

April 25, 2024



La Rueda

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THE ROTARY CLUB OF MONTEREY, RI DISTRICT 5230
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CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD



The Art of Monica Johnson & Gary Lopez Inner Space and Outer Space

Art can impact the way a person sees themselves and the way they see the World around them. Abstract painter, Monica Johnson, and astrophotographer, Gary Lopez, discuss their processes and intention in creating their art. Both strive to make images that are beautiful, dramatic and connect with the viewer and their emotions. Their work can offer a window to see through what is hidden, or a portal to connect with places and feelings that are otherwise out of reach.

Monica Johnson is a contemporary abstract painter based in Carmel, California. Her acrylic and mixed media pieces are infused with deep intention, as she paints what is insider her, drawing inspiration from her personal connection

with the rich and natural beauty of the Monterey Peninsula and Big Sur Wilderness. Monica's artwork features a synthesis of earthy colors, rich texture, and organic composition to explore the complexities that lie beneath the surface of simplicity. Born in Monterey, Monica moved to Kansas as a child before returning to her hometown in her twenties. There, she established successful careers in both dental hygiene and massage therapy.

With her background in the healing arts and an innate love of beauty and creativity, Monica was uniquely positioned to explore the intersection of science and art. In 2018 she began to paint and soon discovered her passion for abstract expressionism. She committed to refining her painting skills, studying with several accomplished artists and teachers, and developed her style by imbuing her canvases with inspirational and empowering words that resonate with her.

Monica now paints for the thrill of exploration and discovery and the love of enhancing people's lives. It is the most life-affirming thing she can do.

Monica's artwork has been showcased in both local and national exhibitions. In addition, Monica has developed a growing following among collectors throughout the United States and Canada. Her art studio is located in Carmel, California and she is represented by Gallery Sur, Carmel.



Gary Lopez is a fine art astrophotographer. His images have received recognition in international fine art photography competitions, including First Place in both the 2020 and the 2021 International Photography Awards (Nature/Astrophotography category). His photography is represented by Gallery Sur, Carmel, CA.

Gary is also a filmmaker, media entrepreneur, and scientist. He has produced more than 40 documentary films and series, including television programs for Jacques Cousteau and his son, Jean-Michel Cousteau. His programs have been broadcast nationally in the United States, distributed throughout Europe and Asia, and have received many awards for excellence. In 2006, U.S. President George W. Bush cited one of Gary's films, *Voyage to Kure* (Jean-Michel

Cousteau Ocean Adventure, PBS), as his inspiration for establishing the Northwestern Hawaiian Island Marine National Monument, one of the largest protected areas in the world (Los Angeles Time, June 15, 2006). Gary's media company, Archipelago, was acquired by Harcourt Brace in 1993. In 2003 he founded and still serves as CEO of the The NROC Project, a national non-profit foundation that has supported more than 12 million high school and college students. Dr. Lopez received his Ph.D. in Marine Biology from Scripps Institution of Oceanography in 1981.

Rotary
District 5230



2023-24 District Conference Monterey Marriott



Come Play by the Bay!

May 10, 11, & 12, 2024



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Adults (18): \$150.00
Youth (8-19): \$40.00
Children (0-8): FREE

Adult registration fee will increase to \$175 after April 1st



Registration closes
Wednesday, May 1st

Registrations.DACdb.com/Register/index.cfm?
EventID=77675075&NoCaptcha

CLUB EVENTS

Tuesday, April 23

COG Meeting
5:30 pm
Pacific Grille

Friday, April 26

Final Friday
5:00 pm
Quail Lodge – Lake Patio

May 10, 11, & 12

Come Play By The Bay
Monterey Marriott

Thursday, May 16

Board Meeting
10:30 am
Hilton Garden Inn

Tuesday, May 28

COG Meeting
5:30 pm
TBD

Rotary
Club of Monterey



MAY 2024

Thursday	– 05/02	Shyam Kamath, Student Mentees/RCoM Mentors – RCoM/CSUMB Mentor Program – Etiquette Lunch
Thursday	– 05/09	Jonathan Geisler & Dan Kreer – Student Scholarships & Teacher Recognition
Thursday	– 05/16	Board Meeting – 10:30 AM – Hilton Garden Inn
Thursday	– 05/16	Shyam & Kiran Kamath – Quo Vadis India: The Good, The Bad And The Ugly
Thursday	– 05/23	Robin Coyne (Teacher, Monterey High) & Students – Whiz Kids: The Robotics Program at Monterey High School
Tuesday	– 05/28	COG Meeting – 5:30 PM – TBD
Thursday	– 05/30	Marshal T. Fulbright III (President, MPC) – Monterey Peninsula College: State of the College and the Future

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April Membership Anniversaries

Jay Hudson	04/01/75	49 Years
Terry Wecker	04/01/83	41 Years
Susan Freeland	04/13/87	37 Years
Ron Coulter	04/28/88	36 Years
Wayne Downey	04/01/89	35 Years
Bob Russell	04/29/99	25 Years
Steve Packer	04/13/00	24 Years
Rob Klevan	04/12/05	19 Years
Hansen Reed	04/20/06	18 Years
Libby Downey	04/12/07	17 Years
Molly Bozzo	04/16/20	4 Years
Doug Key	04/21/22	2 Years
Jeff Teresi	04/06/23	1 Year



Russ Haisley – April 27