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## ***a desert whisper...***

The newsletter of the Goldwell Open Air Museum

October 2007 - Vol 5, Issue 3

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### Greetings!

***a ghost town Halloween...  
 a new art center...  
 a newly sited sculpture...  
 and an award!***



### Sign Up

**SIGN-UP!**

### Related Links

[Official Museum Site](#)  
[Buy Tarantella Tickets](#)

### Albert's Tarantella



Goldwell Open Air Museum announces a Halloween-themed arts festival to celebrate the opening of its new Red Barn Art Center. The event's admission is \$20 per person in advance, \$30 at the

door. Advance tickets can be purchased online at <http://www.goldwellmuseum.org/events/tarantella.html>

**Albert's Tarantella** is an arts festival celebrating Goldwell's founding artist, Belgian **Albert Szukalski** and referencing the traditional southern folklore Italian dance which required the dancing in a whirling and joyous dance before death.

The arts festival, in keeping with the theme of Albert Szukalski's ghost sculptures, will celebrate a Halloween theme by showcasing **Cockroach Theatre**'s production of "The Methusalem Tree" by Jayme McGhan, recently back from rave reviews at the Minnesota Fringe Festival in Minneapolis.

The evening's festival will continue with a performance by **Threshold Dance** and an art exhibit of Horror Movie portraits by **Sean Jones**. Beatty entertainer **Rodney Leach** will provide western musical entertainment.

A podcast audio tour of Kymaerican Rhyolite by Goldwell's 2007 artist-in-resident Eames Demetrios will also be available for download from the Museum's website beginning that weekend.

Experience the beautiful Amargosa Desert this autumn with an eclectic art festival experience like no other. Lodging and dining options are available in nearby Beatty, Nevada. More information can be found at [www.goldwellmuseum.org/visiting](http://www.goldwellmuseum.org/visiting).

### Red Barn Art Center Opens



Goldwell Open Air Museum's **Red Barn Art Center** is a 2,250 square foot facility located in the Bullfrog Townsite just a bit southwest of the ghost town of Rhyolite in Nye County, Nevada. The Barn currently houses a large **1,125 square foot multi-purpose studio and exhibition/performance space**, an **intaglio printmaking studio**, and a **writing studio/bedroom**.

The result on an initial gift of property by the Barrick Gold Corporation, the Red Barn Art Center is designed to serve artists, rural and Southern Nevada residents, and out-of-state and international visitors to the Death Valley area through three distinct

programmatic efforts:

**Public Programming**, beginning in 2008, Goldwell Open Air Museum will be presented in one or more public activities each month at the Red Barn Art Center, in addition to its normal activities at the Museum site. These activities will include: \* art classes and demonstrations \* exhibitions \* art,

science and humanities lectures \* film screenings \* performances and \* literary readings

**Public Studio Program** which will allow professional and amateur artists to reserve studio time in the printmaking, photo, and painting/sculpture areas at a nominal cost.

Annual Museum membership and a daily rate of \$25.00 per artist is charged for the Studio Program. Onsite rustic lodging or trailer hookup will be available for an additional fee. Studio space reservations will be taken on a first-come, first-serve basis and will have no minimum or maximum limits.

### **Artist Residencies**

The residency program will provide professional and emerging artists with the time, support, and facilities for research, experimentation and production of new work in the visual, literary and performing arts. Artists selected for the program will receive a weekly stipend, travel support, lodging, and studio space. The Museum plans to support four or more artists beginning in 2008 in residencies lasting from two or more weeks.

Current consideration for the residency program is by invitation only, however we are happy to review letters of inquiry from painters, printmakers, filmmakers, writers, choreographers, musicians, theatrical performers, and sculptors for future consideration. If you are interested in participating in programs at the Red Barn Art center as an exhibitor/performer, resident, or workshop leader, please [contact the Museum](#).

### **Design wins AIA Award**



Goldwell Open Air Museum is pleased to announce that the design for the Goldwell Artist Residency Facilities by **assemblageSTUDIO** of Las Vegas has received a Honor Award for Design Excellence from the **Western Mountain Region AIA**. It was the only project in Nevada to receive this high of honor. There were over 250 entries from Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona and Nevada. There were 25 winners, 8 of those in the unbuilt category with Goldwell the highest honor given.

The winning design was the result of a year-long process funded by a **Nevada Arts Council**

**Design Arts Grant.** The Museum organized two community workshops in Beatty (August 2007) and in Las Vegas (September 2007) to gather input from the community and from artists into the nature and design of a planned artist community near the Museum site in the ghost town of Rhyolite. The result was a sustainable design incorporating solar and wind power consisting of three live/work studios and a commons/community building.

For more information about the Artist Residency at Goldwell and its award-winning design, [click here](#).

### Sit Here! New Sculpture



The 2007 Ladies Lost Weekend drew together ten women last May to help site and restore a sculpture by German artist **Sophie Siegman** that was initially commissioned as part of an artist residency at the **Lied Discovery Children's Museum** in Las Vegas. The piece was donated by the Children's Museum to the Goldwell Open Air Museum and has already become a visitor favorite with its wonderful view across the Amargosa Valley.

The project involved the redesign of mosaic faces that had fallen

victim to vandalism and wear and tear. Las Vegas artists **Jeanne Voltura**, who had worked on the original piece at the Lied Museum, and **Denise Duarte**, a noted local sculptor, taught participants the mosaic skills needed to repair the sculpture.

The project involved the transportation of the **800+ pound cement couch** from Las Vegas to Rhyolite, and then the subsequent unloading at the site. High winds, storm clouds, and sand bursts did not deter the women as they worked tirelessly through the weekend. Unfortunately, the sculpture required more repairs to its substructure than anticipated and several of the participants returned the following weekend to complete the job (*okay, it actually took us an additional two more weekends but no one complained*).

In addition to the lead artists, the 2007 Ladies Lost Weekend participants included Suzanne Hackett-Morgan, Catherine Borg, Amanda Wolpink, Elizabeth Blau, Barbara Sansing, Christine Nottage, Anamaria Rodriguez, and Jackie Sittenauer.

More pictures and video from the event will be available on the Museum's website in November.

## Resident Artist News



**Eames Demetrios**, a Los Angeles-based artist, has been the Museum's artist-in-residence throughout 2007. His residency included several public programs in Las Vegas in addition to planning for a future installation at the Red Barn Art Center, producing a new printed Kymaerica Travel Guide, and developing an audio tour of "[Kymaerican Rhyolite](#)" for the museum's website.

Demetrios presented a well-received lecture on April 9th at UNLV in a graduate level sculpture seminar led by

artist/faculty member **Stephen Hendee**. Later that evening, Demetrios led "A Workshop for Explorers" at Tinoco's Bistro for an invited audience of about 45. The workshop offered a unique artmaking and educational experience for the attendees. Demetrios began the event by discussing the Kymaerica project after which he invited the attendees to create maps, drawings, texts and flags for and about his Kymaerica project. This hands-on event was extremely well received by the participants who became fully engaged in the creation of their pieces, some of which have already been incorporated into Demetrios' Kymaerican website, presentations, and future exhibits.

The following evening, Eames Demetrios presented a slide/film lecture on Kymaerica at the Sahara West Library. This event was attended by approximately 25-30 people and featured some of the images that had been created the previous evening at the "Workshop for Explorers" event. The presentation also featured the Kymaerican site at Goldwell and the story that revolves around Rhyolite as well as Demetrios' European manifestations of Kymaerica, all of which those present found very interesting.

The following two days, Demetrios was onsite at the Museum near Rhyolite. During that time, he came up with several ideas for proposed Kymaerican installations, including one which would create a portal in a small shed on the museum's Red Barn property transporting visitors back in time to experience the Kymaerican history of the Rhyolite area.

Demetrios has been very busy this year in his role as Director of the [Eames Office](#), presenting numerous talks and special events around the world in honor of his grandfather, **Charles Eames's**, Centennial Year. October 17, 2007 has been designated by the Eames Office as [Powers of Ten Day](#), in honor of the famous film created by his grandparents. You can check out more of Demetrios' projects at [eamesdemetrios.com](http://eamesdemetrios.com).

### NV Passage at Goldwell

The [Nevada Passage](#), the Silver



State's answer to the Iron Man Competition, rolled into Rhyolite last Spring, stopping at Goldwell Open Air Museum to do, well, what everybody does--*try on a ghost for size!*

The Nevada Passage is a made-for-TV event featuring 10, two-person, coed teams paired by profession. Teams compete against each other in four events, covering about 1,000 miles of the most spectacular terrain that Nevada has to offer. The teams were in Rhyolite before heading to the

nearby Amargosa Dunes for some competitive ATV-ing.

The race will be aired this Fall in Las Vegas on October 6th (5-6 p.m. Las Vegas ONE, Cox Channel 19) and again October 28th (11 a.m. to noon, KLAS, Channel 8).

### Board & Staff News



Kudos and thanks to Goldwell Museum Board members **David Lancaster**, **Anita Getzler**, **Suzanne Hackett-Morgan** (pictured at left), **Richard Stephens**, and **Charles Morgan**, for donating over 156 hours in the sweltering Amargosa Desert heat this summer to the Red Barn Art Center project. From getting down and dirty with cleaning to building framing for the Center's two new industrial doors, the project was greatly advanced by the efforts of these dedicated volunteers.

Museum staffer, **Fred McMillan IV**, was also instrumental in overseeing several critical tasks along the way and for recruiting and supervising local labor. We couldn't have done it without him!

**Feeling left out? Don't be!** There is still plenty of opportunities ahead as we

continue to build out the Red Barn Art Center, including designing and installing new kitchen and bath facilities, working on the exterior patios and landscaping, and helping install a water system. Check out the opportunities on [VolunteerMatch.com](http://VolunteerMatch.com) or [write the Museum](http://write the Museum) for more information.

The Museum would also like to announce the appointment of **Christine Nottage** to the Board of Directors, voted on at the September meeting. Christine is an arts and nonprofit professional recently relocated to Las Vegas, who came to the Museum's attention when she joined us for the Ladies Lost Weekend last May. Christine will serve on the Residency, Marketing, and

Development Committees.

The Museum also gives thanks and kudos to departing Director **Catherine Borg** who was instrumental in helping define the goals of the Museum's residency program. Catherine is pursuing her own art work in several residencies of her own across the country over the next 12 months. She will remain involved with Goldwell as a member of the Advisory Board.

The Board still has two open seats it is looking to fill. A position description for members of the Board of Directors is available on [VolunteerMatch.com](http://VolunteerMatch.com) or [contact the Museum](#) for more information.

### Thank You Donors

Thanks to all the donors who contributed to our Spring "Six Degrees" campaign and helped us raise over \$12,000 towards our Nevada Arts Council Challenge Grant match for the Museum's artist residency facilities:

Alyson Raeder  
Anne Kellogg  
assemblageSTUDIO  
Catherine Borg  
Charles Morgan  
Charles Weiner  
Christine Nottage  
Cynthia Souza  
Daniel Kump  
Daniel L. Walters & Mary E. Petty  
Dartina Lee  
David Lancaster  
Denise Duarte  
George Scleparis  
Ginger Bruner  
Jennifer Boxer  
Jolene Brown  
Joni Eastley  
Libby Lumpkin  
Marty Walsh  
Melanie Coffee  
Mona Reno  
Richard Stephens  
Rosemary Glass  
Shannon Richardson  
Susanne Forestieri  
Suzanne Hackett-Morgan  
Thomas Lawyer  
Velma Rowe

Although gifts of cash and securities are greatly needed, in-kind donations of supplies and materials for the Red Barn Art Center are also greatly appreciated and help with the Challenge Grant Match. We currently need the following items:

Crushed Rock or Gravel  
Kitchen Fixtures (Refrigerator, microwave, sink, burner)

Kitchen Cabinets and Shelves  
 Drywall Panels (4' x 8')  
 Bathroom Sink and Vanity  
 Bedroom Furnishings (queen bed, dresser or armoire)  
 Security System  
 Folding or stacking chairs  
 Work Tables

Please [contact the Museum](#) for more information.

### Make a Gift to Goldwell's Challenge Grant Campaign



Goldwell Open Air Museum was awarded a \$21,065 Challenge Grant from the Nevada Arts Council last May to help with the design and construction of its artist residency facilities. The Museum needs to raise, at minimum, approximately \$50,000 in matching funds (cash and in-kind materials) in order to receive the full Arts Council grant. The matching funds need to be raised no later than June 30, 2009.

If you would like to receive a fundraising prospectus for the project containing gift and naming opportunities, please provide your mailing address to the Museum by

[email](#) or call 702-870-9946. Gifts to the Museum are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

The Museum's visitor center is now open again weekends through May 2008, generally from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. We look forward to welcoming you soon!

**Goldwell is on MySpace!** [Add us to your friends!](#)

*Goldwell Open Air Museum's programs are supported in part by grants from the Nevada Arts Council, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. Additional support has been provided by the Nevada Commission on Tourism.*

Goldwell Open Air Museum

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phone: 702-870-9946

web: <http://www.goldwellmuseum.org>

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