



Hi-Desert Star

Saturday, September 17, 2011

HI-DESERT STAR

Show is sneak peek at arts extravaganza

By Rebecca Unger
Hi-Desert Star

YUCCA VALLEY — The Hi-Desert Nature Museum is hosting a sneak peek of artists taking part in the 2011 Hwy. 62 Open Studio Art Tours.

The reception at the museum Sept. 9 was the event's early kick-off, with an artists' reception and exhibit of work by some tour favorites and intriguing new talents.

This year is the tour's 10th anniversary, and many special activities are planned to celebrate the continuing success of this internationally-known event.

Originally conceived as an all-inclusive festival of the arts, this year's tour has everything from concerts to a circus.

The anniversary festivities begin on the eve of the tours Oct. 21. "A Celebration of a Decade" at the Blak Box Theater in Joshua Tree is an evening of art, music, performers and special guests, presented by the Hi-Desert Cultural Center and Morongo Basin Arts Council.

The first weekend of studio tours begins the next day, Saturday, in the west end of the Basin.

During the afternoon The Living School located at Art Queen in Joshua Tree will present the "Trust Everyone Under 30" concert featuring the some of the Basin's best young musicians.

There's more live music with Tim Easton and special guests down the street at The Red Arrow Gallery.

If you're still in Joshua Tree Saturday night, it's the



REBECCA UNGER Hi-Desert Star

West-end stained glass artist Bobette Milici's "Pasadena Glassy Window Fancy" offers a sneak peek at what visitors to Milici's studio might expect.

tour's "Under the Big Top" opening party on Sunny Sands Drive with the Wish and Zircon Circus. The party continues after hours with a live DJ and laser light show.

Sunday is the second day of the west-end tour, and Pappy and Harriet's Pioneertown Palace will host the Rock and Roll Services starting at 7 p.m.

Weekend Two takes art lovers out — far out.

On Oct. 28, the Smith's Ranch Drive-in Theater in Twentynine Palms will show '50s monster movie classic "Them!," filmed in Joshua Tree.

The next night, The Palms in Wonder Valley presents the multi-media installation, "I Defy You Stars," and Rockto-

berfest concerts.

All good things come to an end, but really good things end really good, with an annual closing night party at Bobby Furst's space.

To help you keep the memories of Tour 2011 alive, pick up a copy of "Hwy. 62 Love Songs," a deluxe 10th anniversary Hwy. 62 Art Tours CD set of regional music assembled by Arts Council President and Music Director Ted Quinn.

For information about the 10th annual Open Studio Art Tours, call the Morongo Basin Cultural Arts Council at (760)366-2226, or log on to www.hwy62arttours.com.

A full program detailing the two weekends of art, music, and fun will be available around the Basin after Oct. 1.



REBECCA UNGER Hi-Desert Star

The Hi-Desert Nature Museum's exhibit for the Hwy. 62 Open Studio Art Tour runs through Nov. 5. It presents an interesting sampling of local artistry from paintings and pottery to purses.



REBECCA UNGER Hi-Desert Star

"Seated Figure," by Morongo Basin Life Drawing League instructor and artist Janis Commentz, is on exhibit at the Hi-Desert Nature Museum.