

# BOOM

A JOURNAL OF CALIFORNIA

VOLUME 2 | NUMBER 2 | SUMMER 2012

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

### THE STATE WE'RE IN

**Assembly Required: The Desert Cure** | *Rubén Martínez*  
The transformative art of Noah Purifoy 1

### CALIFORNIANS

**Honey Pies and Aquadettes** | *Malia Wollan*  
Stories that stretch forever 6

### PRODUCING CULTURE

**From Ghost World to Your World** | *Spring Warren*  
An interview with Daniel Clowes 13

### INQUIRIES

**Superpowered Fans** | *Henry Jenkins*  
The many worlds of San Diego's Comic-Con 22

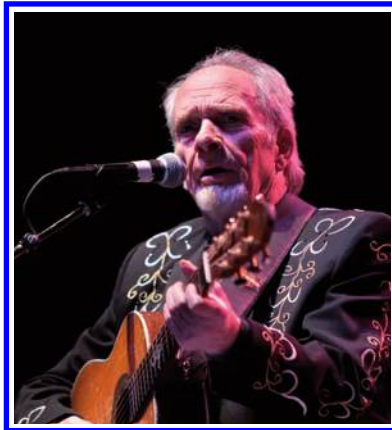
**California Futures** | *Dowell Myers*  
New narratives for a changing society 37

**Deconstructing Mare Island** | *Richard White*  
*Photographs by Jesse White*  
Reconnaissance in the ruins 55

### BEYOND BORDERS

**Stages of Learning** | *Liane Brouillette*  
*and Ilona Virginia Missakian*  
Theater and language in San Diego schools 70





## SIGHTS AND SOUNDS

**That Lonesome Whistle** | *Elliott J. Gorn*  
Music and loss in the Southland 76

## LINE BY LINE

**Gods of the Golden Coast** | *Edward J. Blum*  
Sacred topographies 81

## CROSSROADS

**We Want the Deal You Got** | *Louis S. Warren*  
A civics lesson 86



## CONTESTED GROUND

**California Damming** | *Howard V. Hendrix*  
Manufactured lakes and the reproduction of nature 92

**Justice and Time** | *Keenan Norris*  
Before and after Oscar Grant 100

**Ikea-fying Los Angeles** | *Alex Schmidt*  
Financing the familiar 105



## CONTRIBUTORS