

SUN LETTER

THE PEOPLE, EVENTS & EXHIBITS OF THE GRACE HUDSON MUSEUM

Quarterly Publication

SUMMER 2018 Volume 27, No. 2

From the Director

Photographic art and cultural identity are at the heart of our summer exhibition, *Our People, Our Land, Our Images: International Indigenous Photographers*. Think about the photographs you remember of American Indians. For most or many, what comes to mind are black and white or sepia-toned images from the late 19th and early 20th centuries—tribal delegations in full regalia about to meet with government bureaucrats; performers in Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show; portraits of renowned figures such as Sitting Bull and Geronimo; the brutal image of Chief Big Foot lying frozen in the snow following the massacre at Wounded Knee. What do all these images have in common? None were made by Native photographers. None authentically represent a Native point of view.

Our People, Our Land, Our Images charts a photographic path that transforms the idea of Indigenous peoples as mute objects in a colonial past to vital actors and authors of the present. Because the photographers in the show are

Indigenous, the choices they make—in subject matter, composition, and how the images are exhibited and seen—affirm and celebrate their identity and heritage, while at the same time commenting on a history that frames their relationship with the non-Indigenous

world. Some of the images are personal, such as Rosalie Favell's *My Turtle Island* that blends cosmology and cultural tradition with memories of family. Others are political and ironic, such as Zig Jackson's *Kennecott Copper Mine, Tooele, Utah* in which a man in tee shirt, jeans, and eagle-feather headdress sits on the ground overlooking an active strip mine. With contributions from Indigenous artists from North and South America, the Middle East, and New Zealand, the exhibition conveys warmth and humor along with anger and protest, and most importantly suggests a future that is hopeful.

This show was created by the C.N. Gorman Museum at UC Davis in 2006. Since then it has

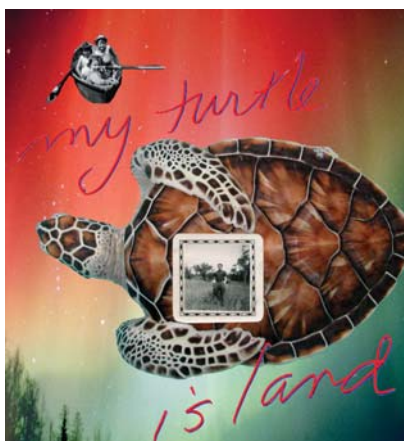
traveled widely to institutions big and small—a tribute to its significance and popularity. Over its 45-year history the Gorman Museum has championed the work of Native American and other Indigenous artists, providing a platform for creative voices infrequently heard—and often marginalized—in the landscapes of fine art and popular culture. We are indeed fortunate at the Grace Hudson Museum to present *Our People, Our Land, Our Images*, which, after twelve years on the road, will be the exhibition's final venue before being retired. It is the final opportunity to see this marvelous show in person.

On another note, I want to take a moment to acknowledge Jeff Trouette, a Sun House Guild member, who volunteered to store 70 some-odd boxes of *Painter Lady* books when we had no place else to put them. Jeff has also been distributing the books far and wide throughout the county, promoting the Museum along the way. Thank you, Jeff!

—David Burton, *Director*



Kennecott Copper Mine, Tooele, Utah by Zig Jackson



My Turtle Island by Rosalie Favell



Sun House Guild

**GRACE HUDSON
MUSEUM & Sun House**

Hours: Wed thru Sat: 10 am – 4:30 pm
(first Friday of the month til 8:00 pm)
Sun.: 12 – 4:30 pm. (707) 467-2836
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www.gracehudsonmuseum.org

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Volunteer of the Year

At our annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon on May 1, the Grace Hudson Museum honored Bob Brewer as its 2018 Volunteer of the Year. Sherrie Smith-Ferri, former Grace Hudson Museum Director and current Curator of Education and Exhibits, offers the following reflections on Bob and his important contributions to the Museum.

The Grace Hudson Museum has always been blessed with many friends and volunteers, some who live close to Ukiah and some who live much farther away. I first met Robert Brewer in El Paso, Texas, where a mutual passion for Pomo Indian basketry caused our paths to cross. A talented craftsman himself, Bob came to admire Pomo baskets as a UC Berkeley undergrad, when Lowie Museum of Anthropology Curator Larry Dawson introduced him to the world of American Indian basketry. For many years, the Grace Hudson Museum has greatly benefited from Bob's case of "basket fever." He has helped the Museum to acquire some amazing Pomo pieces, he has helped us find historic photos of Pomo people, and, once he moved back to the San Francisco Bay Area, he has spent many hundreds of hours helping to identify, photograph, inventory, and accession baskets that have been loaned or gifted to us. Thanks so very much, Bob, for your shared knowledge, enthusiasm, and talent!



Bob Brewer, 2018 Volunteer of the Year

Special Thanks for Collection Gifts:

Sharon Fenton for a vintage photo postcard of Pomo Indian Charley Brown, based on an A.O. Carpenter portrait.

The O'Grady Kristiansen Living Trust (Jane Olaug Kristiansen and Patricia O'Grady, Trustees) for their thoughtful bequest of two Grace Carpenter pencil portraits.

Gail Unzelman for three vintage photo postcards featuring California Indians and their baskets.

Marvin J. Talso for his sleuthing at philatelic shows, and the resulting eleven souvenir stamp covers collected by Melissa Carpenter.

Heartfelt Thanks to the Following Donors:

Amy Cohen • Philip Gary • Jessica Kimball

Joan & Max Schlienger • Susan Sparrow • Pamela Standish

Douglas & Erika Strong, in Memory of Evelyn Mitchell

From the Sun House Guild President

Spring has slipped away, and summer is upon us. I hope you are all enjoying the changing face of the Museum's gardens as spring flowers fade and summer blooms appear. The circle garden in front of the Museum, which is maintained by the Ukiah Garden Club, has an ever-changing abundance of diverse flowers. Meanwhile, the Wild Gardens put on a dazzling California poppy display in the spring and, as I write, is showing off Clarkia, monkeyflowers, angelica, penstemon, tarweed blossoms, and the beautiful native grasses that shimmer their "California Gold" in the early morning and late afternoon breezes.

With the help of our members and supporters, the Guild is moving forward with the rejuvenation of the grounds around the Sun House. The landscape plan is finished, and, following a thorough request-for-bid process, we selected Johnson's Custom Landscaping to do the work. Over the summer, Johnson's will install a new irrigation system and then begin restoring the lawn and the historical plants. We'll have more to share with you about progress on the project in the next *Sunletter*.

Planning for the Sun House Guild's annual Gala Fundraiser is underway. We hope you'll be joining us on Saturday, September 8th for an evening under the stars in Grace's Secret Garden.

As always, the Sun House Guild Board cannot thank you—our members and supporters—enough for your engagement and contributions. You make it possible for the Museum to have stimulating and thoughtful exhibits and programs throughout the year, and help ensure the ongoing improvement and vitality of our gardens. Wishing you all a wonderful summer!

—Lucille Mirata, *Sun House Guild President*

The Sun House Guild Presents

An Evening in Grace's Secret Garden

The Annual Fundraiser at The Grace Hudson Museum

September 8, 2018 Starting at 5:00 PM

Tickets are available at the Museum or online at

www.gracehudsonmuseum.org.

\$70 for Members

\$75 for Non-members

\$85 after August 24th

Please join us for dinner, entertainment, an exciting auction and some "Secret Surprises."

New Supporter Memberships

Brenda Dayton

Other New Guild Memberships

Emily Allen

Bruce & Cassandra Andich

Gaea Bogue

Judy Carter

Deborah Curle

Danya Davis

Janice Fetzer

Groundswell Community

Paul Jacobson

Gain & Evan Johnson

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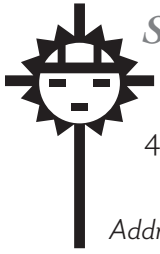
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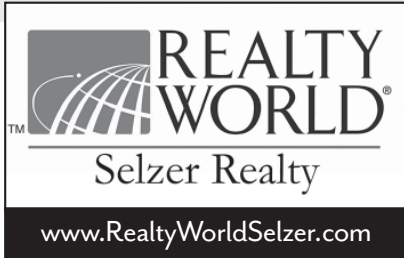
Sun House Guild

GRACE HUDSON MUSEUM

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mailed paper version.

Grace Hudson Museum Calendar of Events

More information on each of the following events can be found on the Museum's web site at gracehudsonmuseum.org.

June 30–September 30, 2018

Our People, Our Land, Our Images: International Indigenous Photographers

Indigenous artists from North and South America, the Middle East, and New Zealand explore connections to land, community, spirituality, and cultural traditions while asserting Native identity.

Friday, August 3, 5:00–8:00 p.m.

First Friday: Celebrating the Pomo Fish Basket

Come celebrate Pomo sculptor Bruce Smith's latest creation, a six-foot steel Pomo fish basket, installed next to the salmon stream feature in the Museum's

Wild Gardens. Part of Ukiah's monthly First Friday Art Walk. Free and open to the public.

Saturday, August 25, 2:00–3:30 p.m.

Queen of the Silent Westerns

Historian Linda M. Waggoner explores the life and career of Ho-Chunk (Winnebago) actress Lilian St. Cyr (1884–1974), who went by the stage name "Red Wing" and was the first Native American Hollywood film star. Waggoner will discuss how St. Cyr's work was both constrained by, and transcended, representations of the American Indian Princess. Free with Museum admission.

Saturday, September 8, 5:00–8:00 p.m.

Annual Gala: An Evening in Grace's Secret Garden

Join us for the Sun House Guild's

annual gala fundraiser, taking place in and around the Wild Gardens, where a number of mystery boxes will be hidden. All proceeds benefit the Grace Hudson Museum.

Sunday, September 16, 2:00–3:00 p.m.

Indigenous Photography, A Conversation

C.N. Gorman Museum director Hulleah Tsihnahjinnie and C.N. Gorman curator Veronica Passalacqua discuss the genesis and themes of *Our People, Our Land, Our Images*. Free with Museum admission.

Friday, October 19, 5 p.m.

Members Only Preview

A celebration of our next exhibition, *Artful Liaisons: Connecting Painters Grace Carpenter, Edward Espey, and Grafton Tyler Brown*, opening October 20.