, immediately, she marries two of her greatest influences, Wilson Hurley with Roger Dean. Before she devoted herself to painting full-time, she

worked as a handbag designer and adjunct instructor of Accessories Design at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City.



Joshua Tree, Silkscreen Print, 18x27

CHRIS TURNHAM | Los Angeles, California
www.christurnham.com

Chris Turnham is a Los Angeles based illustrator originally from the Pacific Northwest. He has had a long production art career working as a visual development artist in the animation industry, and he currently works as a freelance illustrator for editorial and children's books. Much of his time is spent in the studio pursuing his passion for printmaking. Turnham's style reflects his love of mid-century illustration, and he takes inspiration from history, architecture, and the exotic world we live in. He most recently illustrated a children's book titled National Parks of the USA and has been creating silkscreen editions of select works from the book. "A visit to Joshua Tree National Park is a glimpse into a world of wonder: of shapes both recognizable and abstract, of colors that shift from one moment to the next, of wildlife that both delights and terrifies, and of experiences that can never be the same twice."

TRAVIS USHER | Yucca Valley, California
[Instagram.com/travis_usher_art](https://www.instagram.com/travis_usher_art)



Ram Amongst the Datura, Oil on Canvas, 22x28

Travis Usher is an American oil painter born and raised in the high deserts of Southern California, inspired by the vast desert landscape and the human figure. These two themes play themselves out over much of his work mingled together or as stand-alone dynamic landscapes and traditional portraiture. His painting style ranges from layered underpaintings and glazes to "alla prima" and the desert "en plein air." He also has a collection of large and small-scale acrylic murals in multiple Southern California businesses and private homes. Usher was invited to take part in Joshua Tree National Park Art Expo in 2017 and 2018, receiving an honorable mention in 2018. He mainly paints out of his home studio located in the outskirts of Joshua Tree. There he resides with his wife and two young daughters who, when standing on a rock or playing in a puddle after a monsoon rain, become the inspiration for his work.

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NICHOLE VIKDAL | Yucca Valley, California
www.crystalsbynichole.com



Joshua Tree in Bloom, Crystalline Glaze Porcelain Ceramics, 18x10x8.5

Nichole Vikdal has loved pottery all her life. From playing in the mud as a child to her first thrown pot, she was hooked. She has made Yucca Valley her home for 25 years and created pottery for just as long. She seeks her inspiration from the beauty of her desert home which fuels her passion and defines her purpose: To attempt to capture a piece of nature and hold its allure and elegance in her work. She accomplishes this through the art of crystalline glazing, a process where she grows crystals on the porcelain she throws on her wheel. Vikdal sculpts her work to represent the ever flowing beauty of the desert. She has won several awards for her work and is currently represented in various locations throughout Southern California. She has been an active participant of the Joshua Tree National Park Art Expo since its beginning in 2013.

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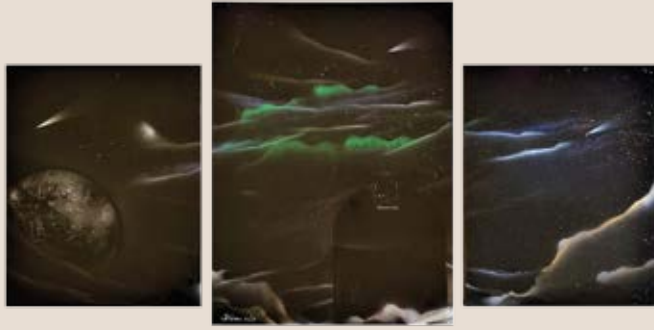


Butte, Collage, 12x16

JULIETTE VOS | Palm Springs, CA & Netherlands
www.saatchiart.com/juliettevoss

Juliette Vos was born in the United States and currently resides in the Netherlands and Palm Springs. She is a member of the California Art Club and Collage Artists of America. "I find that I am increasingly a desert painter as I continue to discover innate beauty in the exquisite patterns left by the flow of nature. Desert landscapes are often environments of pure abstraction, where clarity, emptiness, and silence can simultaneously be a physical and psychological experience. Painting in the desert has helped me to understand that abstraction and representation pervade my art in a permanent interplay, one always harbors characteristics of the other.... As I maintain a relationship with the source material, often the colors suggest a landscape or a hint of horizon. Abstract paintings are made in layers using chance and arbitrariness. Through the construction and deconstruction of paint I create deliberate pictorial structures."

TIMOTHY WARREN | Twentynine Palms, California



Observatory Space, Spray Paint Triptych, 14x11, 24x14, 11x14

Timothy Warren was born in Endicott, New York in 1967, and adopted to a couple in Poughkeepsie, New York in 1968. Warren is a Retired United States Marine Corps Gunnery Sargent with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. His outlet is through his artwork. Based in Twentynine Palms, his primary medium is with spray paint. He is not professionally trained. As a young child he drew comics, and then moved on to graffiti artwork. From his body to his cars, Warren's love for art is notably manifested. He joined Twentynine Palms Art Gallery in January 2018. Although he has yet to win any awards for his art work, he has sold a few pieces. This has encouraged him to pursue creating more artwork, realizing that as it keeps him grounded, others can find enjoyment in it as well. Warren continues to discover more variety of mediums to where he can extend his "out of the box" thinking.

ARLENE WINFREY | Desert Hot Springs, California



Joshua Tree Morning View, Photography, 16x24

Growing up in Southern California, Arlene Winfrey had an eye for color, patterns, and travel. Stopping often at play as a child, to watch the sunsets. She had a strong interest in art and pursued it in high school. Over the years, she had health issues, including paralysis at one point, which makes every day living count. "Upon settling in Oklahoma is when photography was discovered. A chance to share what I was experiencing with friends and family; having a background in floral design was a natural segue with the prior knowledge of color and composition. Flat, no trees, angry weather at times, but still beauty, often in its simplest forms. I so enjoyed the weather, the patterns of clouds, etc., that I started being a Storm Spotter.... I believe every place has its beauty, just watch with open eyes." Moving back to California, Winfrey is in retirement now and "seeing this land with new vision."

EHRICK WRIGHT | Rancho Mirage, California
www.ehrickwrightart.com



Desert Asparagus, Pencil and Graphite, 28x22

and canyons found in Joshua Tree National Park. Faces, torsos, animals, and monsters—all appear in profusion, change with shifting light and shadows, and vary with the beholder. His work attempts to capture these features as well as the bold contrasts and atmospheric clarity found uniquely in the desert. Wright works out of his home in Rancho Mirage, where he has lived since 2003. He attended Massachusetts College of Art, the School of the Museum of Fine Arts and the Decordova Museum School. He has participated in numerous shows since 1990, including South End Open Studios, Rancho Mirage Art Affaire, and Rancho Mirage 2017 Art Tour.

Ehrick Wright's love of nature and life-long fascination with light, shadow, and flowing lines are evident in all his artwork, which includes paintings, drawings, and pastels. Most recently, his work has been inspired by the bizarre landscape of rocks, hills,

the Judges 2019

ANN CONGDON

Born and raised in Twentynine Palms, artist and architect Ann Congdon holds a BA from Scripps College, Claremont, and Master of Architecture from the University of Colorado at Denver. She and her husband, Mike, lived in Washington D.C. over 35 years, where she practiced architecture for 20 years, working with nonprofit organizations, and had her own graphics studio, specializing in publications and exhibition catalogs for Washington Women's Art Center, artists, and arts-related organizations.

Residential tours in other U.S. cities and abroad with her husband provided opportunities to study, teach, and produce graphic and exhibit design for the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, and the U.S. Information Service in Vienna, Austria. Upon retirement, Ann and Mike returned to Twentynine Palms, where she continues to work with nonprofit groups, serves on the Public Arts Advisory Committee of the City of Twentynine Palms, and is President of Sky's The Limit Observatory and Nature Center. Ann's ARCHIFACTS—compositions of salvaged construction materials and found objects—have been exhibited in galleries in Annapolis, MD, and the high desert, and are in private collections on both coasts.



MICHAEL McCALL

Artist and curator Michael McCall is currently Executive Curator of the Yucca Valley Visual & Performing Arts Center, the new 15,000+sf arts facility and annex of Hi-Desert Cultural Center featuring the largest state-of-the-art gallery, arts creation and arts education space in the Joshua Tree National Park region. McCall received a Master of Fine Arts graduate degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1974. He has exhibited his work in galleries and museums across the United States. He served as preparator for the Washington Project for the Arts in D.C., where he also ran the outdoor public arts sculpture program. He resided in Los Angeles over three decades, keeping a large studio near downtown prior to moving full time to Yucca Valley in 2018. Although schooled as a painter, his artwork extends beyond painterly boundaries into areas of sculpture, photography, performance, and conceptual art. McCall's work has been described as a hybrid of abstraction and imagery, sometime referred to as "Imagist." He has been represented by Timothy Yarger Fine Art of Beverly Hills and is a reviewer for Fabrik Contemporary Art & Design magazine. www.yvarts.org & www.michaelmccall.org



WALLY PACHOLKA

Astrophotographer Wally Pacholka won astronomy's highest honor, the G. Bruce Blair Award in May 2018 for his "Pioneering work in promoting the night skies of America's National Parks through Landscape Astrophotography." Beginning in rural Canada in 1964, armed with a pawn shop camera, his photos of the night sky included the surrounding landscape to give the viewer the same perspective he was seeing while under the stars. After moving to the U.S., he found the national parks as perfect foregrounds for his night sky landscapes and soon was showcasing Joshua Tree NP and the Mojave Desert as the go-to place for meteor showers and comets. His Comet Hale-Bopp photos above Joshua Tree NP in 1997 went worldwide, including TIME "Picture of the Year, 1997." In 2003, his pictures of Mars' closest approach in 50,000 years earned him another TIME "Picture of the Year" as well as LIFE "Picture of the Year." Pacholka's astro-landscape images have been published by NASA, National Geographic Magazine, TIME and LIFE, popularizing astronomy and pioneering a new field of photography, Landscape Astrophotography. He is a member of the international landscape astro-photographers TWAN, The World at Night. www.AstroPics.com



the Jurors



Jurors for the Joshua Tree National Park Art Exposition's 2019 juried exhibition met on Saturday, July 20, at Twentynine Palms City Hall and juried 347 artwork images submitted by 137 artists from across California, the U.S., and Canada. After nearly seven hours of deliberation, the jury selected 57 artists and art pieces for this year's show, featuring artwork depicting or inspired by Joshua Tree National Park or its cultural history. Artwork categories this year were 2-Dimensional, 3-Dimensional, and Photography. The exhibition is on display at the 29 Palms Art Gallery for the month of September.

The five jurors are pictured here (left to right): Mark Spangenberg of Twentynine Palms, fine artist, contemporary realist, and art instructor; Lori Rennie of Benchmark Studios in Joshua Tree, graphic designer and art collector; Gary S. Colby, photographer and Professor of Photography Emeritus, University of Laverne; Sarah Scheideman, arts administrator, producer for Scene Creative LLC, and former Executive Director of The Coachella Valley Art Scene (CVAS); and Ed Keesling of Yucca Valley, ceramic artist, art instructor, and President of 29 Palms Art Gallery.



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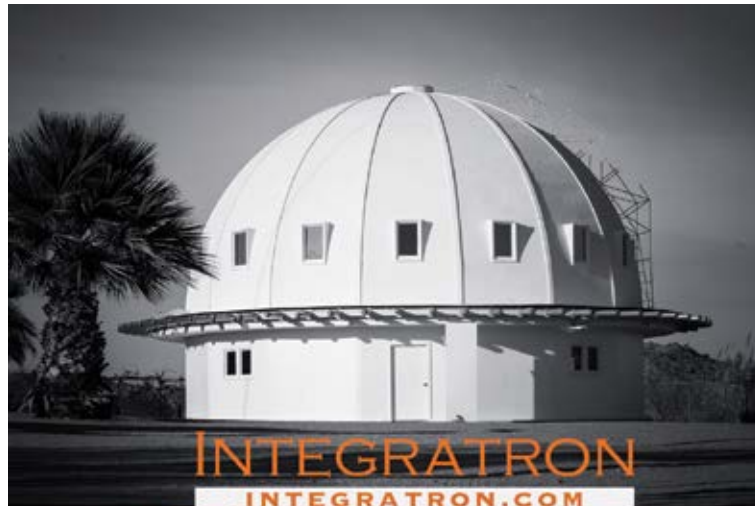
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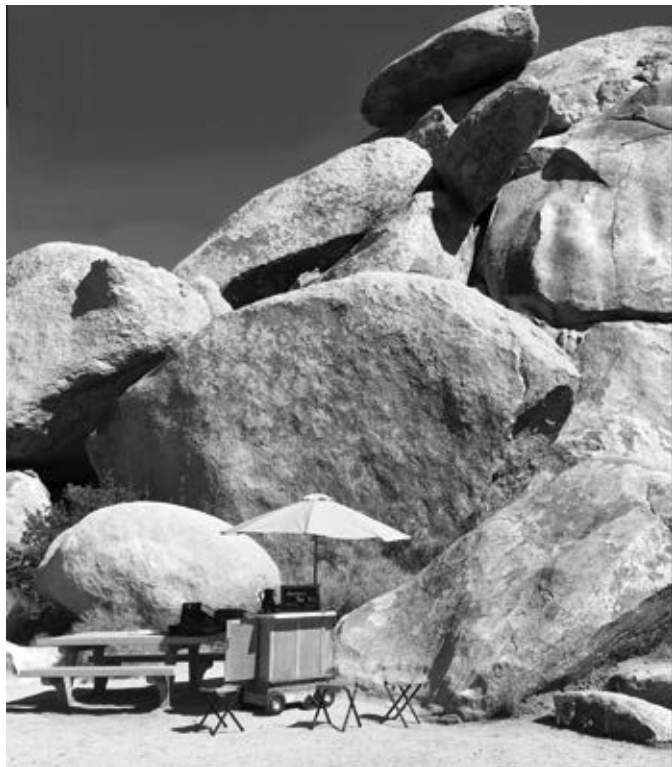
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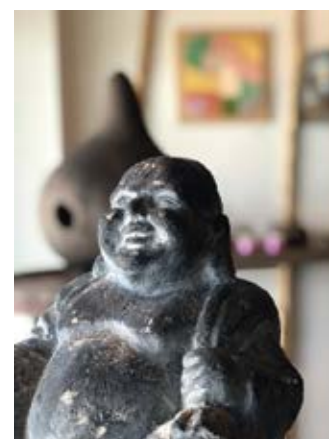
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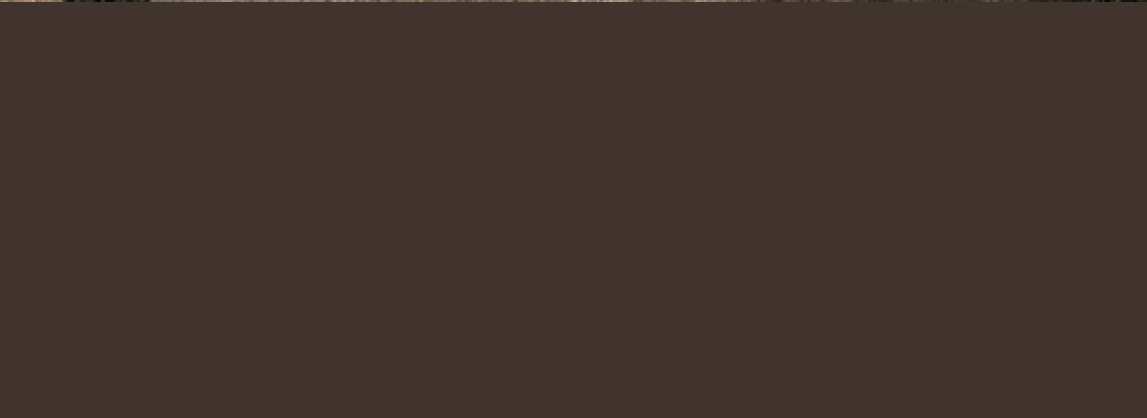
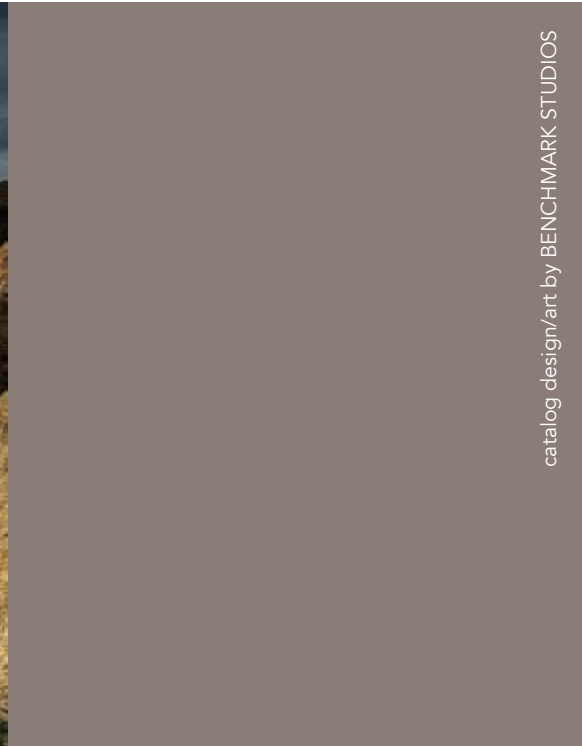
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