

SPECIAL 32ND ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

Southwest Art

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California Painters

*Dan McCaw and 8 other Golden
State artists share their visions*

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Golden State Inspiration

Eight California painters capture the mountains, beaches, cities, and fields that surround them | *By Molly Siple*



ANITA HAMPTON, TWO HARBORS, OIL 16 x 20.

FROM THE COLORFUL URBAN CENTERS OF LOS ANGELES AND San Francisco to the bucolic ranchlands of the Central Coast to scenic beaches, there's enough subject matter in California to inspire an endless variety of artists. Many of them paint to encourage preservation of the natural California landscape and to prevent development. Others simply feel compelled to reflect the world around them in their artwork. In the following pages we've gathered the work of eight artists with diverse approaches to California—come along on a tour of the Golden State through their canvases.

Zenaida Mott

Landscape and wildlife artist
Zenaida Mott has a special place

in her heart for the wide variety of scenic beauty in Northern California where she makes her home. The uniquely clear light of the area, in particular, catches her eye, as does the range of diffused lighting effects created by coastal fog and Pacific storms.

Mott grew up hiking and backpacking with her family and early on began drawing from

Mott first tried her hand at oil painting in Africa, where she was teaching at a girls' college in Nigeria. Maria Sanchez, the wife of the Mexican consul and a former student of Mexican muralist David Siqueiros, befriended Mott and became her art instructor. When the two ventured into the bush to do some painting, Mott's art career



ZENAIDA MOTT, RANCH WITH A VIEW, OIL, 15 x 30.

nature. She still keeps a cabin/studio high in the Sierras at 8,000 feet. Mott credits her parents with instilling in her a deep respect for the land and the need to preserve wild places. She is one of the founders of BayWood Artists, a professional artists' group dedicated to the preservation of open space and the restoration of habitats through exhibitions and sales of art.

focusing on the natural world was born. She is represented by California Collector's Gallery, Kentfield, CA; California Heritage Gallery, Berkeley, CA; William Lester Gallery, Point Reyes Station, CA; and www.calpaintings.com. □

Molly Siple lives and writes in Los Angeles, CA. She wrote about Patrick McFarlin in the May issue.