

BOOM STAFF

Boom List

What to do, see, read, and hear this winter in California

New Year. With the new year comes new laws and the ongoing importance of citizenship, figuring out new ways to be more engaged, better neighbors. And because it's a California winter, get outside you must. Why? Well, of course—for air, and to see, and to just walk. It is California, of course.

Visit the Poppies in Antelope Valley. The Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve is a natural reserve of beautiful Mojave Desert Grasslands. The wildflower season typically runs from February to May where the reserve's rolling hills are covered with blankets of gorgeous multi-colored flowers. You will be able to walk right through the beauty as the park has eight miles of hiking trails, a picnic area, and visitor center. The park is open daily from sunrise to sunset. To plan your visit: https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=627

Read *A Sense of Yosemite* (Yosemite Conservancy, 2016). Step aside Ansel Adams, there's a new reading of Yosemite, recently offered in the breathtaking photography of Nancy Robbins and enhanced with essays from David Mas Masumoto, this is a book that every Californian will want to read, if only to give you again a sense of Yosemite in all of its vast beauty, before you can go back in once again.

Go see LACMA's "Picasso and Rivera: Conversations Across Time." This collection of 150 paintings, etchings, and watercolors creates a dialogue between two incredible artists. The paintings help viewers explore their respective backgrounds as well as compare their collective influences. This exhibition runs from 4 December 2016 through 7 May 2017. Visit <http://www.lacma.org/art/exhibition/picasso-and-rivera-conversations-across-time> for more information.

Find salvation at Salvation Mountain in Niland, California. This giant work of art is the passion project of Leonard Knight who wanted to create a tribute to God and to let the

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Americae sive novi orbis, nova descriptio, 1577, Abraham Ortelius. Courtesy of Cal State Fullerton University Archives & Special Collections | Roy V. Boswell Collection for the History of Cartography. This and other select maps from the Boswell Collection, including California as an island and other early maps (16th – 19th c.), will be exhibited in the Pollak Library's Atrium Gallery, January-March 2017. <http://www.library.fullerton.edu/visiting/exhibits/exhibits-schedule.php>.

world know that “God is love.” Located an hour outside the Salton Sea and an hour and a half outside of Palm Springs, Salvation Mountain has become a popular curiosity stop for people from all backgrounds. The mountain is 150 wide and 50 feet high, made entirely of clay and paint. If you visit, you may consider donating paint as the desert takes its toll on the mountain throughout the year. To learn more about the backstory and plan a visit check out the website: www.salvationmountain.us

Read Kevin Starr’s *Continental Ambitions*. Designated by many as California’s unofficial state historian, Starr has made a career of chronicling the internal drama of California’s story. But of late he has begun turning his hand to how California fits in the larger context of the world order. Drawing from the Catholic civilizations –

Spain, France, and Recusant England – this new fast-paced book is written in Starr’s classic polymathic, interdisciplinary style, charting the history of the exploration, evangelization, and settlement of North America in a single volume.

Keep up with us at the new *Boom California*. With the new year and the publication of this issue marks a new moment in the life of *Boom*, where the conversations we’ve begun in the printed page will continue exclusively online and without a subscription fee. Please visit us and keep up with these conversations at www.boomcalifornia.com and sign up to receive our email updates on our website. You can also follow our Twitter home @BoomCalifornia or on Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/BoomCalifornia/>. We can’t wait to see you at the new *Boom California*. **B**