

SAND to STONE



contemporary
native american art
in Joshua Tree



April 27 - May 22, 2016

PROJECT

Sand to Stone: Contemporary Native American Art in Joshua Tree is a multidisciplinary art project – exhibition, site-specific installation, and performance – highlighting contemporary Native American artists from tribes (Cahuilla, Chemehuevi, Mojave and Serrano) with significant cultural ties to Joshua Tree National Park. The goal of the overall project is to increase awareness about Native American art and culture, inspire new dialogues about old histories, foster cross-cultural relationships, and encourage all of our communities to spend time in the park.

EXHIBITION

The artists chosen for the exhibition – Gerald Clarke Jr., Lewis deSoto, and Cara Romero – draw from their indigenous roots and challenge preconceived notions about Native American art and offer new models of cultural identification. Often times the words “Native American art” conjure images of Chiefs wearing feather headdresses, statues of Indians on horseback, and intricately woven baskets. Although many Native American artists continue to work in traditional art forms (basketry, beading and pottery), others are working outside this context in a variety of media (photography, video, and installation), creating works that urge us to reconsider long-held assumptions. The artworks by Lewis deSoto, Cara Romero, and Gerald Clarke Jr. serve as cornerstones for insightful and provocative discussions about cultural mythologies, relationships with land, and the complexities of the modern Native American experience.

Rhonda Lane Coleman
Project Director and Curator

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