THE FRESHEST NEWS IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Santa Barbara Grid Project Opens at La Cumbre Plaza's Elevate Gallery

SOURCE: LYDIA JABLONSKI March 4, 2024 | 9:00 am

Late in 2019, Lydia Jablonski, a street photographer, and member of La Cumbre Center for Creative Arts (LCCCA), cut up a map of Santa Barbara into a grid of 31 squares.

Gathering with a group of artists at downtown studio, The Rondo, Jablonski proposed starting the Santa Barbara Grid Project to capture the city through photography and other media, one square mile at a time.

One map square was chosen at random, then the artists spent the month exploring the area and returned to the group the next month to share SANTA BARBARA GRID PROJECT SANTA BARBARA GR

Some 400 artworks make up the Santa Barbara Grid Project. (Courtesy photo)

their images, and ceremonially pick the next square from the pile of remaining map squares.

The images go beyond typical tourist views. The artists have created some 400 works that pay equal attention to every corner of Santa Barbara. Because of the number of images, Jablonski is creating four installations at Elevate Gallery, one of three galleries at LCCCA.

The Santa Barbara Grid Project is inspired by two group photography projects: Eugene Grid Project and the Portland Grid Project. The Santa Barbara group has broadened the grid algorithm to include media such as drawings, collage, sculpture, flipbooks, stereograms, and found objects.

The four grids will be installed successively at the Elevate Gallery at LCCCA at La Cumbre Plaza, 121 S. Hope Ave. They can be viewed during regular gallery hours, noon-5 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday.

Each of the four shows will open during the LCCCA Art Walks that take place 5-8 p.m. the third Friday of the month. Grid Show 1: Mar 15 Grid Show 2: May 17 Grid Show 3: Jul 19 Grid Show 4: Sept. 20

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