



Take A Detour From Route 66: Taos To L.A. ©

**Workman and Temple Family
Homestead Museum**

Saturday, March 25, 2017

John A. Rowland House

Sunday, March 26, 2017

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INTRODUCTION

The Taos Arts Council, the Workman and Temple Family Homestead Museum, and the John A. Rowland House are proud to present

Take A Detour From Route 66: Taos To L.A.

This event is curated by Irvine poet, Karen S. Córdova; and Taos poet and publisher, Andrea L. Watson, who offer profound gratitude and appreciation for the Homestead Museum and its staff, especially Alexandra Rasic, Director of Public Programs; Paul Spitzzeri, Museum Director; and Robert Barron, Facilities Coordinator; as well as for Elizabeth Riley.

Award-winning poets from across the United States and historical commentators were invited to take a detour in either space or time and create original work for this event, inspired by Route 66 and its ancestral trails. Select musicians and artists were invited to share their talents with images and musical echoes of the Mother Road and states through which it snakes. A culinary historian was invited to offer samplings of Route 66-era diner food.

Thanks to Patrick Utter and members of the Model 'A' Restores Club for sharing their vehicles with us on Saturday.

ROUTE 66 AND ITS ANCESTRAL TRAILS

Centuries before Route 66 was even imagined, the way west was to walk on Indian footpaths over the Colorado Plateau and Mojave Desert. After the Spanish arrived in the early 16th century, they created permanent settlements in New Mexico, Texas, and California. However, there wasn't a reliable overland route between northern New Mexico and the California coast until 1829. Spanish, then Mexican, and then Anglo merchants developed variant routes west which, combined, became known as "The Old Spanish Trail" (<www.oldspanishtrail.org>).

Taos, New Mexico, was a hub of trading activity. As an example, two 19th century Anglo traders, William Workman and John Rowland, lived in Taos for years. Each married a local Hispano woman and was integrated into the community. William married Nicolasa Urioste de Valencia, and John married Encarnación Martínez, who was related to the famous Padre Martínez. In 1841, Rowland, Workman and dozens of Americans, Europeans, and New Mexicans took the Old Spanish Trail to Los Angeles and were granted the Rancho La Puente in the eastern San Gabriel Valley (<<http://www.homesteadmuseum.org/>>).

An explosion of trade resulted from building the first transcontinental railroad, which linked the well-developed railway network of the East Coast with California. The main line was officially completed on May 10, 1869. The Santa Fe route, which opened in the mid-1880s to Los Angeles, came through New Mexico and Arizona before coming in to California. Harvey Hotels were built near the tracks to attract wealthy travelers. Unknown to the curators, when they chose the theme, there was even a Harvey tour that was called a "Detour", which included a visit to Taos. Travelers on the Detour were called "Detourists" or "Dudes".

However, treks west by individuals remained arduous until the invention of the automobile and the national program of highway and road development in the 1920s. As auto travel increased, the idea of "hitting the road" tapped into people's dreams for adventure and better lives. Two entrepreneurs, Cyrus Avery of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and John Woodruff of

Springfield, Missouri, were stalwart promoters of an interregional link between Chicago and Los Angeles. The designation "66" was given to this route in 1926 (<<http://national66.org/resources/history-of-route-66/>>). Route 66 also became a symbol of the era of the difficult journey of migrants fleeing the Dust Bowl during the Great Depression. By the mid-20th century, as American prosperity peaked in the aftermath of World War II and unprecedented economic expansion increased American mobility for tourism, trade, and resettlement, the road blazed with neon signs, such as that of Tucumcari Motel in Tucumcari, New Mexico. Dozens of songs were written in homage to the dream Route 66. Movies and "Easy Riders" glamorized the road.

The years 1926 to 1985, when Route 66 was decommissioned, are considered the historically significant life span of the Mother Road. Shortly after its official "death", government agencies, other organizations, and many individuals were alarmed at disappearing infrastructure, crumbling buildings, and their effects on the livelihood of those whose businesses were now bypassed by modern four-lane highways like Interstate 40. Their concern has resulted in the commitment of many to preserve the remaining important Route 66 structures and artifacts, as well as to honor the stories of this national treasure (<<https://www.ncptt.nps.gov/rt66/>>).

The mythos of Route 66 has captured the imagination of those in other countries, especially China. BoYi OuYang, a 22-year-old Chinese student, in 2015 walked from Santa Monica to Chicago on most of the old Route 66 (<<https://www.couchsurfing.com/users/2000560867>>). At least two recent Chinese films feature Route 66. In addition, Chinese Route 312 is being touted as the Asian Route 66 in a country with a booming automobile industry and populace with dreams and aspirations of bettering their lives. It's therefore no surprise that Shanghai General Motors has sponsored annual U.S. Route 66 excursions for Chinese Cadillac owners. Yes, the 21st century Route 66 has bridged the Pacific Ocean, a detour from Santa Monica to Shanghai.

CHILDREN'S POETRY WORKSHOP:

HOMESTEAD MUSEUM

Saturday, March 25, 2017

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

PICNIC AREA

In this interactive and fun workshop, children will learn how to use movement, color, environment, and storytelling to write poetry.

The dynamic teacher of the Children's Poetry Workshop is **Peggy Dobreer**, a well-known Los Angeles poet, who recently won the first and second place prize in The Downey Symphony Orchestra's Poetry Matters 2016 Contest. Her book, *In The Lake of Your Bones*, was published by Moon Tide Press. Peggy's poetry has been published in many journals and magazines.

Peggy also is a long time educator and former professional dancer, offering a motion generated poetry experience in her E=Mc2Bodied Poetry Workshops. She was a program director for the 2015 A Room of Her Own (AROH) Foundation Retreat for Women Writers in Abiquiu, New Mexico. She taught for the Writing In The Schools (WITS) program for Red Hen Press and, currently, is Poet-In-Residence at Foothill Preparatory School in Alhambra. Peggy also has hosted literary readings at many Los Angeles venues for fifteen years.

DAY 1 MAIN EVENT: HOMESTEAD MUSEUM

Saturday, March 25, 2017

2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

WORKMAN HOUSE COURTYARD

Douglas Daniels

Go west, young man, go west and grow up with the country.

Karen Cordova

“Crossing the Borders of My Heart”

Peggy Dobreer

“Remembrance Garden”

Max Early

“Passing through the Heart of Laguna Pueblo”

WORKMAN HOUSE CENTER ROOM

Michael Sedano

The Feral Child of Temple City: A Horror Narrative
A fictional recounting of Genie’s emergence from captivity into a world of language

Madelyn Garner

“Route 66: A Love Story”

Andrea Watson

“The Poem In Which Frida Kahlo Commandeers
My Car And We Drive Like Bandits To L.A.”

Dom Zuccone

“Get Hip to This...”

WEST LAWN

Lenny Trujillo

Journey on the Old Spanish Trail

Alexis Rhone Fancher

“For The Sad Waitress At The Diner In Barstow”

Ellaraine Lockie

“Out of the East”

David Meischen

“Making A Famine Where Abundance Lies”

LA CASA NUEVA LIVING ROOM

Gary Stickel

Story of the Kizh (Gabrieleño) Local Indian Tribe

Tina Carlson

“Pandora on the Mother Road”

Katherine Seluja

“Blood Road”

Scott Wiggerman

“Going the Distance”

LA CASA NUEVA MUSIC ROOM

Kriss Light, musician

Anthony Ray

Love and Romance on the Old Spanish Trail

Jeffrey Alfier

“A Little Peace in Yermo”

Tobi Alfier

“West of Nowhere on Route 66”

Karen Kevorkian

“They Had Not Found The Kingdoms He Had Told About”

MEMORIAL WALKWAY

Ernest Miller, Culinary Historian

*Dining on the Mother Road—
with sampling of authentic roadside chili*

Enjoy an authentic bowl of roadside chili con carne (with beans), a cornbread muffin, and homemade root beer as Chef Miller introduces you to a brief history of your snack and food on the Mother Road.

DAY 2 MAIN EVENT: JOHN A. ROWLAND HOUSE

Sunday, March 26, 2017

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Welcome and Introduction by Andrea L. Watson

Ellaraine Lockie

“I Take Thee To Be”

“Ménage à Trois”

Karen S. Córdova

Route 66 And Its Ancestral Trails

Los Traqueros by Hugo Garcia

Jeffrey Alfier

“A Little Peace in Yermo”

“Abandoned Carbonate Mine: Trespassing for Artifacts”

“January Portrait”

Tobi Alfier

“West of Nowhere on Route 66”

“When Boys Become Men”

“How to Dream the Desert”

Karen S. Córdova

“*Matria* (Motherland)”

“Long Time Gone: Pantoum for Julián Popé”

“Crossing the Borders of My Heart”

David Meischen

"There and Back"

"Lone Star Desires at the Triple Six: A Pantoum Bent on
Misbehaving"

"Making a Famine Where Abundance Lies"

Scott Wiggerman

"Going the Distance,"

"Two-Fold, One-Kind" from *Bearing the Mask*

"Morning Glories" from *Leaf and Beak*

Madelyn Garner

"Route 66: A Love Story"

"Her Tattooed Back"

"A Triptych: Days of Diagnosis"

Andrea L. Watson

"The Altar Of One Dark Eyebrow"

"The Poem In Which Frida Kahlo Commandeers
My Car And We Drive Like Bandits To L.A."

"Frida. Inferno."

Dom Zuccone

"Get Hip to This... "

Q & A

POET BIOGRAPHIES

Jeffrey Alfier's collection of Southwest poems, *Idyll for a Vanishing River*, won the 2014 Kithara Book Prize. His latest chapbooks are *Bleak Music*: a photograph and poetry collaboration with Larry D. Thomas; *Southbound Express to Bay Head: New Jersey Poems*; and *The Red Stag at Carrbridge: Scotland Poems*. *Anthem for Pacific Avenue*, a collection of California poems, is due out in early 2017. Recent credits include *Cold Mountain Review*, *Southern Poetry Review* and *Hotel Amerika*. In 2008, he founded Blue Horse Press and *San Pedro River Review*.

Tobi Alfier is a multiple Pushcart Prize and Best of the Net nominee. Current chapbooks are *The Coincidence of Castles* from Glass Lyre Press, *Romance and Rust* from Blue Horse Press, and *Down Anstruther Way* (Scotland poems) from FutureCycle Press. She is co-editor of *San Pedro River Review*.

Tina Carlson is a poet and a psychiatric healthcare provider at Albuquerque Healthcare for the Homeless. Her book *Ground, Wind, This Body* explores the effects of war on family and has just been published by University of New Mexico Press.

Karen S. Córdova is a writer and business woman who lives in Southern California. Karen has deep roots both in Southern Colorado and Northern New Mexico, and much of her writing reflects love of her heritage. She is proud to have curated and participated in numerous *ekphrasis* events throughout the United States. Karen's first book, *Farolito*, published in 2015 by 3: A Taos Press, was a finalist for the 2016 New Mexico/Arizona Book Award for Poetry.

Peggy Dobreer is a Pushcart Prize nominee; the first and second prize winner of The Downey Symphony Orchestra, Poetry Matters 2016 Prize; and author of one collection titled, *In The Lake of Your Bones*. A former dancer, she teaches Embodied Poetry Workshops and is Poet-In-Residence at Foothill Preparatory School in Alhambra.

Max Early's poetry is unique in that, as a Laguna Pueblo poet, he incorporates elements of his native language, Keresan. He's also a potter, working in traditional styles in order to keep the art of Laguna Pueblo pottery alive. His first book, *Ears of Corn, Listen*, includes meditations on history and modern times that flow through the passing seasons. He is one of four native poets honored at the 17th Annual Taos Summer Writer's Conference.

Alexis Rhone Fancher is the author of *How I Lost My Virginity to Michael Cohen...* (2014) and *State of Grace: The Joshua Elegies* (2015). She is published in *Best American Poetry 2016*, *Rattle*, *Slipstream*, *Hobart*, *Cleaver*, and elsewhere. A multiple Pushcart Prize and Best of the Net nominee, Alexis is poetry editor of *Cultural Weekly*.

Madelyn Garner discovered her love for literature at the age of 13 thanks to her English teacher, Theodore Glim, who taught her that poetry is necessary as breath for its richness, its subtleties, and its power to say the unsayable. She has been writing ever since.

Karen Kevorkian has published the poetry collections *Lizard Dream* and *White Stucco Black Wing*, and her work appears in journals including *Antioch Review*, *Michigan Quarterly Review*, *Denver Quarterly*, *Witness*, *Volt*, *Massachusetts Review*, and *Agni*. She teaches poetry writing at UCLA. She has been awarded a number of artist residencies, most recently at the Wurlitzer Foundation in Taos, New Mexico.

Ellaraine Lockie is a widely published and awarded poet, nonfiction book author, and essayist. She has authored thirteen chapbooks. She does freelance editing, teaches poetry workshops, and serves as Poetry Editor for the lifestyles magazine, *Lilipoh*.

David Meischen has recent poems in *Borderlands*, *San Pedro River Review*, *Southern Poetry Review*, and elsewhere. A Pushcart Prize nominee, he is co-founder of Dos Gatos Press, publisher of *Wingbeats* and *Wingbeats II*, collections of poetry writing exercises. His fiction and

nonfiction have appeared in *The Gettysburg Review* and *Salamander*, among others.

Winner of the Southwest Writers Poetry Award and twice nominated for a Pushcart Prize, **Katherine DiBella Seluja's** work has appeared in *Blink-Ink*, *bosque*, Connotation Press, *Crab Creek Review* and *Santa Ana River Review*, among others. Her first collection, *Gather the Night*, focuses on the impact of mental illness and is forthcoming in 2018 from University of New Mexico Press.

Founding publisher and editor of 3: A Taos Press, **Andrea Watson's** poetry has appeared in *Nimrod*, *Rhino*, *Cream City Review*, *Ekphrasis*, *International Poetry Review*, and *The Dublin Quarterly*, among others. She is co-editor of *Collecting Life: Poets on Objects Known and Imagined* and *Malala: Poems for Malala Yousafzai* (FutureCycle Press), all proceeds donated to the Malala Fund for Girls' Education. Andrea has designed and curated eighteen *ekphrasis* events throughout the United States.

Scott Wiggerman is the author of three books of poetry, *Leaf and Beak: Sonnets*, *Presence*, and *Vegetables and Other Relationships*; and the editor of several volumes, including *Wingbeats: Exercises & Practice in Poetry*, *Lifting the Sky: Southwestern Haiku & Haiga*, and *Bearing the Mask*. Recent poems have appeared in *A Quiet Courage*, *Naugatuck River Review*, *Red Earth Review*, *bosque*, *shuf*, and *Yellow Chair Review*. He is an editor for Dos Gatos Press of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

As D E Zuccone, **Dom Zuccone** has published poems in *Borderlands*, *Water Stone*, *International Review of Poetry*, *Southern Indiana Review*, *Schuylkill Review*, *Hurricane Review*, *Big River*, *Apalachee Review*, and *Deep Water Literary Review*. He has been a featured reader at Autumn Houston Poetry Festival, selected reader for Houston Poetry Fest, and moderates Houston Public Poetry's EX LIBRIS, a monthly on-line poetry discussion.

HISTORICAL COMMENTATOR BIOGRAPHIES

Dr. Douglas Daniels is a dentist whose personal passion is history and genealogy. He has given numerous presentations pertaining to the American Southwest at conferences throughout the United States. He is past president of both the national and Southern California chapter of the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America (GSHA). Douglas is the fourth great-grandson of Richard Campbell, a mountain man who played a significant role in Southwest history.

Anthony Ray is an avid genealogist who specializes in church records, California, Mexican, and Southwest research. He has conducted research throughout California's most prestigious libraries and archives, as well as in Arizona and Sonora, Mexico. He is currently in the process of researching and writing a comprehensive history of the Berryessas, a founding family of San Francisco and San Jose.

Michael Sedano is a founding member of La Bloga and the Tuesday columnist. His photographs of *movimiento* writers are in the Tomás Rivera Memorial Library at UC Riverside and Doheny Memorial Library at the University of Southern California. Sedano's military service included duty atop the world's highest anti-aircraft missile site. Michael Sedano holds a Ph.D. in Communication Arts and Sciences from the University of Southern California.

Gary Stickel received his Ph.D. in Archaeology from UCLA. The Greek Government gave him the honor to conduct an excavation at the legendary birthplace of Achilles at a site called Achilleon. Other major projects include his excavation at Machu Picchu in Peru and his recent discovery of the first Clovis Culture site ever found on the West Coast of the Americas. The London Times called Dr. Stickel "The Real Life Indiana Jones". He is Tribal Archaeologist of the Kizh (Gabrieleño), the original Indian tribe of the greater Los Angeles area.

Lenny Trujillo is a direct descendant of the *genízaro* Trujillo family, which migrated along the Old Spanish Trail from Abiquiu, New Mexico, to the San Bernardino Valley of Alta California in the early 1840s. With ancestors from Sonora, Sinaloa, New Mexico, and California, Lenny donates his time and is currently President of the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America, Southern California Chapter.

CULINARY HISTORIAN BIOGRAPHY

Ernest Miller is a chef, historian, educator, consultant and speaker who teaches classes in museums, schools, and kitchens throughout Southern California. He has been called the Huell Howser of California food. He is the co-leader of Slow Food Los Angeles, on the speakers' bureau for the Culinary Historians of Southern California, Lecturer for the National Food and Beverage Foundation, Chef Instructor at Le Cordon Bleu, director of Slow Food Preservation Advisors of Los Angeles County, and founder of RLM Provisions LLC—manufacturer of the best fermentation kits on the market.

MUSICIAN BIOGRAPHY

Singer-songwriter **Kriss Light** is a third generation Angeleno, whose grandfather played Country Music and whose mother sang Opera. Her son is currently starring on Broadway in Hamilton as King George III.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

Jeffrey Alfier's photography was recently published in *Bleak Music* — a photograph and poetry collaboration with Larry D. Thomas. The American Southwest is one of his photography subjects. He is also the author of several books and chapbooks of poetry. Along with his wife, Tobi, he co-edits Blue Horse Press and *San Pedro River Review*.

Max Early's is a potter and poet, working in traditional styles in order to keep the art of Laguna Pueblos pottery alive. His work is in major museums and has consistently won awards at Santa Fe Indian Market. His first book, *Ears of Corn: Listen*, featuring both pottery and poetry, published by 3: A Taos Press, includes meditations on history and modern times that flow through the passing seasons.

Harold Hall was born and raised in “The Land of Enchantment”, in Los Alamos, New Mexico. In addition to his long career in the corporate finance world, his photos have been hung in galleries and published in magazines. Among his awards are 1st Place, Grand Prize for his photography portfolio in the 12th annual “New Mexico Magazine” Photo Contest in 2013.

Norvin Johnson is a Navajo jeweler who creates custom silver jewelry with pottery inlay. He is also a potter working outside the envelope. Johnson's contemporary shapes and designs give a creative twist to an ancient tradition of Native American pottery.

Geraint Smith was born in South Wales. An early family memory is watching western films with endless skies and expansive locations. During his teen years, he developed a love for photography. At 22, he moved to L.A. to study cinematography and work as a photographer. Ten years later, he moved to Taos, a place of wide open spaces. Geraint offers personalized photo tours, workshops, and classes in Arroyo Seco, New Mexico.



Photo by Jeffrey C. Alfier