

Artists' Impressions of the California Landscape Conf. (U of the Pacific, CA 2.-5.5.02)

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Artists' Impressions of the California Landscape: Historical and
Contemporary Views

For two and a half centuries, California's coasts, forests, deserts, mountains, valleys, and cities have fascinated those who have sketched, painted, sculpted, and photographed the region's magnificent and diverse landscapes. From Spanish beginnings to the present, the mesmerizing effect of the state's environment is evident in the rich artistic record of capturing moments in time. Amidst shifts in demography, ecology, and political-economy, generations of artists have preserved vistas of the past and their own contemporary worlds, adding the power of interpretation, often with an eye toward environmental concerns and an agenda for environmental reform.

This conference will explore themes and highlights of individual and collective artistic movements that brought the image of California into national and international prominence. It is also a celebration of the aesthetic heritage and contemporary energy of the region's living art community. An exhibition of contemporary landscape art will be mounted in conjunction with the conference.

Possible sessions envisioned include:

Spanish and Mexican-period seascapes and landscapes

Yosemite Valley and its interpreters

California's Central Valley

The Plein Air Movement and its legacy

Representations of the California desert

Photographing the Sierra Nevada Range

Topographical survey photography:

Urban and industrial sprawl in California

The Monterey Peninsula: its artists and its allure

Revisiting visions of California as Eden

* Ordinary landscapes

The conference invites individual and session proposals on this general theme to be forwarded, along with a brief resume, to:

Program Committee
Artists' Impressions Conference
John Muir Center
University of the Pacific
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Stockton, CA 95211

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Reference:

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