ART
joshua tree national park
EXPOSITION

*Peaceful Light,* 22x28 Oil by MARIE VAN DORP SKELLY

2021
NOVEMBER 4–28
29 PALMS ART GALLERY AT THE OASIS OF MARA
29 PALMS, CALIFORNIA

www.jtnpARTS.org
Joshua Tree National Park Art Exposition features a juried exhibition and celebration of art, culture, and park history at the Oasis of Mara in Twentynine Palms, CA. The 2021 juried exhibition received 253 pieces of art submitted by 108 artists from the desert region and across California, the U.S., and England. After the jurying process, 61 artworks, depicting or inspired by Joshua Tree National Park or its cultural history, were selected. The exhibition is on display with works for sale at the historic 29 Palms Art Gallery, Nov. 4–28, 2021, and featured on www.jtnpARTS.org. Art Expo weekend activities are Nov. 6–7. The Art Expo is presented by Joshua Tree National Park Council for the Arts in partnership with 29 Palms Artists’ Guild, both 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations based in Twentynine Palms.
Benjamin Allanoff | Joshua Tree, California

Ben Allanoff is an artist who works with plant material, steel, and wire. He also makes paintings using rust on canvas and ink on paper, and creates large scale installations, working with institutions such as The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens; the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area; Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden; 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. His 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.

http://benallanoff.com

Raini Armstrong | Joshua Tree, California

Watercolorist Raini Armstrong is a desert dweller and art enthusiast in love with color, surrounded by hidden wonder. “Painting since 2001, I have drawn inspiration from what I love—the desert landscape and the life often unseen! My creations are born from my photographs, but they take on life because I share my passions in each painting I create.” Raised by artistic parents, she grew up surrounded by artists and craftspeople and traveled to weekend art and craft shows around the country. The medium she fell in love with came to her over time. Through children’s book illustrations and boardwalk watercolorists selling floral or seaside paintings, she had been drawn to watercolor from an early age, and in 2001 was properly introduced to the medium through classwork at Copper Mountain College. http://rainidaysart.com

Robert Arnett | Glendora, California

Plein-air artist Robert Arnett’s fascination with art developed at age 10 when he won 2nd place in a monster drawing contest on the Doodles Weaver’s Show on TV in the 1950s. Receiving an oil painting kit that Christmas sealed the deal. He landed his first job with a silk screen printing firm and spent the next 35 years in a career of design, print making, and competitive creativity. Some 25+ years ago he found his niche in landscape painting and has become a favorite Wonder Valley artist in the Joshua Tree Gateway Communities, where abandoned Mojave Desert homesteads and their historic role has driven him to document their existence before the harsh environment reclaims them. A native Californian, Arnett studied at the Otis Art Institute, Scottsdale Artist School, and is an Associate Member of the California Art Club and the Southern California Plein Air Painters.

www.robertartnettfineart.com
Juried Artists 2021

Peter Berggren | Fullerton, California
Photographer Peter Berggren says, “It’s all about the light!” An amateur photographer, he’s been interested in photography nearly his entire adult life. About 12 years ago, he and his wife bought a home in 29 Palms and his photography muse quickly became the desert, and more specifically, Joshua Tree National Park. “Desert light is incredibly beautiful, and I’m constantly struggling to portray in my photos the feeling and beauty that I experienced at the moment I took the photo. I’ve also been working with some of the outstanding local JT photographers to learn from them, and to improve my skills, especially with regard to composition.” Married with two adult children and an adopted granddaughter, Berggren and his wife divide their time between Fullerton and 29 Palms. https://www.flickr.com/photos/peteandgayle/

Delphine Bordas | Palm Desert, California
From growing up in Europe to international corporate jobs, it took Delphine Bordas 20 years to develop her photographic style to the point that she was ready to show her work and dedicate herself 100% to photography. “I knew early on that black and white was the medium where I could express myself best, and where I could ‘create’ more than a photograph. Black and white offers the viewer a deeper visual experience. I feel pictures have a soul of their own, and a spirit that is serene, almost infinite yet so personal. I am not into capturing reality. My photographs are my own vision of nature’s best. They display a sense of evasion, serenity, warm spirit, and excitement.” In recent years, Bordas’ photographs have been exhibited in venues from Idyllwild’s Art in the Park to festivals and exhibitions in Palm Springs, La Quinta, Indian Wells, and Rancho Mirage. https://www.delphinebphotography.com/

Julia Briest | Desert Hot Springs, California
Julia Briest developed a love for the arts at a young age, having a mother as an art teacher and graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Fashion Merchandising from Western Michigan University. During a road trip with her husband in 2015, she became obsessed with collecting nature’s finest “art supplies”—creating what she calls Earth Art Creations. Inspired by the lands she travels she is mindful of the impact on the environment while gathering natural art supplies. Her supplies are either handpicked on public lands or received as donations from friends and family. Briest’s detailed natural fiber Mandalas and other works represent this bountiful earth and awaken us to see Mother Earth’s natural creations through a new lens. Her natural works of art are currently on display in Southern California at the Integratron in Landers, Cactus Mart in Morongo Valley, and Borrego Art Institute. https://www.instagram.com/juliabriestart/
Juried Artists 2021

Stephanie Britt | Bellingham, Washington

Stephanie Britt’s interest in abstract art began while studying painting, color and design at Ringling College of Art and Design with Professor Bruce Gregory, a student of famed French cubist Fernand Leger. This introduction opened the door to further interest and study of other influential artists and movements of the time including Braque, Mondrian, Cezanne, Cubism and Futurism. Although different stylistically, later studies with contemporary figurative artist Zhaoming Wu and noted portrait artist Daniel Greene further influenced Britt’s work. Inspired by the work of certain early 20th century artists and a lifelong fascination with sequential art, her work conveys an impression of a constantly shifting pictorial environment while maintaining a recognizable subject; consequently, her work is best described as Abstract Realism. After residing for many years on the Hawaiian island of Kauai, she currently makes her home in Washington with her husband and two demanding felines.

http://www.sbrittfineart.com

Oasis at Mara,
Oil on Canvas,
24x18

Naomi Brown | Queen Creek, Arizona

Naomi Brown was born in Palm Springs, California, and grew up in Twentynine Palms. She now resides in Queen Creek, AZ, with her husband and children. A self-taught artist who has been painting for the past 17 years, she mainly paints with acrylic and oil on museum board and canvas, sometimes using both acrylic and oil on a painting. She is an Associate with Distinction member of American Women Artists and member of the California Art Club. She has been nationally recognized in competitions, with pieces chosen for the 20th Anniversary Arts For the Parks, as well as Paint the Parks, Paint America, and the 2020 and 2021 LA Art Show. She is currently in the 2021 CowGirl Up Show in Wickenburg, AZ. Some of her work has toured the U.S., and her Southwest and desert paintings have been featured in Southwest Art, Western Art Collector, and American Art Collector magazines.

http://www.naomibrownart.com

Oasis of Mara Evening Display, Oil and Acrylic, 24x36

Lorraine Bubar | Los Angeles, California

Lorraine Bubar is a native of Los Angeles and received her B.A. from UCLA. She studied animation at Yale, and her independent films won awards at animation festivals around the world. Bubar worked for years in the animation industry, animating television commercials and special effects for feature films. During that time, she exhibited her watercolors and illustrated a calendar published by LACMA and several children’s books. She taught animation at Santa Monica College and drawing and painting to middle and high school students. While travelling the world she realized that in numerous cultures artisans create varied forms of papercuts. Bubar’s painterly papercuts, created from layers of colored papers, reflect the heritage of papercutting and capture the diverse ecosystems where she has travelled. She exhibits her papercuts around the world and has been the Artist-in-Residence at Denali, Zion, Petrified Forest, and Lassen Volcanic National Parks.

http://lorrainebubar.com

Desert Dawn,
Papercut,
34x24
Hannah Campbell | Yucca Valley, California

Hannah Campbell is a traveler and explorer who seeks to find the beauty in unusual places. Growing up in the Morongo Basin next to Joshua Tree National Park taught her to see the art of the desert in all its seasons, from the sun-drenched cholla and dusky purple hills of August, to the pale shades of sand and the bright blue March sky. Campbell has traveled all around the world as a school teacher, and has been able to observe many different art styles, from Singaporean to Tanzanian. Her interest in Inktense pencils developed while teaching overseas at an American school in Singapore. She loves weaving art into all the subjects she teaches, particularly math (since math is the language of both visual arts and music). She has participated and placed in the JTNP Art Exposition, has had several gallery showings, and is a participant in the 2021 Hwy 62 Art Tours. https://www.instagram.com/hannahgraceartworks/

Chris Carraher | Twentynine Palms, California

Chris Carraher has been in the Mojave Desert for nearly 30 years and lives and works in a vintage homestead in Wonder Valley. Her old cabin studio has been her laboratory, floating in the silence, isolation, and challenge of the desert. The homestead cabins and the desert as both physical and metaphysical landscape have figured prominently in both her artwork and her activism. She co-directed the Wonder Valley Homestead Cabin Festival in 2008, a pivotal event in bringing the homesteads into community social, political, and aesthetic consciousness. Though she worked in pastels for years she is now experimenting with paint, especially acrylics. Whatever the medium, her focus continues to be simplicity, rawness, the bold gesture, flow, spaciousness, and grace. http://magicgroove.net/

Janis Commentz | Yucca Valley, California

Janis Commentz is a Mojave Desert painter. Known for her color-intense palette and loose brush strokes, she enjoys teaching and encouraging other artists. During Covid, some of her fondest art moments have been hosting a Zoom painting group. She believes desert beauty is an acquired taste. In 1977, she moved to the desert to teach high school. She has been active in the Morongo Basin art community and has exhibited at Gallery 62 (serving as Director in 2016), Joshua Tree Art Gallery, the Purple Agave, Rainbow Stew, 29 Palms Art Gallery, T.E. Studios–Riverside, and the Redlands Art Association. Commentz has participated in the Hwy 62 Open Studio Art Tours (11 years), Joshua Tree National Park Art Expo Juried Exhibition, Joshua Tree National Park Spring Art Festival, Art Faire at California State University at San Bernardino (CSUSB), and Art For Heaven’s Sake. www.janiscommentz.com
Juried Artists 2021

Miguel Criado | Palm Springs, California
Miguel Criado was born in Puerto Rico where his first artistic inclinations were suppressed by his parents, until he was discovered by the set designer at a Carnaval Pageant. He then pursued ceramics to enhance 3D skills, and eventually went to Massachusetts College of Art and pursued Architectural Design and Glass majors. In 1990 he returned to the Island to work on the design of a Sugar Cane and Rum Museum, became an official Artisan in Art Affairs, and exhibited sculptures at the Capitol Rotunda for the President of Puerto Rico’s Senate. He later moved to Orlando, Florida, to work for Disney, then eventually moved west and found Palm Springs, which reminded him of San Juan Puerto Rico’s combination of Spanish Architecture and Mid-Century Modern. Currently he has developed a style using sticks for painting dots one at a time in a tribal style derived from the way Puertorican Carnaval traditional Papier Mache masks are painted.
migueljosecriado@yahoo.com

Jane Culp | Anza, California
Artist Jane Culp obtained her BFA from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, followed by an MFA from the Yale University Art School and post-graduate life drawing sessions at the New York Studio School. Her early work was heavily influenced by life drawing from the figure, while her studio painting was rooted in the concerns of Abstract Expressionism. In the past 30 years, these concerns for communicating painted emotional presence have translated into working landscape paintings within wilderness areas and through artist residencies in national parks, Maine Boundary Islands, and within the high desert of her home in Southern California. Her works have been in exhibitions from Ireland to New York to California, and featured in Yosemite National Park Renaissance exhibits and previous Joshua Tree National Park Art Expo juried exhibitions.
http://janeculpart.com

Kristin Czech | Morongo Valley, California
Kristin Czech spends laborious hours, yet is little known for her imaginative realism paintings. She was trained in oil painting by her grandmother (an accomplished artist). She could draw and paint realistically in high school and went on to major in art at a university. For a time, she was fortunate to have her grandmother who would let her paint alongside her and use her studio, but after her grandmother passed away, Czech began working on paintings less and less until her work became a far-removed hobby. For the last two years she taught middle and high school art and ceramics classes, where she learned a lot about art from the students. “Creating is luck—you have bad days and good days; if you create every day, you will catch some good days.” Czech lives in Morongo Valley catching good days with her husband and two girls, and currently is working on her art full time. kristonite@gmail.com
Juried Artists 2021

Luciano Demasi | San Diego, California

Luciano Demasi’s photographs are focused on “capturing the uniqueness of each moment nature provides with its immense and stunning endless beauty.” He has photographed San Diego East County (including Anza-Borrego Desert) and U.S. national parks. His artistic love is for infrared photography: “The invisible world is first imagined, then captured, and finally brought to life, to unleash creativity, passion, and emotions. The invisible world is part of our reality and infrared photography is what unveils true beauty by enhancing our perception.” He is the Grand Prize winner of the 1st Place Photo Essay (“Imagining and Then Making Paradise Visible: Wonders from Utah and the Role of Chaos) of the 2019 Kolari Visions’ Life in Another Light photo contest. Demasi is Associate Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and professor of Aerospace Engineering at San Diego State University and is author of more than 100 publications. http://www.lucianodemasiphoto.com

Timeless Endurer, Photograph on Metal, 20x30

Lee Edwards | Duarte, California

Artist Lee Edwards has established a reputation as a plein air impressionist artist. His paintings are regularly exhibited in gallery shows on the west coast and are in private collections throughout the United States. He began his professional life as a documentary film and video editor for 30 years but then turned to the traditional art mediums of drawing and painting, working primarily in plein air landscape. He paints weekly with a group of outdoor painters in the San Gabriel Valley and often paints in desert areas as well as coastal areas near Laguna and Palos Verdes. His paintings have been exhibited in juried shows at The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens; the Oil Painters of America National Exhibition and the OPA Western Regional Exhibition; the Long Beach Art Museum; and the California Art Club. http://edwardsfineart.com/

Desert Boulders, Oil on Panel, 12x16

Marcia Geiger | Joshua Tree, California

Marcia Geiger started her career as an oil painter after moving to Joshua Tree in 1989. Primarily a self-taught artist who strongly believes in the arts community, she started volunteering for the Morongo Basin Cultural Arts Council in 2010, and currently serves as president. She is also a member of the Palm Springs Artists Council, the Twentynine Palms Artists’ Guild, and serves on the board of Arts Connection, the San Bernardino County Arts Council. Her artistic focus is on oil painting and her subjects range from abandoned buildings in desert ghost towns and old homestead cabins, to local landscapes and desert fauna. Her remote private studio north of Joshua Tree provides her with the open space, peace, and solitude she finds necessary to allow her creative inspirations to grow and flourish. http://geigarts.com

Bighorn Watering Hole, Oil on Canvas, 34x48
Michael E. Gordon | Lakewood, California

Michael E. Gordon is an award-winning photographic artist best known for his black-and-white images from California’s deserts which, said Broughton Quarterly, portray “stunning ethereal beauty from terrain where others see only a bleak landscape.” A lifelong student of nature and a wilderness adventurer, his relationship with and photography of California’s deserts spans more than 30 years. Gordon’s work has been widely exhibited and is held internationally in the collections of the United States Embassy; Kaiser Permanente; Milken Family Foundation; The Wilderness Society, and many others. His photographs have been published in B+W Photography (UK); Elements magazine; Medium Format magazine; SHOTS; On Landscape (UK); View Camera; Rangefinder; Broughton Quarterly; Arte Fotográfico; Backpacker; and more. He has received International Photography Awards, Prix de la Photographie Paris, and Black & White Spider Awards. He also operates Death Valley Photo Tours and lives in Southern California with his wife Shauna. http://www.Michael-Gordon.com

Monica Griffin | Santa Monica, California

Monica Griffin’s work is inspired by the vast and beautiful natural landscapes found around the world. Her latest series aims to interpret and preserve moments from our fragile environments. She wants various elements (light, weather conditions, ecosystems, the cosmos, etc.) to be witnessed and held in time by putting it on canvas. She then takes those canvases out into the landscapes which inspired them and photographs them, creating a juxtaposition of Art and Muse. By photographing these works in their environment, it transcends the original painting and elevates it to a more holistic way to be viewed and enjoyed. Ultimately, she wants each piece and the environment to work together to create a beautiful homage to Mother Earth. Each piece is a convergence of art and design principles: graphical, flat, the use of mixed mediums and abstract in nature, and leaves plenty open to viewer interpretation.
http://www.monicagriffin.com

James Hammons | Sugarloaf, California

Shamanistic guidance enhanced with ancient archetypes, James Hammons’ self-taught art is a mystical wonderland of color and character. “Enchantment” is his genre, for he feels enchantment is the oldest form of healing. “Let’s take a magical trip back to that which made us whole.” Educated at the University of Redlands with a graduate degree from the University of Southern California, and inspired by extensive travels and stays through Mexico and the jungles of Central America, plus years of living and studying art in Europe, Hammons creates innovative images that are exhibited and loved throughout the world.
www.JamesHammonsArts.com
Juried Artists 2021

Larry Hemmerich | Thousand Palms, California

Artist Larry Hemmerich hikes in the desert and mountains surrounding his home, working from on-location studies and in Plein Air. “My desire is to capture a moment, that you, the beholder, may never actually see but can lose yourself in it as if to experience it for yourself. My artwork is a window into my love for the natural world around me. I am passionate about capturing the beauty of nature with my pastels. My background is in oils, but when I discovered soft pastels, I knew I had found the medium I was looking for. I completed my first pastel in 2012 and was amazed with the results.” Hemmerich’s work has focused on desert scenes since 2017. He is an Associate member of California Art Club, member of Palm Springs Artists Council, and in 2019 was juried into the Pastel Society of the Southwest and Pastel Society of America.

http://larryhemmerich.com

Steve Hilton | Wichita Falls, Texas

Steve Hilton earned his MFA at Arizona State University (2005). He also holds degrees in Art Education and Geology from Missouri State University. His work has been collected by museums, universities, and individuals in Slovenia, Thailand, Australia, Austria, Portugal, China, Japan, Canada, Italy, Germany, Romania, Cuba, and USA. He has been juried into international and national exhibitions in conjunction with curated exhibitions in the United States. Hilton is a full-time ceramics and art education faculty member at MSU Texas and is a Fellow of the Council of NCECA.

steve.hilton@msutexas.edu

Christine Houser | Palm Desert, California

Mixed media artist Christine Houser’s art is an homage to nature and the southwest. She describes her family as “southwesterners,” with a deep love for and commitment to nature and artsy DNA for generations. “I’ve travelled the world, but remain most in love with the slanted light, warm colors, iconic shapes, and thorny textures of our deserts. I began as a photographer. After having hauled my mother’s equipment for years, she thrust her favorite Canon at me, and all the film in the house, for my first live-abroad experience in Europe.” Houser likes darkroom work and organic alternative processes best, such as cyanotype, solarization, Polaroid, pinhole, and dye transfer. Also along the way, she learned bookbinding, collage, and painting. Her work is on display at the Desert Art Center in Palm Springs, CA. https://www.instagram.com/chouser200/

Hockney Goes to Joshua Tree National Park, Acrylic, 14x14
Juried Artists 2021

Rose Irelan | Poway, California

Rose Irelan is an award-winning artist who portrays the wonder of life in her work. Her Contemporary Impressionist style captures nature’s rich and rugged displays of light with an in-depth understanding of color expressed through her energetic brush work. “I want my paintings to convey the emotion that you experience from the terrain, the sea, and the wind.” Irelan earned her BA in Illustration and Fine Art from Columbus College of Art and Design. After a 20-year career as a graphic designer/illustrator, she found her initial love of painting again and followed her passion to paint full time. She paints outdoors en plein air and creates larger studio paintings from her experiences and color notations from nature. Since 2002, she has taught art in her own art school, Art Journey, and she is a member of the California Art Club, American Impressionists Society, LPAPA, and Woman Artists of the West.

www.roseirelan.com

Philippe Jestin | Twentynine Palms, California

Originally from France, artist Philippe Jestin moved to the U.S. in 1990 after meeting his future wife Lauren in Paris. He became a U.S. citizen in 2008. After living and working in San Francisco for over 20 years, he moved to Twentynine Palms in late 2019, a few months before the start of the pandemic. He has exhibited work in France and the U.S., notably with Michael Martin Gallery, Hang, Ampersand, and Sylvia White Gallery and participated in international exhibits and fairs including AAFairs in NYC and the International Art Fair in SF. “Over the years I worked with wood, metal, paper, wire, and charcoals. One material constant in my craft is the resin, which is applied with different casting techniques, often born out of experimentation and necessity to bring forth the initial idea. The finished work has a sculptural dimension, a decisive edge much like in a bas-relief.”

http://www.philippejestin.com

Gwendolyn Awen Jones | Tucson, Arizona

Gwendolyn Awen Jones is an award-winning author known for her books on healing and spirituality. She was born in England with a natural gift of spiritual sight that allows her to see the subtle energies beyond the normal physical world. Trained as an artist and photographer, she has traveled widely to research and record the sacred knowledge encoded in ancient places. Joshua Tree National Park is one of her favorite places to visit to record the remarkable history and beauty there. About the artwork in this exhibition, she says: “A beautiful play of light across the hills and rocks caught my attention as I drove into the parking lot for Hidden Valley. I took several photos that became the basis for this painting. This is a mixed media image combining watercolors, pastels and Prismacolor pencils.”

www.angelesoflightandhealing.org
Juried Artists 2021

Kay Kaplan | San Diego, California
Kay Kaplan is always painting, completing her last inspiration then reaching inward for more enlightenment, understanding, and rushes of creativity all inspired by beautiful San Diego’s seascapes and Joshua Tree’s desert. Kaplan’s art education, including private classes, workshops, and extensive boot camps through the Athenaeum School of Arts in La Jolla, CA, has given her a strong knowledge of oil painting, color mixing, and composition. She loves holding on to the flow and focus that she has come to, in a place of calm, exhilaration, and excitement, while portraying all the wonder and beauty that Southern California and its deserts have to offer. Kaplan paints daily from her home studio based in San Diego. https://www.kaykaplan.com

De Karlen | La Quinta, California
De Karlen is a nature and architectural photographer with publications in Architectural Digest, HOME Magazine, Garden Design magazine, NY Times, Los Angeles Times Magazine, and more. Her botanical and nature images have been featured in numerous calendars, greeting cards, and fine art gallery shows, both nationally and internationally. Karlen uses medium and large format technical field cameras, along with 35 mm 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—and is a participating artist with Desert Art Center in Palm Springs and Borrego Art Institute in Borrego Springs, California. “Painterly photography is a style I’ve developed over the years, aimed at capturing nature images reminiscent of plein air paintings.” dekarlenphoto@yahoo.com

Casey Kiernan | Joshua Tree, California
Casey Kiernan is a photographer and filmmaker living in Joshua Tree, CA. Kiernan teaches photography workshops in Joshua Tree National Park and Death Valley National Park—specializing in Milky Way photography, timelapse photography, and dark skies techniques, including light painting, star trails, and astro-photography. A professional photographer for over two decades, with coverage in numerous magazines, his works have appeared on CBS News, Al Jazeera, History Channel, Los Angeles Independent Film Festival, Gila Film Festival, and numerous publications. https://www.joshuatreeworkshops.com/
Juried Artists 2021

Sonja Krastman | Joshua Tree, California
Sonja Krastman creates encaustic paintings and one-of-a-kind wearable art with encaustic mini-paintings. Encaustic is a technique that dates back to the Egyptian times. “This vibrant use of pigments and wax create colors that are not only beautiful but also truly enchanting. My work is inspired by color, light, composition, the process of mark making, and influenced by overall life experience. Wax layers intrigue me because each is affected by the prior layer. I like exploring both realistic and abstract subjects, intrigued as much by how the wax, paints and other materials respond with each other as I build the work, as by the subject itself.” Krastman is a native Californian, who completed college at UC Berkeley, studied briefly at Parsons School of Design in NYC with Lazlo Roth, and spent a few years studying art and design at Cal State Long Beach with Marie Thibeault and others.
http://www.krasjes.com

Joshua Tree Mornings, Encaustic on Wood, 46x12

Tatjana Kudla | Palm Springs, California
Tatjana Kudla is an amateur photographer currently living in Palm Springs (via Germany, UK, Michigan, Texas, San Francisco Bay Area, and Los Angeles). Her great passions are exploring the outdoors with her camera, roaming Southern California in search of the perfect hike and photo. In 2018, Kudla dusted off her DSLR camera and started to take it on adventures. She is currently evolving her personal style and experimenting with photographing in different light settings as well as night photography. The desert has captured her heart. This is her first exhibition.
https://tatjanakudla.com/

Colorful Joshua Tree, Photograph on Metal, 16x24

Noreen Lawlor | Joshua Tree, California
Artist Noreen Lawlor paints and sculpts desert landscapes and the creatures who inhabit them, including humans. She works in various mediums and frequently produces the same image in several different mediums. This piece is cold wax and oil, a medium she started working in right before the Covid pandemic. She states, “I like to see which best connects the feeling inherent in the place or face. I like to play and let the thing create itself through me. Sometimes I get lucky and get to show some rocky terrain or the eyes of a bobcat so you see a bit of its spirit.” Lawlor is also a poet and has published five books which incorporate her poetry and painting. Her work has been shown in various galleries, and she has participated in the annual Hwy 62 Open Studio Art Tours, the Joshua Tree National Park Art Expo, and the Palm Springs Art Museum Members Show.
nlawlor44@gmail.com

Hidden Valley Night, Diptych, Oil and Cold Wax, 20x32
Lisa Loudin | Cathedral City, California
Since Lisa Loudin was old enough to hold a crayon, she spent her time drawing. She received her BA degree from Northern Illinois University. During a serendipitous opportunity, she was invited to participate in an Oprah Winfrey’s “Super Soul Sunday” book discussion and officially declared herself an artist on that show. At that moment, her trajectory towards her dream career was launched. Loudin can work in many mediums, but her first love is illustration. Her current style of work began with the creation of a simple “thank you” card. From there, she began to combine two passions—uplifting others and drawing. She believes the viewer connects with her work at the point of opportunity. “What you need is what you see... in the moment.” Recently relocating to the Palm Springs area, Loudin has sold several commissioned pieces and sells regularly as a juried artist in the Desert Art Center in Palm Springs.
www.LisaLoudinInk.com

Dean Mayo | Indio, California
In 2005, Dean Mayo started his photography business with a concentration on golf course photography, since his experience as a golf pro gave him valuable insights as to how to capture the personality of the courses he photographed. Within a very short time he branched out to capture all the beauty Southern California had to offer, and immediately Joshua Tree became one of his favorite places. Now it makes up the majority of his work. “I find the park to be incredibly scenic and very relaxing and peaceful. I find solace in the park on every trip.” Over the past few years, Mayo’s work has appeared in many magazines, books, national stores, and public landmarks, “but it is in the homes of the thousands of people across the world when I am most proud to have my work displayed. It is truly an honor to have my work appreciated by so many people.”
www.foretography.com

Charlotte McAdams | Richmond, Virginia
Charlotte McAdams has been painting off and on for more than 35 years and has moved through many styles and mediums. This past year she has been working with oils and cold wax, and has found this to be the perfect medium to push around color and shapes the way she likes to paint. “The process of building a history of color on the canvas with cold wax suits my intuitive sense of color within an abstract framework. I took many pictures on my first visit to Joshua Tree National Park in November 2020. I used oil and cold wax to create the submitted painting using one of my photos as a reference. The subtle colors, the bold shapes of the Joshua tree and the massive rock and boulder formations formed the basis of this painting.” McAdams’ work has been shown in numerous galleries and juried exhibitions throughout Virginia. cmcmc@comcast.net

Joshua Tree Visit 2020, Oil and Cold Wax, 24x24

La Copine, Pen and Ink Mounted on Cradled Wood, 36x24

Snow Cap, Photograph, 48x30
Michael McKay | Bozeman, Montana

Michael McKay is a landscape architect and traveler, always with a sketch book in hand. He has enjoyed Joshua Tree for many years, rock climbing in Joshua Tree for over 50 years, and he and his wife Denise have a home up near the park. “I enjoy trying to capture that special moment in time with my drawings, where the feel of the wind, the warmth of the sun, the fresh scent of the desert all come together for that perfect elusive moment.” His work has been in the Joshua Tree National Park Art Expo, the Yosemite Renaissance Art Show, and in private collections in the U.S. and internationally. Lately he has been exploring the use of the computer, using Illustrator and Photoshop, to evolve his drawings and bring in a wider range of color application than he can achieve with acrylics, to create another direction for his art to explore. mmckay@mmckaydesign.com

Mitch Miller | Joshua Tree, California

Photographer Mitch Miller has hiked Joshua Tree National Park since 1980, and since relocating to Joshua Tree in spring 2017 says he is learning it even better. “Wandering in wild places is my passion, and photography is my medium through which I share my experiences with whomever will listen with their eyes.” Miller is an avid off-trail explorer and usually has his camera in his backpack on rugged adventures in the park. His photograph “Upload” was awarded first place in the 2019 JTNP Art Expo, and “Color Fuel” won second place in 2020. “My goals are to focus on the art I see in Earth, share how I felt upon visiting natural lands, and instill in viewers both a desire to enjoy and protect our special wild places.” www.FineEarthPhotography.com

Noemy O’Hara | Twentynine Palms, California

Noemy O’Hara is a portrait and landscape photography artist based in Twentynine Palms since 2010. She grew up as an artist and musician in Parker and Lake Havasu City, AZ. Primarily self-taught she honed her skills as a clarinet, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone player, and portrait drawer. During her academic years she received honors and recognition in local and regional competitions. From a young age, she loved photographing special moments with family and friends, and later into adulthood would photograph landscapes as inspiration for oil painting, a relatively new passion. In 2013 she was moved to pursue photography as an art medium, having been inspired by the unique beauty of Joshua Tree National Park. That same year one of her photographs on canvas was selected to be displayed at the very first Joshua Tree National Park Art Show and Faire (now Expo). http://www.NoemysArtisticEye.com
Juried Artists 2021

Correy Peters | Pasadena, California
Corey Peters lives and works in Los Angeles, CA. At age five, his parents introduced him to California’s Eastern Sierras. These yearly excursions instilled in him a sense of curiosity and adventure at an early age. Now, he travels every chance possible, often exploring terrain on foot as he intrepidly journeys through deserts, mountains, and coastal plains. These experiences are physical, mental, and spiritual, and he passionately seeks to capture them with oil paint. His paintings can be found in collections worldwide, and his art has been featured in Southwest Art Magazine multiple times and exhibited in a number of prominent galleries and museums, including the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles and the Yosemite Museum of Art in California. When he is not painting or traveling, he teaches at Right Brain Academy of Art, which he co-founded in 2014. cpetersart2020@gmail.com

Susan Priest | Running Springs, California
Artist Sue Priest has been cultivating her skills in copper flame painting since 2018. Originally a wetland ecologist, in 2017 her life work took a radical change and the need to reinvent herself became necessary. Relocation and reinvention were both accidental and synchronistic. As was the discovery of copper flame painting. While teaching herself to silversmith by using copper, she observed copper’s unique reactiveness to heat and chemicals. From there on, copper became her medium of choice. Art like science for her is about discovery and exploration to form a greater understanding of the world around her. Currently, she lives in the beautiful San Bernardino Mountains and spends her time as an artist working with a variety of mediums. Her art is shown at the Mountain Arts Gallery in Lake Arrowhead, Artisan’s Etc in Big Bear Lake, Redlands Art Association, and California Welcome Center in Yucca Valley. https://www.suepriestinnovations.com

Robin Raznick | La Quinta, California
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. Raznick’s paintings are influenced by the Post Impressionists and Expressionists movements, as well as contemporary artists Jennifer Bartlett, Elizabeth Murray, Allison Schulnik, Joan Mitchell, and David Hockney. The scale, texture, intensity of color and value, and energy of brushwork communicates a visceral relationship with nature and invites the viewer to participate in that emotional experience. The artist’s hand is evident in the tooling of the undulating surfaces, dynamic mark making, and unabashed use of color. The work invites the viewer to step inside and enjoy an understanding of the maker’s physical process. Raznick holds numerous degrees in fine arts and education. She is a Credentialed Mentor Teacher in the Coachella Valley, a Studio Arts and Art History/Criticism instructor, as well as a professional visual artist. http://www.RobinRaznick.com
Susan L. Rice | Crestline, California
Following a childhood fascination with the visual arts, Susan Rice attended U.C. Berkeley, where she studied art and received a BA in Fine Arts. A career in graphic design and then teaching elementary school followed college. But it wasn’t until she purchased a cabin in the San Bernardino Mountains in 2012, and then finally retired in 2020, that she seriously began to pursue her own work, which was inspired by the often-overlooked details in nature around her. Soon after joining Mountain Arts Network in Lake Arrowhead, she was asked to be a guest artist and displayed several paintings in the gallery. After her first trip to Joshua Tree National Park in 2016, she was intrigued by the magic of the landscape, and could see the possibility of creating compositions that might incorporate her love of stitching into her artwork—like the texture of the various types of vegetation found emerging the desert. 
ricesusan@sbcglobal.net

Mark Robben | Rancho Palos Verdes, California
Mark Robben is a 24-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. In addition to digital photography, Robben has rediscovered his love for film photography and recently began introducing various formats back into his workflow. 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. www.skylightphotography.net

Jenny Robbins | Burbank/Joshua Tree, California
Jenny Robbins is an award-winning artist, illustrator, and educator who combines her love of nature with a passion for painting. She was born in the north Texas plains and grew up riding horses. This was an early inspiration for her art, as she has been drawing equines ever since she could hold a crayon. After receiving a full tuition scholarship, she earned a BFA degree from Memphis College of Art and graduated with honors. Robbins has a reverence for nature and a love of the outdoors that inspires her art. She is known for her vibrant works in oil and acrylic depicting horses, wildlife, and large-scale botanical paintings that are colorfully playful. She currently resides in the high desert town of Joshua Tree, California, where she has become enchanted by the beauty of the Mojave Desert and all of its flora and fauna. http://jennymakesart.com
Juried Artists 2021

Sam Roberts | San Juan Capistrano, California

Born and raised in Southern California, Sam Roberts has lived in his home state his entire life and has traveled the globe as a freelance photographer. His family loved the outdoors and he was introduced to the wilderness before he could walk. Family camping trips led to backpacking, then on to rock climbing and mountaineering. His climbing adventures have taken him from the granite walls of Yosemite Valley to the summit of 24,580-foot Noshaq in Afghanistan. His passion for wilderness has brought an intimacy with wild places that continues to be the foundation of his work. In 1990 he started Sam Roberts Photography, and has been shooting and writing about the natural world ever since. Recent assignments have given him the chance to work with biologists and land managers, and have proven to him again the powerful place photography has in the preservation of wildlands.

http://www.srobertsphoto.com

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. 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.” She’s 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, 2016, 2019, and 2020. Her awards include Best Photo Taken Inside Joshua Tree National Park in 2011 in honor of the 75th anniversary of Joshua Tree National Park.

tamiroleff@verizon.net

Greg Ross | Joshua Tree, California

Gregg Ross’ art expresses a lifelong fascination with the challenge and psychological accessibility of figurative representation. The pieces consist of precisely-rendered elements placed in abstracted or obviously staged surroundings. He often works with retro-pop images, updated to reflect more current ideas, usually incorporating his unique sense of humor. He carefully blends and gradates his oils, so that his pieces will hold up to close scrutiny, as well as from a distance. Ross did his undergraduate studies at UCLA and UCSB’s College of Creative Studies, with graduate courses through UC Berkeley. “This oil painting incorporates a much-loved toy from my childhood placed at a larger-than-life scale into an image of one of my favorite Joshua Tree National Park rock formations, Skull Rock. My intention was to create an imagined scene from a typical retro-pop B-horror film narrative … adding a bit of dark humor to the iconic landscape.”

www.art.gregg-ross.com
Vanessa Rusczyk | Poway, California

Vanessa Rusczyk’s award-winning paintings of native flora and natural landscapes give viewers a close look at plant structure and natural design, immersing them in that small world on a large scale. Her paintings, in the contemporary realism style that is the hallmark of her work, are inspired by hikes around the West and the native species she grows in her garden. Rusczyk was raised in New Mexico, and after eight years on the East Coast, she returned to the West she loves. She lives in North San Diego County, surrounded by wild chaparral hillsides that define much of Southern California. She donates 5% of all sales to the Anza Borrego Foundation, which supports her favorite local state park, Anza Borrego Desert State Park, where she goes for inspiration and connection to the natural world. She is a Signature Member of American Women Artists. http://studiosoledad.com

Shiela Sasek | Pahrump, Nevada

Contemporary sculptor and painter Shiela Sasek was born in San Diego, CA, grew up in New Mexico, and currently resides near Death Valley. She usually can be found traveling between different ends of the Mojave Desert. Her passion of exploration for creative inspiration began early and is heavily influenced by her surroundings and love for the outdoors. Sasek expresses her appreciation of the outdoors through her works and is an advocate of ecological preservation. Influenced by vast deserts, dark skies, rare plants, and animal species; she works to find a deeper connection to the natural world. Her art is meant to draw attention to the desert and to inspire others to preserve the Southwest’s public lands and natural landscapes for future generations to experience. Her award-winning works have been in numerous exhibitions, and she is currently an artist in residence at MazAmar Art Pottery in Pioneertown, CA. https://www.instagram.com/ssasekart/

Esther Shaw | Yucca Valley, California

Esther Shaw was born and raised in Boston and is a graduate of Massachusetts College of Art (BFA, painting major). She took graduate classes in art at University of Arizona, Tucson, and in education at University of California, Irvine. Her career as an architectural illustrator turned to art teacher for Santa Ana Public Schools, Coastline Community College, Rancho Santiago Community College, and Copper Mountain College. She retired in 2004 and moved from Costa Mesa to Yucca Valley in pursuit of peace and nature. She was a member of the SCA Project Gallery, Pomona, CA, and studio artist of the Santora Arts Building, Santa Ana. She was selected in 2004 for the Envisioning the Future Project, Pomona, under the direction of Judy Chicago. She also was owner-curator of The Spezzano Gallery, Long Beach; co-director of Gallery 62, Joshua Tree in 2017; and is a member of the Palm Springs Artists Council. http://esthershawsart.com
Juried Artists 2021

Jeff Skelly | Sunland, California

“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 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 Exposition’s juried exhibition.

www.jeffskellyart.com

Barbara Spiller | Santa Monica, California

“In the park, I am enthralled by the vast array and variety of surfaces, textures, and juxtapositions which inspire my work. I am inspired by nature ‘in her manner of operation’ (John Cage)—that is by the ephemeral, the phenomenal, things that just happen.” Barbara Spiller studied art at Douglass College (Rutgers) 1956-60, a Fluxus/Dada period of non-traditional instruction, and received a Masters in Studio Art from NYU. Her experiences in art education include instructor at NYU; developing programs at The Studio In A School; master teacher NY State Summer School of the Arts; master teacher Lincoln Center Institute. Her work is in private collections and in healing environments such as St John’s Health Center Santa Monica, and Meditation room, USF Hospital. She has exhibited at Brooklyn Museum, Bronx Museum, Dayton Art Institute, and in solo shows at JTAG, New England Center for Contemporary Art, Atlantic Gallery, and juried competitions.

http://barbaraspillerarts.com

Rick Strobaugh | Yucaipa, California

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. He eventually used that training to shoot more pleasing subjects in the way of landscapes, wildlife, and close-up photography. “After retiring, 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 Redlands Camera Club, has served as the Treasurer and Mentor for the club, and enjoys teaching photography to others and helping them improve their photography skills.

www.photographybyrickstrobaugh.com
Emily Suñez | Pasadena, California

Emily Suñez is an artist, author, and illustrator who grew up in northern Virginia and now resides and works from her home studio in Pasadena, CA. She paints southwest desert landscapes and plants with oils and watercolor. “My paintings are an idealized, romanticized version of the natural world, portraying the desert landscape as pure and sacred.” Her award-winning paintings have been featured in Candyfloss Magazine, as well as Brea Gallery, Sanchez Art Center, TAG Gallery, and Palos Verdes Art Center. Her oil paintings were included in the 2019 and 2020 Joshua Tree National Park Art Exposition. She is the illustrator and author of the forthcoming book “The Healing Journal: Guided Prompts and Inspiration for Life with Illness,” which will debut in January 2022. She holds a BA from the College of William & Mary and an MA from New York University.

http://www.emilysunez.com

John Van Vliet | Kingman, Arizona

John Van Vliet has worked in graphics, animation, photography, and feature film visual effects for more than 35 years. Formal art training began at the School of Visual Arts in NYC and continued at California Institute of the Arts in the Disney Character Animation program. In 1977 he was hired to work at Industrial Light & Magic (a division of Lucasfilm) where he contributed to The Empire Strikes Back, Raiders of the Lost Ark, and Dragonslayer. Disney recruited him for TRON as the lead animator, where he designed many of the signature effects shots. As an independent visual effects artist, Van Vliet designed and supervised visual effects on feature films and was involved with 70+ film projects including Ghost, Mortal Kombat, Tales From the Crypt, Ghostbusters, and XMen. Retired from the motion picture business, he now pursues personal art and photography projects without adult supervision while wandering the deserts of the Southwest. jvtwo@outlook.com

Timothy Warren | Twentynine Palms, California

Timothy Warren was raised in Poughkeepsie, New York, and after high school served 22+ years in the Marine Corps. Warren is a Retired United States Marine Corps Gunnery Sergeant with PTSD. His outlet is through his artwork. Since retiring from the Marine Corps in 2012, he has lived in Twentynine Palms and renewed his interest in drawing and painting. Now his primary medium is spray paint. A self-taught artist, he has turned childhood passion into full-time hobby, and has been professionally painting for over four years. He joined Twentynine Palms Art Gallery in 2018. “During my past 4 years being a member of the gallery, I have learned and been inspired by art from artists of all ages, and they have given me inspiration to continue and helped me become a good artist.” Warren has been exhibiting his work at the gallery ever since, and in March 2020 received his first 1st place award.

TimothyWarren100@yahoo.com
Joshua Tree National Park Art Exposition – 2021

Christine White | Redlands, California

Christine White has been drawing, painting, and studying art and music since she was a child, but pursued formal education in Geography. She moved to Redlands, CA, in 2007 to work for a Geographic Information Systems company. In 2010, she returned to painting in her free time and started working in oils. She took all the painting classes and life drawing opportunities she could find, and began showing and selling her work. Her art is influenced by nature, music, and place. Every piece is created with a joyful, positive spirit. She hopes that viewers connect to this energy and love themselves more after being with her art pieces. She shows her work throughout Southern California, conducts workshops, juries shows, and mentors young artists. She believes there are always ways to grow as an artist—or as a human, for that matter. https://www.christinewhiteart.com

Ehrick Wright | Rancho Mirage, California

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. Recently, his work has been inspired by the bizarre landscape of rocks, hills, 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. Wright’s work attempts to capture these features as well as the bold contrasts and atmospheric clarity found uniquely in the desert. He 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, Rancho Mirage Art Tour, and the Joshua Tree National Park Art Exposition juried exhibitions. http://ehrickwrightart.com

Kim Zarney | Beachwood, Ohio

Born in Medina, Ohio, Kim Zarney attended Syracuse University and earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting and Printmaking from the Cleveland Institute of Art. Zarney has worked as an illustrator, graphic designer, and advertising agency creative director. Recently renewing his fine arts career, he is building a body of work with a specific focus on contemporary monochromes inspired by elements of the natural world. His work has been in over 70 national juried art exhibitions and is in public and private collections. “I have an affinity for the unpretentious honesty found in preliminary sketches and studies. Those simple, spontaneous gestures put down quickly to capture an idea, a feeling, the play of light, a shadow or a texture. Pieces that are not created as finished works of art…. Not as direct renditions of my selected subject matter but as abstract expressions of the natural world that leave room for interpretation.”
http://www.zarney.com
Jurors for the 2021 Joshua Tree National Park Art Expo juried exhibition reviewed 253 pieces of art submitted by 108 artists and selected 60 artists for the exhibition at 29 Palms Art Gallery, Nov. 4–28. Our thanks to...

**Jeni Bate**—Artist, poet, arts educator living in Salton City, who creates skyscapes in refractured watercolor, acrylic, oil, and mixed media and occasionally murals.

**Diana Shay Diehl**—Specializes in alternative photographic printmaking processes; owner of Mojave Light Studio, Yucca Valley; and former field instructor, Desert Institute JTNP.

**Ian Ferris**—Visual Information Specialist at Joshua Tree National Park, who served as park representative on the jury.

**Anna Stump**—MFA artist, arts educator, curator, recipient of numerous international residencies and owner of Mojaveland pop-up arts venue in 29 Palms.

**Ted Wright**—Artist, painter, and fine-art photographer, who also is a musician and Exhibitions Chair at 29 Palms Art Gallery.

The Award Judges were asked to view the exhibition at 29 Palms Art Gallery on Nov. 5 to determine awards for the 2021 JTNP Art Expo juried exhibition in three categories: 2-Dimensional Art, 3-Dimensional Art, and Photography—1st, 2nd, 3rd place in each category—plus Best of Show. An honorary Superintendent’s Award also is selected each year by Joshua Tree NP Superintendent David Smith. Judges were:

**Bill Leigh Brewer**—contemporary landscape photographer living in Morongo Valley. As an assignment photographer and avid road tripper, photography has taken him from Los Angeles to New York, Malaysia, Nova Scotia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Europe, and the American Southwest. His work has been shown at Palm Springs Art Museum, Soho Gallery Los Angeles/New York, and is in a New Topographics show at Galerie Catherine et André HUG in Paris. His book, “Proof of Life,” documents the marks people leave on the desert landscape.

**Chuck Caplinger**—career artist who portrays the wildlife and landscapes of the desert Southwest in his murals and oils on canvas. His talents range from graphic artist, designer, and NASA illustrator to fine artist, muralist, author, and private art instructor. His paintings and portraits hang in public and private collections around the world, and his murals can be found throughout California and Texas. He is also a public arts activist and owns Desert Art Studio & Gallery in Twentynine Palms, near the entrance to Joshua Tree National Park.

**Francesca “Cesca” Spoonhower**—fine artist and art instructor, specializing in abstract expressionism. A California native, she first moved to the Morongo Basin in 1981, next to Joshua Tree National Park, and has experienced additional residencies in recent years in Oregon, Washington, and Colorado, where she participated in the Art Students League of Denver and created a wine label for Castillo de Feliciana in Oregon. Her colorful, award-winning work has been shown in west coast galleries, and locally for the past three years since returning to the basin. She is now a Yucca Valley resident.

**2021 JTNP ART EXPO WEEKEND**

Nov. 6 & 7 @ 29 Palms Art Gallery

Art Market | Art Activities | Food & Beverages

Saturday & Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Awards Reception, Saturday 4 to 7 p.m.

Visit the Joshua Tree National Park HQ and Oasis Visitor Center & Oasis of Mara trailhead

74485 National Park Drive, 29 Palms, CA 92277

(down the street from 29 Palms Art Gallery and Old Schoolhouse Museum) 760-367-5500

Visitor Center is open daily: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Souvenirs, gifts, books, maps and more!
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Visit29.org
“For all the toll the desert takes of a man it gives compensations, deep breaths, deep sleep, and the communion of the stars”
—Mary Hunter Austin, The Land of Little Rain

Primrose and Dune, Photograph, 20x30, by Robert Miramontes of Desert Hot Springs, CA—1st place Photography, JTNP Art Expo 2020

29 Palms Founders, Historic Clay & Bas Relief, 16.75x20.5x1.5, by Ed Keesling, Yucca Valley, CA—1st place 3D, JTNP Art Expo 2020

Ozymandias, Pencil on Paper, 30x22, by Bart E. Baxter, Palm Desert, CA—1st place 2D, JTNP Art Expo 2020