

LA GRANDE

# EOU art professor explores landscapes and space



Installation piece from "we are all cosmic dust," part of a collection of new works by Susan Murrell. The Transitional Spaces exhibit opens Jan. 12 at the Nightingale Gallery at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande.

## Work created during Murrell's sabbatical

East Oregonian

Eastern Oregon University's Nightingale Gallery rings in a new year and hails the return of associate professor of art Susan Murrell with the presentation of "Transitional Spaces."

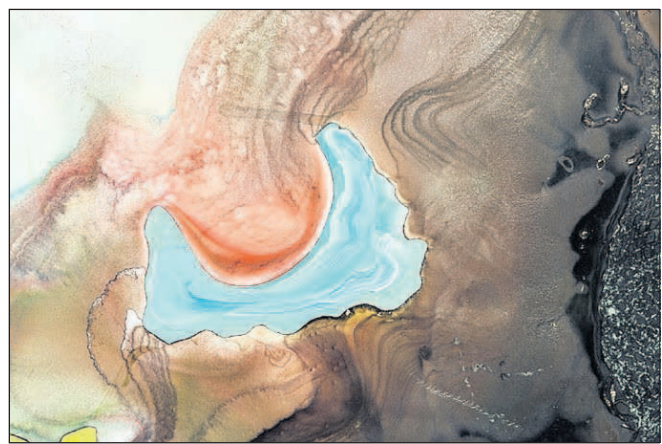
The exhibit presents works created during Murrell's 2016-17 academic year sabbatical.

The exhibition opens with a reception Friday, Jan. 12 from 6-8 p.m. in the gallery, located in Loso Hall on the La Grande campus. Regular gallery hours are Monday through Fridays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Also, Murrell will present a colloquium/gallery talk Thursday, February 8 at 4 p.m.

All are free and open to the public. The exhibit runs through Friday, Feb. 9.

Murrell's work explores how our concept of landscape has changed through technology. Included in this exhibition is the project "we are all cosmic dust" and other work created during her sabbatical. This group of paintings was created as a meditation on passageways, life transitions and the constancy of matter. Murrell is fascinated by the fact that our bodies are quite literally comprised of recycled matter from the stars.

"We are reshuffled molecules," Murrell said. "I am



Painting detail from "we are all cosmic dust," by Susan Murrell. Transitional Spaces opens Jan. 12 at the Nightingale Gallery at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande.

constantly surprised by the complexity of our planet and how human activities have impacted it over time."

Throughout her year of research and travel, Murrell's creative practice focused on the universal and personal process of experiencing presence through absence — a struggle to know a thing from the hole it has left behind after it is gone.

The paintings in the exhibit were initially created through gravity and evaporation. Murrell works with water media on polymer paper, allowing pools of water and pigment to settle and form images over time. She's interested in painting as a method of creating an image that references other substances or realities, but also paint being (or becoming) a thing within itself.

During her sabbatical,

Murrell was a resident artist at several prestigious international programs, including Arteles in Finland, Westfjords in Iceland, and Playa and Caldera, both in Oregon. In the fall of 2016, Murrell was also the artist-in-residence at Portland State University's Studio MFA program, which resulted in a solo exhibition at the Autzen Gallery in Portland.

"EOU's art program is pleased to welcome Susan back to campus," said Cory Peeke, gallery director and department chair. "Her work has consistently been an inspiration for our students and this exhibit will give them and the rest of our community a unique glimpse into her process and growth as an artist over the last year."

For more information, visit [www.eou.edu/art](http://www.eou.edu/art) or search Facebook for "Nightingale Gallery."

## WHAT TO DO

### Festivals

#### Eagle Cap Extreme Sled Dog Race

•Jan. 17-20  
•Joseph, Enterprise, Fergi Ski Area  
[www.eaglecapextreme.com](http://www.eaglecapextreme.com)  
Free, except banquet (\$20/adults, \$8/ages 5-12) People can watch races, which includes the Iditarod & Yukon Quest qualifiers; meet-and-greet with mushers at vet checks; Race Central and Kids' Corner.

#### Melonville Comedy Festival

•Saturday, Jan. 27; 8 p.m.  
•Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395  
[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)  
\$35. 21-and-older show features co-headliners Kermet Apio and Derek Richards. Opening the show is Cory Michaelis. Tickets available at the conference center. Food available for purchase.

### Art, Museums & Authors

#### Spin In Spin Off!

•Saturday, Jan. 6; 1-3 p.m.  
•Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St.  
[www.pendletonarts.org](http://www.pendletonarts.org)  
Free. Held in conjunction with the First Saturday Spin In, a St. Distaff's Day event features fun and prizes.

#### Photography Club Exhibit

•Monday-Thursdays; 11 a.m.-7 p.m.,  
•Friday-Saturdays; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
•Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave.  
[www.hermistonlibrary.us](http://www.hermistonlibrary.us)

**Free. The work of Photography Club members, is on display. Runs through Jan. 31.**

#### New Year's Show

•Tuesday-Sundays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.  
•Peterson's Gallery and Chocolatier, 1925 Main St., Baker City  
[www.petersonsgallery.net](http://www.petersonsgallery.net)  
Free. Features the work of three of the past year's most requested artists. Runs through Jan. 31

#### "Art of Survival - Enduring the Turmoil of Tule Lake"

•Monday-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.,  
•Tamastslitk Cultural Institute, near Wildhorse Resort & Casino.  
[www.tamastslitk.org](http://www.tamastslitk.org)  
\$10/adults, \$9/senior citizens, \$6/youths, free/5 and under or \$25/family of four. Exhibit probes the complexity of the Japanese-American confinement site in Newell, California, during World War II. Runs through Jan. 7. Museum closed Jan. 8-20 for maintenance.

#### Watercolor Society of Oregon

•Thursday, Jan. 11; 4:30-6:30 p.m., opening reception  
•Monday-Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; hangs Jan. 8  
•Betty Feves Memorial Gallery, Blue Mountain Community College, 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton.  
Free. The traveling show features 20 award-winning paintings from the society's bi-annual juried exhibition by noted artist/juror Paul Jackson. Gallery also open by appointment by calling 541-278-5952. The exhibit runs through Feb. 15.

#### 2018 ArtWORKz Junior Art Show & Competition

•Thursday, Jan. 18, submissions due  
•Jan. 27-March 17; exhibit displayed  
•Saturday, Feb. 10; 1 p.m., artists' reception  
•Tamastslitk Cultural Institute, near Wildhorse Resort & Casino.  
[www.tamastslitk.org](http://www.tamastslitk.org)  
Free. All artists 18 and under are invited to submit entries for show. During maintenance closure, submissions can be dropped off at the front entrance.

### Music

#### Oldies Night in Milton-Freewater

•Saturday, Jan. 6; 7 p.m.  
•Wesley Methodist Church, 816 S. Main St., Milton-Freewater.  
Free. BJ the DJ spins tunes from

1958. Snacks available.

#### Decade X

•Saturday, Jan. 6; 8 p.m. No cover  
•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.

#### Expertease

•Friday, Jan. 12; Saturday, Jan. 13; 8 p.m. No cover  
•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.

#### Robt Sarazin Blake

•Saturday, Jan. 13; 7-9:30 p.m.  
•Historic Balch Hotel, 40 S. Heimrich St., Dufur  
[www.balchhotel.com](http://www.balchhotel.com)

No cover. The folk singer offers unique songs and stories celebrating the human experience while digging below the surface with humor and passion. Blake's latest double-album, "Recitative," was called "...as instantly indelible as Springsteen, Weill, Reed and Van Morrison."

#### An Evening to Remember Martin Luther King Jr.

•Monday, Jan. 15; 7-9 p.m.  
•Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., 403 S. Main St., Pendleton  
No cover. All ages. Features an evening of music and spoken word to honor the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.

#### Bart Budwig

•Wednesday, Jan. 17; 7-9 p.m.  
•Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., 403 S. Main St., Pendleton  
No cover. All ages. Celebrating the solo release "Sabai," which was inspired and created in a remote cabin in the Eagle Cap Wilderness.

#### Jam Night with Josiah

•Friday, Jan. 19; 6:30-9 p.m.  
•Historic Balch Hotel, 40 S. Heimrich St., Dufur

No cover. Bring your favorite instrument and share the tunes. Extra percussion available for musicians to play.

#### Troy Fair Band

•Friday, Jan. 19; Saturday, Jan. 20; 8 p.m. No cover  
•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.

#### Joseph Hein Band

•Saturday, Jan. 20; 7-9 p.m.  
•Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., 403 S. Main St., Pendleton  
No cover. All ages. Musician creates harmonious sounds with energetic up-tempo rhythm.

#### Billy Don Burns

•Monday, Jan. 22; 7-9 p.m.  
•Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., 403 S. Main St., Pendleton  
No cover. All ages. Features the country music warrior who carries his guitar like a sword.

### Night life

#### Karaoke w/DJ David

•Saturdays; 8 p.m.  
•Riverside Sports Bar, 1501 Sixth St., Umatilla

#### DJ & Trivia

•Saturdays; 9 p.m.  
•Midway Tavern, 1750 N. First St., Hermiston

#### Holiday Hangover Pub Crawl

•Saturday, Jan. 20, 4-10 p.m.  
•Multiple locations, downtown Pendleton  
[www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com)

\$15/presale, \$20/day of event. Ticket includes stainless steel pint glass, deals at participating locations — Great Pacific, Oregon Grain Growers, Hamley's, Sister's Cafe, Cimmityoti's, The Packard, Prodigal Son, 40 Taps — and a chance to win a grand prize raffle item.

#### LOL Comedy Jam

•Thursdays; 8 p.m.  
•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.

No cover. Jan. 11: Jason Ward, Ryan Wingfield; Jan. 18: Alfred Carcieri, BJ Johnson.

#### Wine tasting

•Fridays, 4-8 p.m.  
•Sno Road Winery, 111 W. Main St., Echo.

#### Karaoke w/DJ David

•Fridays; 8 p.m.

•Riverside Sports Bar, 1501 Sixth St., Umatilla

#### DJ and dancing

•Fridays, 8 p.m.  
•The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston

#### Karaoke

•Fridays; 9 p.m.  
•Midway Tavern, 1750 N. First St., Hermiston

#### Cimmi's Late Night Martini Lounge

•Fridays; 9 p.m.-midnight  
•Virgil's at Cimmiyoti's, 137 S. Main St., Pendleton  
No cover. Features martinis, mixology and music.

### Theater, stage, film & lectures

#### Swim Team Talent Show

•Saturday, Jan. 6; 7 p.m.  
•Hermiston High School commons, 600 S. First St.  
\$10/person, \$30/family. Raises money for transportation costs for Hermiston High School swim team. Intermission includes a bake sale and a raffle for an iPad and numerous gift cards.

#### Cabin Fever Concert

•Saturday, Jan. 13 & Saturday, Jan. 20; 6 p.m.  
•Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395

\$15/show only, \$38/dinner & show. Limited tickets available for the Dutch oven dinner by Sharon's Sweet Treats. John Wambeke & Friends provide an evening of music and humor. Tickets available at Cottage Flowers, 1725 N. First St., Hermiston.

#### Dancing with the Hermiston Stars

•Saturday, Jan. 13; 7 p.m.  
•Hermiston High School auditorium, 600 S. First St.  
[www.desertartscouncil.com](http://www.desertartscouncil.com)

\$20/adults, \$10/youths. Desert Arts Council presents the event with professionals with the Utah Ballroom Dance Company working with six local "stars" — Cameron Bendixsen, Josh Burns, Erik Juarez, Tricia Mooney, Erica Sandoval, Ashley Seibel — as they raise money to support the arts and compete for the mirrored ball trophy.

#### "Legal Marijuana in Pendleton: One Year Later"

•Tuesday, Jan. 16; 7 p.m.  
•Science & Technology 200, BMCC, 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton  
\$5/adults, free/students. Eastern Oregon Forum features discussion with Brandon Krenzler, partner/owner of Kind Leaf, a cannabis dispensary, Steve Hardin, manager of emergency services at CHI/St. Anthony Hospital; and Dr. David Conant-Norville, a child and adolescent psychiatrist with Mind Matters clinics in Pendleton and Hillsboro.

#### "Totally 80s Totally Murder"

**Dinner Show**  
•Saturday, Feb. 10; 5 p.m.  
•Sub Zero Restaurant & Lounge, 100 W. Highway 730, Irigton  
\$40/if purchased by Jan. 20, then \$49, \$59.95/VIP (\$50 if purchased by Jan. 20). Includes dinner and interactive murder mystery event. Costume contest with '80s style, awards, drawings and raffles. Lucky Coyote show follows. 541-922-4374.

### Hot tickets

•**Chicks with Hits** (featuring Pam Tillis, Terri Clark and Suzy Bogguss), Jan. 26 at Wildhorse Resort & Casino. Tickets for the 21-and-older shows (\$49-\$79) available via the Wildhorse Gift Shop or [www.wildhorseresort.com](http://www.wildhorseresort.com)  
•**Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story**, Feb. 25, Toyota Center, Kennewick. Tickets (\$27-\$67) via [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)  
•**Eagles**, May 5, Moda Center, Portland. Tickets on sale Jan. 12 (\$59-\$400) via [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

Want to get your event listed in our calendar? Send information to [community@eastoregonian.com](mailto:community@eastoregonian.com) or c/o Tammy Malgesini, 333 E. Main Street, Hermiston, OR, 97838.



This undated image released by Netflix shows Will Smith, left, and Joel Edgerton in a scene from "Bright."

## Netflix greenlights 'Bright' sequel, Smith to return as star

NEW YORK (AP) — Despite scathing reviews from critics, Netflix has greenlit a sequel to "Bright," with star Will Smith and director David Ayer expected to return.

The streaming service announced the plans Wednesday, just two weeks after the fantasy police drama debuted. "Bright" is Netflix's first big-budget, tent-pole-style release, with estimates that it cost at least \$90 million to produce.

With a sequel, Netflix hopes to turn "Bright" into its first film franchise — the kind Hollywood studios rely on. But it will be doing so with one of the worst reviewed films of the year. "Bright" has garnered just a 28 percent rating on Rotten Tomatoes.

Yet viewer data suggests "Bright" is a hit — or, at least, a Netflix version of one. Nielsen reported that 11 million watched "Bright" in the United States in

the first three days release. If that many moviegoers had paid tickets for "Bright," it would have earned close to \$100 million over its first weekend, if going by the average movie ticket price. And Nielsen's tabulation is based on TV-connected Netflix viewing, and doesn't include those watching on their phones or computers.

Netflix doesn't release viewing numbers, but it said "Bright" has been its most viewed movie in all of Netflix's 190-plus countries. It called "Bright" its highest viewed original film ever in its first week of release.

The film stars Smith as a police officer in an alternate version of Los Angeles where orcs, fairies and magic co-exist. Netflix announced the sequel with a mock audition tape from various orcs hoping to land a role in the follow-up.

Co-star Joel Edgerton is also set to return.

### BRIEFLY

#### Arts center spins into new year

PENDLETON — Fiber fun is offered at Pendleton Center for the Arts during the Spin In Spin Off! Held in conjunction with the First Saturday Spin In, the special session highlights St. Distaff's Day. Fiber enthusiasts are invited to participate in fun activities. One lucky spinner will win a prize for spinning the longest thread in 20 minutes.

The event is Saturday from 1-3 p.m. at the arts center, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. There is no admission charge.

St. Distaff's Day, a special day during Medieval times, was the first day after the 12 days of Christmas. It marked the time when women would return to work, resuming their household duties including spinning.

For more information, call 541-278-9201 or visit [www.pendletonarts.org](http://www.pendletonarts.org).

#### Photo club snaps up January exhibit

HERMISTON — In celebration of the second anniversary of the Photography Club, a January display features pictures taken over the past year by club members.

The club activities include picture field trips and working on new photography skills. It meets monthly at the Hermiston Public Library. The upcoming gathering is Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at 235 E. Gladys Ave. There is no fee to participate in the club's activities.

To view the photography display, stop by the library Monday through Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. or Friday/Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information about the club, call 541-567-2882 or visit [www.hermistonlibrary.us](http://www.hermistonlibrary.us).

Submit information to: [community@eastoregonian.com](mailto:community@eastoregonian.com) or c/o Tammy Malgesini, 333 E. Main Street, Hermiston, OR, 97838.