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THE MOJAVE PROJECT

The Mojave Project is an experimental transmedia documentary and curatorial project led by Kim Stringfellow exploring the physical, geological and cultural landscape of the Mojave Desert. *The Mojave Project* reconsiders and establishes multiple ways in which to interpret this unique and complex landscape, through association and connection of seemingly unrelated sites, themes, and subjects thus creating a speculative and immersive experience for our audience.

The Mojave Project explores the following themes: *Desert as Wasteland*; *Geological Time vs. Human Time*; *Sacrifice and Exploitation*; *Danger and Consequence*; *Space and Perception*; *Mobility and Movement*; *Desert as Staging Ground*; *Transformation and Reinvention*.

The Mojave Project is told through the voices, stories and research of historians, geologists, biologists, cultural geographers, native speakers, visionaries, land management officials, military personnel, miners, desert rats, environmental activists, aerospace engineers, land speed racers, along with diverse cross-section of the region's residents and stakeholders including Kim Stringfellow, who is a full-time resident of Joshua Tree, California located in the southern Mojave Desert.

The Mojave Project materializes over time through deep research and direct field inquiry involving interviews, reportage and personal journaling supported with still photography, audio and video documentation. Field Dispatches are shared throughout the production period at **mojaveproject.org** and through our publishing partner KCET Artbound. Installments include those of notable guest contributors. A program of public field trip experiences and satellite events explore the diverse communities and sites of the Mojave Desert. The initial phase of the project is designed to make ongoing research transparent, inviting the audience into the conversation as the project develops.

The Mojave Project will culminate as large-scale video installation incorporating the published research journals, photographs, documents, maps along with other

collected ephemera and objects gathered over the four-year production period. The project will be launched at MOAH (Museum of Art & History) in Lancaster, CA in May 2017. Partnering with LACE (Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions) through support from The Andy Warhol Foundation Curatorial Fellowship program *The Mojave Project* will be exhibited during late Fall 2018. In addition to the LACE exhibition, Stringfellow is coordinating two desert field trips to the eastern and western Mojave to provide on-site immersion, and two, free day-long panel discussions on themes and sites related to the project.

Funding for *The Mojave Project* is provided through a Cal Humanities 2015 California Documentary Project production grant, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts with additional support from San Diego State University. *The Mojave Project* is a project of the Pasadena Arts Council's EMERGE Program. The Mojave Desert Heritage & Cultural Association and KCET Artbound are project partners.

For downloadable press ready images please visit: mojaveproject.org/press/

The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts

Kim Stringfellow Bio

Kim Stringfellow is an artist and educator residing in Joshua Tree, California. Her practice bridges cultural geography, environmental journalism and experimental documentary into creative, socially engaged transmedia experiences. She is a 2015 Guggenheim Fellow in Photography and the 2012 recipient of the Theo Westenberger Award for Artistic Excellence. Stringfellow is an associate professor in School of Art + Design at San Diego State University. She is the author of two books, *Greetings from the Salton Sea: Folly and Intervention in the Southern California Landscape, 1905–2005* and *Jackrabbit Homestead: Tracing the Small Tract Act in the Southern California Landscape, 1938–2008* both published by the Center for American Places. For more information about Kim Stringfellow, please visit: **kimstringfellow.com**.