



Holiday Greetings from California Mission Studies Association

CORREO

4th Quarter 2010 - December

San Miguel

YOU ALL COME!

CMSA's 2011 Conference at Mission San Miguel is shaping up to be a great one! Although much remains to be finalized, the organizing committee has firmed up the Friday evening program in the Mission sanctuary, which will follow a hosted reception for conference attendees.

The 1994 CMSA conference at Mission San Miguel featured a lecture by the preeminent art historian, Norm Neuerberg, on the sanctuary's art. The 2011 will feature two preeminent Mission Period musicologists. Professor Craig Russell of California State Polytechnic University will speak on mission music and John Warren will conduct the New World Baroque Orchestra in the performance of music of the period.

La Quinta in Paso Robles will be the conference hotel (<http://832.lq.com>). On Friday and Saturday evening, after the conference programs, hosted wine and beer will be available in the hotel lobby for those wishing to continue relaxed conversations.

As this is written, not all paper proposals have been received. "Restoration; Saving the Irreplaceable" seemed an appropriate theme for this year's conference. It fits the situation of Mission San Miguel which reopened in September, 2009 after the San Simeon earthquake. As always, we welcome as wide a variety of papers as possible on the Spanish/Mexican Periods as well as its preservation and influence on later periods. We

would appreciate papers dealing with the cultural interaction of California Indian cultures and Spanish and Mexican cultures. Papers on mission art and Norm Neurberg would also be welcome. Proposals should be sent to Dan Krieger at slohistory@gmail.com.

Bob McConnell recorded Norm Neuerberg's 1994 lecture. DVDs of this lecture will be available for attendees of this years conference. Bob's contribution also fits the conference theme "Restoration, Saving the Irreplaceable." Like all CMSA conferences this one should be great. We certainly hope you are able to attend.

See You in San Miguel,

Members of the CMSA 2011 Organizing Committee

Boletín v27 Cover

THE FUTURE OF THE PAST

The Board of Directors of CMSA is taking this opportunity to inform you of some exciting changes in the distribution and format of the *Boletín*. Since its inception in 2004 the *Boletín* has been an outstanding journal. It beautifully reflects the scholarship and hard work of both its editors and contributors. Due to increased costs, however, some changes are necessary. By joining many non-profits around the globe who are taking advantage of new technologies, the Board believes it can continue to provide a high quality journal, while expanding interest in the organization. Therefore, the next issue of the *Boletín (Vol 27 Number 1 & 2)* will be the last printed copy provided to you. Additionally it will be available in a digital format through the CMSA website. All future issues of the *Boletín* will be only available in a digital format and Members will be able to download them for free.

Although the Board understands that some people will need a period of adjustment to the new format, we urge you to look at some of the benefits. First, we will be using an environmentally friendly format. As members, you are welcome to print all or any portion of the journal as suits your interest. The digital format will allow easier storage, archive and search options for you. The digital format will allow us to reach a wider audience. People who are not familiar with our organization or the articles will be able to find them on a search engine and will be able to *Print on Demand* for a fee.

Of course, one of the other considerations is that the organization will save money, which, in turn, allows us several advantages. One advantage is to maintain the same dues structure that currently is in place. Our average membership dues are \$35.00, which pales in comparison to the ultimate per copy cost of the *Boletín*, Volume 26, which was \$53.00 per issue - or the most recent issue, which was originally estimated at \$60.00 per issue. Obviously, that type of a loss was not sustainable.

The other economic advantage is that we will be using the monies saved to establish awards, grants and scholarships to both students and scholars in the field of mission studies. We are confident that this will help improve scholarship at all levels, allowing us to perpetuate the type of excellent scholarship that has been a hallmark of this organization.

CMSA has been fortunate to have generous support from the *John and Beverly Stauffer Foundation*, the *California Missions Foundation*, and from David Bolton, founder and president of *Cultural Global Media*. Santa Clara University has also been very helpful with underwriting expenses. We appreciate their gracious support and want both our sponsors and our membership to know that we are taking all steps necessary to evolve within the

fiscal constraints that changes in the economy and the printing industry dictate.

Switching to digital technology also allows the Board to meet the demands of a good portion of our membership that seek more basic information about the California Missions, including young students and teachers. A change in the editor will facilitate this opportunity to better serve our members and meet the broad mission statement of the organization.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support. As you become more familiar with the new format, please feel free to give us your feedback. We appreciate the opportunity to serve you and continue to support you in your mission studies!

Sincerely,

The CMSA 2010/2011 Board of Directors

REMINDER

AS 2010 draws to a close, remember to renew your CMSA membership. In order to obtain the member's discount for the 2011 Conference, you must have a renewed membership on file with CMSA. Renewals may be made by Credit Card on line at [Membership Renewals](#) or by mail to

CMSA Membership
P.O. Box 420215
San Diego, CA 92142

Members who have joined or renewed between September 1 and December 31 2010 are paid up through December 31st 2011.

For More Information About the California Mission Studies 2011 Annual Conference and to Register

Click Here: [2011 Conference](#)

MESSAGE FROM THE CMSA PRESIDENT

"Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle . . ."

The prayer intention must have been working that morning in December 2003, when the earth began to move along a line from Hearst Castle toward the Temblor Ranges. Mission San Miguel, Arcangel was directly in the vector of a 6.5 quake. There were two tragic deaths in nearby Paso Robles. Fortunately there were no injuries at the Mission. More than a hundred and eighty-five years of both small and large earth movements had taken their toll. The San Simeon temblor cracked the adobe walls and undermined the foundations of the 1816 church. The irreplaceable murals painted by Esteban Munrás began separating from the walls. The pigments were turning to dust.

In 2006 the *National Trust for Historic Preservation* placed Mission San Miguel Arcángel among America's eleven "Most Endangered Historic Places". A California Mission became the poster child for historic preservation throughout the world.

Six years later, in early October 2009, the church was reopened in time to celebrate the 800th anniversary of the Franciscan Order. Visitors could once again enjoy the murals, the "levitating archangel" and almost three-dimensional "All Seeing Eye of God." Yet, much remains to be done at San Miguel. The structures have been seismically retrofitted, but many of the slow, painstaking tasks of conservation and preservation remain undone. Your board of directors and program committee chose the theme of "Restoration; Saving the Irreplaceable" because it epitomizes the state of mission studies as always a work in progress.

The *California Mission Studies Association* continues to experience significant changes. Your association has taken a serious appraisal of its sense of our mission. Since 1984, members of the California Mission Studies Association, a nonprofit public benefit corporation, have channeled their diverse interests toward developing a more thorough and nuanced understanding of California's founding heritage.

CMSA activities include sharing research discoveries through annual conferences and publications, sponsored research and writing, outreach to 4th grade teachers of California History and other means of public education. Members actively contribute their varied expertise to archaeological and planning initiatives, cultural resources management and interpretation, architectural preservation and restoration campaigns, and the skilled conservation of mission furnishings and art objects. Others serve their communities as teachers, archivists, curators, naturalists, architects, engineers and religious leaders.

In 2004, *CMSA* began publishing a twice-yearly *Boletín*. It was a truly amazing, prize winning endeavor from the beginning. Some realists both within and without *CMSA* wondered how an organization the size of ours could afford the costs of producing a journal with such high quality images and printing stock. At the end of the day, experience dictated that it is not possible except through the channels of online and print on demand access.

The *Boletín* will continue as an excellent resource for both academic and independent scholars and our diverse membership. Your board of directors which had been devoting a high percentage of its time to simply keeping the print version of the *Boletín* alive can return to fulfilling other aspects of our founders' goals. If anything, online publication is the way of the future and will give us a broad platform for outreach to the general public.

I will be stepping down from the board in June. I have volunteered, along with Ty Smith, to serve as an unpaid editor for the *Boletín*. We will, in turn solicit assistance from our highly qualified membership to act as guest editors for issues dedicated to themes like archaeology, mission gardens, architecture, engineering, disease and medicine, crafts and industries, etc..

We are dedicated to the study of the past. At the same time, we are confident that the best times for *CMSA* are still in the future. If you have not already done so, please renew your memberships and register for the *Mission San Miguel, Arcangel* Conference at the *CMSA* Website, <http://www.ca-missions.org>.

Siempre adelante y ¡Feliz Navidad!

Daniel E. Krieger, President
California Mission Studies Association

EVENTS OF INTEREST

- *Splendors of Faith, Scars of Conquest: The Arts of the Missions of Northern New Spain: 1600-1821*

The [Oakland Museum of California](#) is proud to be presenting [Splendors of Faith, Scars of Conquest: The Arts of the Missions of Northern New Spain: 1600-1821](#), an internationally touring exhibition which will welcome visitors from February 26 to May 29, 2011. This extraordinary exhibition explores the artistic legacy of Franciscan and Jesuit mission churches in what is now California, the Southwestern United States and Northern and Central Mexico. For the first time ever, this exhibition brings these sacred and ceremonial artworks together, most of which are otherwise held in working churches and historic sites. Visitors will experience a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see these international treasures in one place.

Dynamic, emotional paintings, sculptures, silver, and other artifacts were part of the original decorations of almost every mission church in northern New Spain. These images and the ideas they represented inspired and sustained the missions as they developed over time. For this exhibition nearly every artifact has been examined and preserved using modern-day conservation techniques. This preservation has returned these artifacts, many of which have incurred significant wear and damages over the last 200 years, to conditions as close as possible to their original state. *The Arts of the Missions* is the result of recent academic research, and will be the first exhibition to comprehensively explore the effect of art in the Catholic missions of Northern New Spain.

The OMCA installation will occupy a 7,500 sq. ft. temporary exhibition space and will feature over 100 objects. The exhibition is accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue in both Spanish and English, with essays by a team of scholars from Mexico and the United States. All wall labels will be in both Spanish and English. The project is organized by Mexico City's Antiguo Colegio de San Ildefonso, in collaboration with four other institutions, and curated by Clara Bargellini, Instituto de Investigaciones Estéticas, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México and Michael Komanecky, Farnsworth Art Museum. The exhibition opened at the Antiguo Colegio de San Ildefonso in June 2009, then traveled to the San Antonio Museum of Art, followed by the Museo Amparo in Puebla from February to April 2010, and the Centro Cultural de Tijuana, in Baja California. The Oakland Museum of California will be its last venue.

At OMCA, *The Arts of the Missions* will also address the difficult questions relating to the immense cultural impact missions had on native peoples. This exhibition follows the recent reopening of the Gallery of California History. The Gallery of California History has newly renovated exhibits on California's first peoples, the interactions with European explorers and the many and varied accounts of Spanish and Indigenous cultures in contact that will provide context for the exhibition. The Museum's Native Council will be closely involved with any additional native content on view during the exhibition, including contemporary native art about the missionary encounters. This exhibition represents OMCA's commitment to giving a wide audience the opportunity to learn about the art associated with the missions in an effort to accomplish its vision of connecting the California experience to the nation and world. It will attract audiences interested in Latino/Mexican culture, Baroque devotional art, and California's Spanish and Mexican eras. We also expect the large Bay Area Roman Catholic audience, a majority of whom are of Spanish-Mexican and Filipino ancestry.

Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,

Louis Sanna
California Mission Studies Association
