

Amico, and so many others challenged my concepts and practice. My friend said of the CGU experience: "It's like drinking from a fire hose." It's a fact that the groups of students I had the good fortune to land up with during those years at both universities were extraordinary. I so appreciate staying connected with many of them today. My art work continues and I show locally and nationally. In 1990, two important things happened. I began working as a university art instructor with classes in art production and creative practice, and I started working with the Tierra del Sol Foundation. At university, I loved working with students who were discovering so much about their own creativity and eager to change the world. At Tierra, I was introduced to dedicated artists who also identified as experiencing disabilities. Today, I am honored to continue that work with over 100 artists who are expanding their professional careers. Our hard-working team of artists, artist-mentors, and our larger Tierra del Sol organization is known for its dedication to groundbreaking advocacy for full acceptance and inclusion for all.



**3**

**Any places to eat or things to do that you can share with our readers? If they have a friend visiting town, what are some spots they could take them to?**

During this time of Covid, many places offer online visits or by appointment and the rest are worth the wait. Often our best teachers are the ones who inspire and disrupt us most. Now, more than ever, special effort should be made to seek out and support galleries, art publications, arts non-profits and independent projects that labor in love for art and artists. It's important to consider how to more actively support these places and organizations online and financially. Here is a plan for friendly excursions to

the natural places and the city vistas nearby. Start with a day or two of exploring Claremont's public art, museums, lovely tree-scapes and a delicious treat from Crème Bakery or SomeCrust, or both. Then, take a quick trip to AMOCA.org (American Museum of Ceramic Art) in nearby Pomona, and to Upland to visit Upland Art Studios. This is one of the two studios of Tierra del Sol Foundation, the other is Sunland Studio Arts in Sunland. Next day, there's a short drive up to Mt. Baldy, (Mount San Antonio) where I lived for 5 years. There are hikes to match any experience level. Stop at the Visitor Center for info and the Mt. Baldy history tour, it will surprise you. Another day is a beautiful drive to Joshua Tree National Park and a visit to town which includes the ever-creative Taylor Junction, then off to Desert Peach Gallery in Yucca Valley, say "Hi" to Juan and Susie. Heading back to the big city includes experiencing the pageantry at Venice Beach and the beaches of Santa Monica including the galleries there. And finally, the Los Angeles art museums and ever changing galleries are on my list. Be sure to check out the TierraDelSolGallery.org in Chinatown and the current show of artist HK Zamani at 515bendix.com and on Instagram @p0st-gh0st is HK Zamani.



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**The Shoutout series is all about recognizing that our success and where we are in life is at least somewhat thanks to the efforts, support, mentorship, love and encouragement of others. So is there someone that you want to dedicate your shoutout to?**

to?

Here are my shoutouts in print, and in spirit, to these creative warriors (and there are more than I can mention here) who have brought vital inspiration, insight, wise counsel and support to my creative path in the Arts and Community. Thank you to my dear family and friends including these amazing artists and musicians: David Brock, Barbara A. Thomason, Stanley C. Wilson, Gene Phipps, Cynthia Comsky, Diane Divelbess, Henry Jefferson, Roland Reiss, Karl Benjamin, all my students, and my fellow artists and activists with the Tierra Del Sol Foundation.

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**SHOUTOUT LA**