

SUNLETTER

THE PEOPLE, EVENTS & EXHIBITS OF THE GRACE HUDSON MUSEUM

SPRING 2016 Volume 25, No. 1

Upcoming Exhibit Documents a Photographic Journey from the Heart



Filled with stunning photographs revealing the richness and vibrancy of contemporary Native Californian cultures, *She Sang Me a Good Luck Song: The California Indian Photographs of Dugan Aguilar* opens at the Grace Hudson Museum on Saturday, April 30, 2016 and runs through Sunday, July 31, 2016. This traveling exhibit features the work of Dugan Aguilar (Mountain Maidu/Washoe/Pit River/Walker River Paiute), who reveals his heart through photographs depicting Native subjects from basket makers and dancers to military veterans and motorcyclists. These images provide an intimate look into the lives of contemporary Native peoples and document the perseverance and renewal of Native California's cultures. At the Grace Hudson Museum, Aguilar's photographs will be supplemented with California Indian objects and regalia.

As Larry McNeil, Tlingit photographer, scholar, and professor of photography at Boise State University notes, "Dugan's photography embodies the ancient spirits of giving and sharing: it's visual poetry that resonates through time with the land and the people gently, yet assertively....Beautiful and insightful photographic storytelling for all people of the world."

Born in Susanville, California, Aguilar earned a degree in industrial technology and design from CSU Fresno, with additional course work in photography from the University of Nevada, Reno. He has documented Native cultures for over 40 years and has exhibited his work throughout the United States and in Europe. A longtime graphic artist for the *Sacramento Bee*, Aguilar was also the staff photographer for the California Indian Basketweavers Association and the California Indian Storytellers Association for many years.

She Sang Me a Good Luck Song is based on the Heyday Books publication of the same name, edited by Theresa Harlan (Kewa Pueblo/Jemez Pueblo). It is traveled by Exhibit Envoy in partnership with Heyday Books, and the Native Fund, and curated by Theresa Harlan and Dugan Aguilar.

—Karen Holmes, Curator

Headdress, Maidu Dancer (top) and Tuolumne Roundhouse (bottom), photographs by Dugan Aguilar

Save the Date!

Grace Hudson Museum's 30th Anniversary Celebration
Saturday, September 10, 2016 • Dinner and Auction



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
info@gracehudsonmuseum.org
www.gracehudsonmuseum.org

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Guild President's Letter

Dear Friends:

This year marks the 30 year anniversary of Ukiah's remarkable Grace Hudson Museum. We owe the greatest debt of gratitude to those visionary individuals in Ukiah City government and businesses who recognized the importance of the art of Grace Carpenter Hudson, the Pomo Indian basket and artifact collections of her husband, Dr. John Hudson, and the architectural treasure of their Craftsman home, the Sun House.

Mark your calendars for this year's gala to be held on Saturday, September 10, in our front gardens and plan to build whole tables of like-minded celebrants as we dine and dance under the Indian Summer stars. We will have some special honorees this year and some very wonderful sponsorship opportunities for those who want to mark the occasion with an extra investment in the Museum and the Sun House. If you leave a message for me at (707) 467-2836, I'll be happy to arrange a private appointment to discuss your goals and ours for a win-win!

As we enter the countdown to the opening of the new outdoor exhibits in 2017, we are thinking of our added needs for docents and volunteers at the Museum. If you are intrigued and have a bit of time to spare, please do stop in at the front desk and fill out an application. It's your chance to play a personal part in the next era in our wonderful cultural center and community gathering place!

Thank you to one and all who have played a part in building our truly world-renowned Grace Hudson Museum right here in the heart of historical downtown Ukiah...it took a village...it still does.

—Paige Marie Poulos, Sun House Guild Board President

Special Thanks for Collection Gifts

Bob Brewer, for a hand-colored picture postcard of Pomo Indian men, sent from Helen Carpenter, Grace Hudson's mother.

Dennis Denny and Kristi Duncan, for transferring Grace Hudson's numbered oil painting "Cornered," (#145) from a loan to a gift, in memory of Patricia L. Denny, Sun House Guild Board Trustee Emeritus. This little gem is particularly noteworthy as it is the only known Hudson painting in which she depicted her working studio. Dennis and Kristi, thank you for your long-time support!



Cornered (#145), Grace Hudson

Volunteer of the Year 2015: Cindy Bollens

The 2015 Volunteer of the Year is extraordinary Sun House docent, Cindy Bollens. For almost thirty years, Cindy worked for NASA, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, as an aerospace engineer specializing in statistics and math at Silicon Valley's Ames Research Center. After her retirement from NASA, she and her husband, Robert, moved north to the Ukiah Valley. They bought a piece of property where Robert, a contractor, built the house of their dreams. And they both set off to go to Mendocino College—Robert, to learn viticulture (so he could grow organic grapes on their new property), and Cindy, to teach statistics. The couple also started to travel and eventually Cindy retired again, this time from teaching, so they would have more free time to journey around the world. She notes that they have visited all seven continents, but that there are still many new places that they would like to explore.

Cindy first came to see the Grace Hudson Museum not long after moving to the area some twenty years ago. The exhibit that drew her centered on Pomo Indian basketry and she still recalls, "how beautiful it was and that I wanted to be a part of this beauty." She began volunteering regularly as a docent, taking museum-goers on tours of the Sun House, and has done so faithfully ever since. Even after all this time, she says that every tour is different and she still loves learning new things about



Volunteer of the Year, Cindy Bollens

the Sun House and the Hudsons' lives. She has especially enjoyed meeting local residents, particularly those individuals who remember the Sun House from its early days and who personally knew its latter-day inhabitants, Grace's nephew Mark Carpenter and his wife, Melissa. Cindy has been amazed at the people from all over the world she has encountered while giving Sun House tours.

As Museum Director, visitors often tell me how much they appreciate seeing the Sun House and having a chance to glimpse the way that the Hudsons lived—in an era that is very different than today. Volunteers like Cindy Bollens are the people that make that opportunity possible, and the Grace Hudson Museum owes them, and Cindy, a huge thanks. And if you think you might like to be a docent yourself, just give us a call or come down to the Museum. We would love to talk with you!

—*Sherrie Smith-Ferri, Museum Director*

Memorial and Special Donations

In Memory of Beverly Hill Cameron
Janis Preston

In Memory of Jerome Dix
Diana & Steve Thomas
Sherrie & David Smith-Ferri
Sun House Guild Boardmembers

In Memory of William Fernandez
Marilyn Smith

In Memory of Patricia Gein
Theresa Sessoyeff
Margaret Russell & Family
Diana & Steve Thomas

Thanks to all of you who gave
for our end-of-year appeal!

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- George & Svetlana Artemoff
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Grace Hudson in Hawaii Comes Home

Days of Grace: California Artist Grace Hudson in Hawaii came home in mid-March after four successful months on view at the Honolulu Museum of Art (HMA). This traveling exhibit was developed and co-curated by Director Sherrie Smith-Ferri and Curator Karen Holmes and explored Grace Hudson's transformative year in the Hawaiian Islands in 1901.

Karen and Sherrie went to Honolulu in November 2015 to preview the exhibit and to do several public programs for the HMA in conjunction with the show.

These programs included an hour-long slide lecture to an appreciative audience at the Museum's Doris Duke Theater regarding Hudson's life and the forces that brought her to rejuvenate in the Islands. The next day they met with HMA docents for a tour and training session on the exhibit, followed by a special preview dinner with Museum Board Members, staff, and special guests.



Rear: Researcher Linda Waggoner. Front: Curator Karen Holmes (left) and Director Sherrie Smith-Ferri (right), with Grace's painting Emma Square, at the Honolulu Museum of Art exhibit.

We are so pleased that Grace Hudson's art has been introduced to a wider audience, and that she finally got the exhibit of her Hawaiian work in Honolulu that she always longed for during her lifetime.

One Night, One Craft Evening Series: The Art of Coffee

The Art of Coffee is the first in a series of "One Night, One Craft" evening experiences for adults at the Grace Hudson Museum.

Keith Feigin, one of the owners of Black Oak Coffee Roasters will discuss a wide variety of coffee topics, including where coffee is grown, the sourcing of coffee beans, the roasting process in general and at Black Oak Coffee Roasters in particular, different roast levels and how they relate to the strength of coffee, coffee brewing practices using different types of coffee pots and filters, smelling and sampling of a variety of roasted beans, and tasting different coffees.

Reservations must be made for the event by calling the Grace Hudson Museum reception desk at 467-2836 or sending an email to info@gracehudsonmuseum.org

The Art of Coffee

Thursday, April 21, 7-9 pm • Grace Hudson Museum Public Room
\$15 for museum members, \$20 for non-members • Limited to 15 participants

Construction News

As of March 2016, we have completed the first two construction phases of the Outdoor Nature Education Project. Our parking lot, bioswale and stormwater retention basin are completed (Phase 1) thanks to the good folks at Gregg Simpson Trucking, particularly Amanda Devereaux and Miguel Rodriguez, along with Jason Island from SHN Consulting Engineers & Geologists.

Phase 2, the renovation of our bathrooms to meet current ADA standards and replace our old fixtures with new water conserving models is likewise complete. This work, done by FRC Construction, also reconfigured our large conference room into a new entry hallway that links the Museum entrance to the coming outdoor exhibits and gardens. The new design allowed us to keep a smaller conference room for staff use and to convert a storage closet into a new office area. Again, we were fortunate to have the services of great people to make this possible, specifically Frank Ruggirello and Brandon Penry of FRC and Amanda Knowles of Arkin Tilt Architects.

Construction of Phase 3 of the project—the building of the Outdoor Classroom—was awarded to local contractor Rick Cupples & Sons Construction. Cupples constructed the Museum's Hart Wing in 2001, and we are delighted to be working with them again. Come by the Museum and tour our new facilities and watch the classroom go up!



Rick Cupples, of Cupples Construction, in front of the newly poured foundation for the Outdoor Classroom.

Special Thanks

Guinness McFadden and Potter Valley's McFadden Farms and Wine for once again donating their beautiful bayleaf wreaths and swags to decorate the Sun House for the holidays. They make the house look festive and smell forest fresh. After more than a decade of McFadden's generosity, it wouldn't feel like Christmas in the Sun House without the bayleaf greenery!

Geoff Heineken for gifting Museum staff with two fabulous cordless drills for Christmas, an already much loved addition to our tool set.

The City of Ukiah Parks Department, Geoff Heineken, John Knoebber, and Lynda Coursey for innovative and cheerful exhibition installation help under pressure!

Michael and Lisa Dunn from Ukiah's Dunn Right Painting, who donated the paint and repainted the Museum's Main Exhibit Gallery prior to the opening of our *In the Construction Zone: Mendocino County Assemblage Art* exhibit. The newly painted walls look great!

Lou Bock, Chance Creek Vineyards, for donating the wine poured at March's First Friday Art Walk, when more than one hundred listeners enjoyed Elena Casanova's music and the *Assemblage Art* exhibit.

Bonnie Carter and Laura Buckner, both of whom greatly added to our kitchen capabilities by giving us an electric tea-kettle and a toaster oven, respectively.

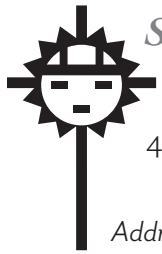
Barbara and Skip Newell and Penofin-Performance Coatings, who donated enough of their wonderful Penofin Redwood Penetrating Oil Finish for us to treat the exterior of the Sun House and help ensure its preservation for years to come.

Janet King, Ann & Tommy Thornhill, the Thornhill Family Foundation and Tom & Melissa Thornhill, Amy Neel and the Neel Foundation, for their recent significant gifts to the Guild in support of Museum exhibits and programs.

Jane Rizer, for her gift to Museum's Endowment Fund.

Amanda & Ray Haas, for their donation to the Museum's special project fund in honor of Curator Karen Holmes.

Nelson & Jane Weller, for their donation to the Museum's Endowment Fund in honor of long-time Endowment Board member John Moon.



Sun House Guild

GRACE HUDSON MUSEUM

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Grace Hudson Museum Calendar of Events

Thursday, April 21, 7:00–9:00 p.m.

The Art of Coffee

Black Oak Coffee Roasters' Keith Feigin will explore all things coffee, and attendees will experience a variety of roasted beans while sampling different coffees. \$15 members/\$20 non-members.

Saturday, April 30–Sunday, July 31, 2016

She Sang Me a Good Luck Song: The California Indian Photographs of Dugan Aguilar

Photographer Dugan Aguilar (Mountain Maidu/Pit River/Walker River Paiute) reveals the richness and vibrancy of contemporary Native Californian cultures. This exhibit will be supplemented at the Grace Hudson Museum with California Indian cultural treasures and regalia.

Sunday, May 1, 7:15 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

San Francisco Fine Arts Museums Trip

Join us on a bus trip to San Francisco's de Young Museum to view the exhibit, *Oscar de la Renta: The Retrospective*, and the Legion of Honor Museum to see the exhibit, *Pierre Bonnard: Painting Arcadia*. \$75—exhibit tickets and bus included, limited space. Call the Grace Hudson Museum at (707) 467-2836 for more information or to sign up.

Friday, May 6, 5:00–8:00 p.m.

First Friday Art Walk Event

Enjoy Ukiah's First Friday Art Walk and the *She Sang Me a Good Luck Song* exhibit. Includes a book signing and beadwork demonstration by Native artist Stewart Wilburn (Wailaki/ Tolowa/Pomo). Refreshments. Free event.

Tuesday, June 14, 4:30–6:30 p.m.

Sun House Guild Public Meeting

All Sun House Guild members are invited

to attend this annual administrative meeting of the Sun House Guild Board in the Museum's Public Room.

Saturday, June 25, 2:00–4:00 p.m.

Photographers' Panel Discussion & Print Sale

Join exhibit photographer Dugan Aguilar, catalog editor Theresa Harlan, artist L. Frank, and photographer Austin Stevenot, along with moderator and artist Meyo Maruffo, as they discuss the state of contemporary Native photography. Free with Museum admission. Prints will be available for sale. Reception following.

Friday, July 1, 5:00–8:00 p.m.

First Friday Art Walk Event

Enjoy Ukiah's First Friday Art Walk and the serene sounds of Thane Hake playing the Native American flute (music from 5:30–7:30 p.m.) Refreshments. Free.