



Historic Santa Fe

The Historic Santa Fe Foundation Monthly Journal May 2017

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Inside Historic Santa Fe



May is packed with events as Preservation Month unfolds. Please participate as we recognize those who help make Santa Fe a vibrant place of living history.

In this issue, we show you the photos from our first Saturday of adobe making at the Palace of the Governors in the hopes you will get dirty in the mud at the

final two weekends in May – Saturday, 9am - 3pm – May 20th at the Palace of the Governors courtyard, May 27th at San Miguel Chapel. I guarantee fun, and the finished bricks, after a period of drying, will be used in restoration projects this year by Cornerstones Community Partnerships. If you partake you will receive, later in the year, a certificate designating what location and project utilized the bricks made by you and your fellow adoberos.

We also interview Jean Fogel Zee, resident writer at El Zaguán, about her installation of poetry and words now on exhibit at 545 Canyon Road. We review Stanley Crawford's new novel, *Village*, a hoot of a book about life in northern New Mexico. If all you know of Stan is his garlic from El Bosque Farm, or his classic book about life and acequias in northern New Mexico, *Mayordomo*, then you are in for a surprise.

Enjoy this issue and spring in Santa Fe.

Interview Jean Fogel Zee

El Zaguán Resident and May 2017 Featured Artist in El Zaguán
with HSFF Office Manager Jacqueline Hill



JCH: Jean you have been an Artist-in-Residence here at El Zaguán for almost a year now, please tell us where you have come from and what attracted you to Santa Fe. Has your feeling about living on Canyon Road changed in any way since you arrived?

JFZ: I came to Santa Fe after a short time in Boulder, CO. Before Boulder, I resided in Portland, OR and before Portland I was based in Austin, TX for many years. In both Oregon and Texas, I maintained a studio, performed and taught Authentic Movement. I was drawn to Santa Fe primarily due to a dear friend who lives here and encouraged me to come. The process of how I came to El Zaguán was dreamlike, because I really did not know why I was here. Now, almost a year later, I am entering a new phase in my artistic life. I feel fortunate to be living and working here in the heart of old Santa Fe.



JCH: Your current art/poetry installation *WORD* is showing in El Zaguán Gallery through the end of May, how did you conceive of such a piece of work? Please explain how you describe your creation.

JFZ: When I began thinking of my installation, I knew I wanted to inhabit the room in a way that changed the space. I also knew I did not want to do a performance but rather a presentation. Since poetry is currently my main focus, I asked myself how could I present poems without performing? I spent time in the gallery, absorbing the room. The images began to come: paper falling, words in space, scrims to interrupt the squareness of the room. From there, I think my love of exactitude and simplicity influenced my direction. The overall effect has a Zen quality, which is consistent with my personal philosophy.

JCH: It is apparent to me that you are a dancer just by the way you move, and somehow it comes across in your show, how did dance take you to poetry?



JFZ: Dance has always been my base. I was trained in ballet from the age of six and received a scholarship with the Royal Ballet at sixteen. I was a professional member of Oslund Dance Company on the West Coast. Then came my solo works and group collaborations supported in part by the City of Austin, the Texas Commission on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. It was during this period, I began to rely on poetry as a form of self-exploration. The two expressions became inseparable for me. Poetry has its own meter and rhythm just as dance does. I think both of these forms are organically connected. My love of language is as strong as my love of movement.

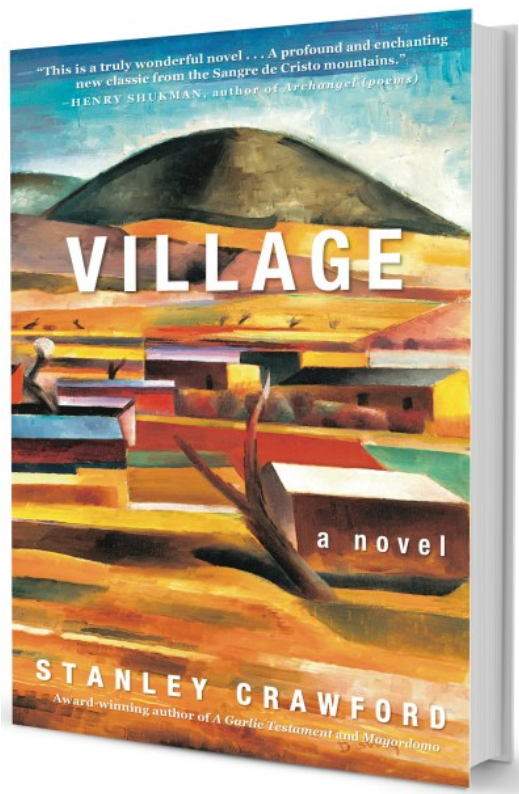
JCH: Tell us, what is your process for writing poetry? Do you write quietly by yourself or do you do your work in groups?

JFZ: For many years, I wrote only by myself. It wasn't until I moved to Santa Fe that I began working with writing in a group. This has facilitated a great leap in the quality of my writing. I had read my work publicly, I had performed my work, but I had not put myself in the vulnerable position of receiving constructive criticism. Once in Santa Fe, I found esteemed local poet and teacher Lise Goett. To Lise, I am forever grateful. Now I give myself both to my contemplative practice of writing as well as the challenge of workshops.

JCH: I always wonder how El Zaguán contributes to an artist's process, have you been able to notice this happening for you?

JCH: Absolutely. We live in a culture where consumerism rules and art has been sublimated, not to mention the loss of place as space and vice versa. Today, everything is disposable. El Zaguán has been preserved and respected. To reside in a building such as this - a building that for eighty some odd years has housed only artists - this is a palpable experience, one that supports the idea that the visible and invisible are somehow connected. In simpler terms, I feel inspired here.





BOOK REVIEW

Village: A Novel

By Stanley Crawford
Reviewed by Pete Warzel

Stanley Crawford wrote what is arguably one of the best books about northern New Mexico, the classic and never out of print *Mayordomo: Chronicle of an Acequia in Northern New Mexico* (1988). *A Garlic Testament* added to his elegant non-fiction opera, then the collection of essays *The River in Winter*. All this work is a glimpse at his real life in Dixon, New Mexico, where El Bosque Farm is the center place.

But reading only these superb works of non-fiction writing leaves you without the delight of discovering Crawford as a writer of fiction. He is, and always has been a novelist.

I did not know that years ago. When he told me I was surprised, skeptical. I then had the chance to review *Petroleum Man*, a novel by Crawford new in 2005. Again, I was surprised, skepticism removed. I read and reviewed *Gascoyne*, a novel that defies classification in the usual categories of cataloging. I was convinced.

So here we are in 2017 and again Crawford taps daily life in northern New Mexico as novelist, not essayist, in the recently published *Village: A Novel*. Stan has lived in the area since 1969 so has the chops to write about social/political life in archetypical rural del Norte. I guarantee you were not expecting this.

Village is centered on one April day in San Marcos, the “real” San Marcos, San Marcos de Arriba, population 763, as San Marco de Abajo splintered from Arriba in the 1800s in a fit of pique, stealing the name “San Marco” and taking it seven miles downstream. Chapters are dedicated to the ramblings and lurchings of individual characters, the accumulation of chapters resulting in an interaction of the village itself. The premise: The New Mexico State Water Office is coming to town to hold a meeting on their plan for water rights in the valley. The meeting notice is first discovered by Porter Clapp, a middle-aged hippie who now makes wooden toys as presumptive career, on a post outside of Moro Mercantile, Onésimo Moro, proprietor, whose wife Isabel listens



courtesy Leaf Storm Press

and watches to the retail goings on through a hole drilled into the second story floor. Postmaster Morales is the postmaster who “borrows” porn videos before resealing them and delivering to the rightful owner’s post box. A sense of normalcy is delivered to the village by Lázaro Quintana, mayordomo as family business, who follows the water through the valley, checking for clogs on this first day of annual operation.

Crawford’s wit is devastating and relentless. There are points in the novel when you will, I promise, laugh out loud, because you know the character he is describing, and probably cringe simultaneously as the characterization is so true to life. We all know them. The local chapter of Los Cristianos, a Christian proselytizing group, is manned, diligently, by Benny and Glenda Louise. “Benny didn’t really believe, except in Glenda Louise. He was convinced that someday all her warm talk about Jesus and the next world was something that sooner or later she’d let drop away to reveal that all these years when she had been talking about Jesus she really meant him, Benny.”

This could all very well have crossed over the line into cultural derision with the stage set in an ancient Hispanic town now learning to put up with gringos emigrating in the 1990’s. But that uncomfortable racial/cultural divide never happens. Although the characterizations are wicked they are balanced. No one, of any ethnicity or educational level, any trade or religious conviction, is spared the evil eye for detail that Crawford brings to life on the page. It is sharp, oh so true, and honest to God funny. In spite of the odd proclivities of these individuals in town, they are a community. That is the magic of this book, and perhaps the true magic of northern New Mexico. And at Monday’s end ‘The village made itself comfortable in armchairs and sofas and couches, in beds, on carpeted floors, before newspapers and old magazines, and in front of TVs with VCRs.... The village yawned and grew drowsy, and one by one residents began nodding off....’

End of story.

Village: A Novel by Stanley Crawford
Leaf Storm Press
256 pages
hardcover
\$26.00

MAKING ADOBE BRICKS

Photos by Pete Warzel and Mara Saxer



Volunteers came together in the courtyard at The Palace of the Governors on Saturday, May 6th, to make adobe bricks. After just a short introductory talk, people who came by got their hands in the mud within minutes of signing in - adobe making is great for instant gratification. Messy fun was had by all, including a few who could not be stopped once they started. We hope you'll join us May 20th back at The Palace of the Governors or May 27th at San Miguel Chapel.





Upcoming Dates for public adobe brick making in 2017:

Saturday, May 20th
 Palace of the Governors Courtyard
 9am – 3pm

Saturday, May 27th
 San Miguel Chapel
 9am – 3pm



HSFF MISSION

Our mission is to preserve, protect, and promote the historic properties and diverse cultural heritage of the Santa Fe area, and to educate the public about Santa Fe's history and the importance of preservation.

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eZine cover & interior images: Melanie McWhorter, Mara Saxer and Pete Warzel

MAY 2017 CALENDAR

May is **Preservation Month**; A nationwide celebration highlighting the social and economic benefit of preservation, encouraging heritage tourism, and instilling community pride.

Saturdays in May – **Traditional Adobe Brick Making Workshops**; presented in conjunction with Cornerstones Community Partnerships and Adobe in Action. Each full-sized brick will be used to save a traditional adobe building in Northern New Mexico; children will make miniature adobe brick votive candle holders. Workshops will be in the courtyard at The Palace of the Governors on May 6th and 20th, and at San Miguel Chapel May 13th and 27th. All workshops run from 9am-3pm, people of all ages are welcome to attend for any length of time. An introductory talk will begin at 9am each day. For more information, call 505.982.9521 or email Nicole at nklibert@cstones.org

May exhibition in the El Zaguán sala – **Jean Fogel Zee: *Word Installation/Poetry***. Show runs through May 31.

Thursday, May 18, 5:30-7:30pm, at San Miguel Chapel – **Preservation Awards**; presented in conjunction with The Old Santa Fe Association and City of Santa Fe Historic Preservation Division.

Friday, June 2, 5-7pm – Opening for **Mary Sloane: *Billboards*** photography exhibit, in the El Zaguán sala. Large format photographs of southwest landscapes featuring billboards. The show will run through June 30.

Thursday, June 22, 5-7pm – **Annual Membership Meeting** in the El Zaguán garden. This members-only event is an annual tradition held in the Garden at El Zaguán for Historic Santa Fe Foundation. Michael Brown, president of the School of Advanced Research, will give a talk titled *An Anthropologist Meets Santa Fe New Age*. RSVP required.

To share events please contact the HSFF *Office Manager* Jacqueline Hill 505-983-2567 or Jacqueline@historicsantafe.org

SANTA FE
PROPERTIES™



The Historic Santa Fe Foundation would like to thank Dave Feldt, Associate Broker at Santa Fe Properties, for his sponsorship of HSFF's 2016 eZines.

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MAY 2017 EZINE SPONSORSHIP

The HSFF would like to thank our sponsors of the Foundation's eZine– giving us the capacity to strengthening our community voice.

- Jim Gautier Photography
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