



LINDA VALLEJO

Selected Exhibitions:

Frazier Museum, Kentucky; Patricia Correia Gallery, Los Angeles; University of Judaism, Marjorie and Herman Platt Gallery, Los Angeles; Social and Public Art Resource Center (SPARC), Los Angeles; UCLA Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; Art Museum of South Texas; Anchorage Museum of History and Art; The Bronx Museum of the Arts; The Museum of Modern Art, New York; San Antonio Museum of Art; Mexico City Modern Art Museum; Galeria Las Americas; The Women's Building; Self Help Graphics and Art, Inc.; Santa Monica Museum of Art; and Carnegie Art Museum, Oxnard.

Selected Major Publications and Media:

Art Business News, ArtNews, Southwest Art, Saludos Hispanos, Nuestra Gente National Magazine, Latin Style Magazine, Los Angeles Times, Contemporary Chicana and Chicano Art 2002 (Arizona State University).

Artist's Gallery Talk:

Linda Vallejo Sunday, November 7 — 2pm
www.lindavallejo.com

*“A spiritual aura
hovers around these
provocative images
going deep enough to
tap a collective
subconscious”*

— ARTWEEK



*Woman, tree
fragment,
handmade paper
and mixed media by
Linda Vallejo, 1987.*



a Prayer for the Earth

paintings & installation by **Linda Vallejo**

SEPTEMBER 11 - NOVEMBER 21, 2004



CARNEGIE ART MUSEUM

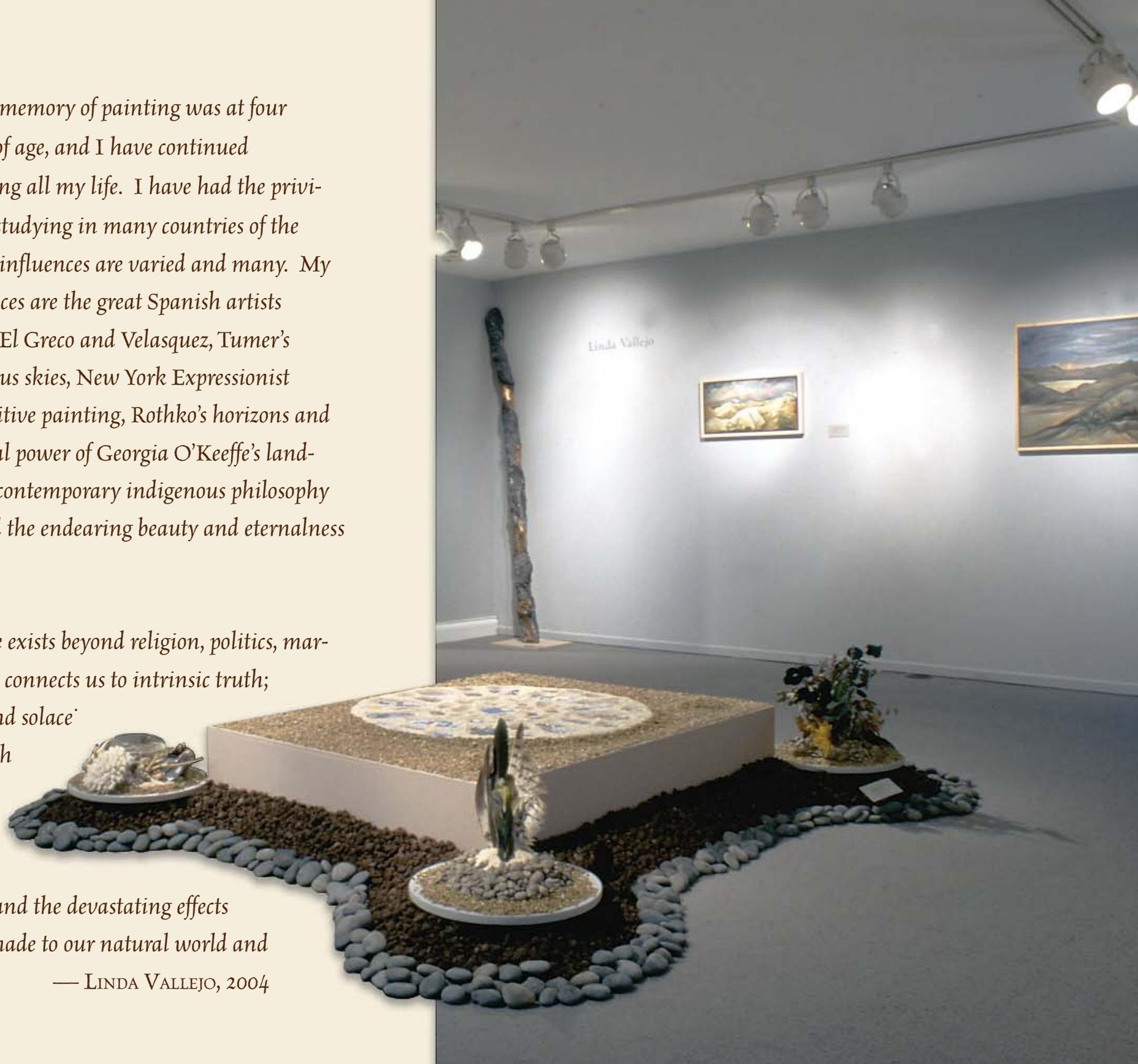
424 South C. St. Oxnard, 93030 (805) 385-8157

www.vcnet.com/carnart

My first memory of painting was at four years of age, and I have continued painting all my life. I have had the privilege of visiting and studying in many countries of the world, therefore my influences are varied and many. My chief artistic influences are the great Spanish artists Picasso, Goya, Dali, El Greco and Velasquez, Tumer's immense and glorious skies, New York Expressionist automatic and intuitive painting, Rothko's horizons and soft edges, the sensual power of Georgia O'Keeffe's landscapes, ancient and contemporary indigenous philosophy and symbolism, and the endearing beauty and eternalness of nature.

I believe that nature exists beyond religion, politics, market and art. Nature connects us to intrinsic truth; offering meaning and solace to our lives. Through "A PRAYER FOR THE EARTH" I offer a memory of the beauty of the earth and the devastating effects that pollution has made to our natural world and natural selves.

— LINDA VALLEJO, 2004





California Horizons: Death Valley's Ubehebe Crater, oil on canvas by Linda Vallejo, 2004.

Linda Vallejo's paintings express a tradition of respect for the healing power of nature. Over the past twenty-five years, she has investigated humanity's valuable and fundamental relationship to the natural world, and conversely, the destruction of the human spirit as nature is destroyed. Vallejo's art is a finely honed process of observation, recollection, and production focused on helping the viewer to re-member and re-collect a sublime experience in nature in hopes of confirming need for the natural world.

A Prayer For the Earth powerfully coalesces a career long investigation of diverse media and contextual interests in nature and, as art critic Suzanne Muchnic noted in *ArtNews*, in "the feminine unconscious and issues of religion and morality." This installation unites her early work in assemblage sculpture and relief using handmade ... painted paper with her more recent



Olmeca Ancestor, tree fragment, handmade paper and mixed media by Linda Vallejo, 1988.

landscape paintings. Through these and her intuitive knowledge of ceremony, Vallejo explores the irreconcilable visions of nature as tranquil beauty, and, nature as the devastated victim of humanity. Leah Ollman of the *Los Angeles Times* has observed, "For Vallejo, a Los Angeles native with a deep interest in the function of ceremony, these works serve perhaps, as acts of prayer. For the viewer, they are at the least a soothing poultice."

Born in California, Linda Vallejo has traveled extensively studying painting, printmaking and art history. She studied lithography at the University of Madrid, Spain, and received her MFA in Printmaking from California State University Long Beach. Her work has been exhibited at: SPARC in Los Angeles, Armand Hammer Museum,

Laguna Art Museum, The Bronx Museum, Museum of Modern Art New York, San Antonio Museum and the Santa Monica Museum. She has been a guest lecturer and instructor at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles, Fresno Art Museum, California State University Long Beach, Santa Monica City College and the University of California at Irvine.

Between 1980-1990, Vallejo created a series of over one hundred earth-based sculptures entitled, *Tree People*, dedicated to the concept of a metamorphic relationship with nature, that begged the question, "How would humanity appear if we were acknowledged our fundamental relationship to

nature?" These sculptures were made of found tree fragment from the sprawling urban center, hand-made



paper, and mixed media. “Tree people” represented the tree with its human counterpart as aspects of nature’s pantheon of the gods of the earth, water, fire, and air.

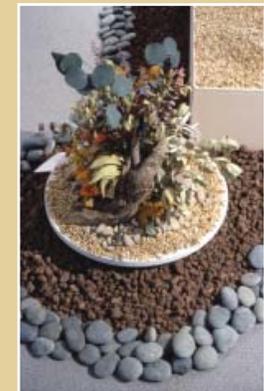
In 1993, a series of gouaches entitled *The Death of Urban Humanity: A World Without Soul* invaded these tranquil earth images to focus on the devastation of the urban center, the destruction of nature, and concurrently, the destruction of humanity’s “*natural spirit*.” Between 1996-2004 Vallejo returned to painting completing two suites entitled, *Los Cielos* and

Nature and Spirit. These portfolios contain giant, luminous skies; pristine, living oceans; and broad landscapes to depict the beauty of and humanity’s intrinsic connection to nature.

In 2003, Vallejo combined these two irreconcilable images to create her first political, ecological, and spiritual work of art focusing on the reconciliation of opposites: the beauty and tranquility of nature with urban violence and carnage. An installation assemblage was created entitled *HOPE, In the Midst of War, Death and Destruction*,

combining tragic images of war dead inspired by Goya’s *Desastres*, with the hope and solace offered by nature.

Now, in 2004, Vallejo presents *A Prayer for the Earth*. This new installation creates a complete environment through a combination of paintings representing the beauty of the earth; sculpture focusing on our metamorphic relationship with nature; a central mandala of manipulated photographs containing tragic images of the earth’s destruction; all surrounded by an assemblage containing symbols of Earth, Water, Fire and Air. It is through these four simple, yet fundamental elements of the natural world that we find “*A Prayer for the Earth*”.



A Prayer for the Earth: Central Mandala Installation, photographic montage, found object assemblage, stone and mixed media by Linda Vallejo, 2004.



Full Moon at Dusk, oil on canvas by Linda Vallejo, 2000.