

Enriching Lives



Civic Art

**PRESS RELEASE**

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MEDIA PLEASE NOTE: More information and photos for download may be found at  
[http://www.lacountyarts.org/civcart/05\\_Fifth\\_District/greene\\_fs93\\_fs136.htm](http://www.lacountyarts.org/civcart/05_Fifth_District/greene_fs93_fs136.htm)

**NEW PALMDALE FIRE STATIONS DISPLAY COMMISSIONED ARTWORKS  
INSPIRED BY ARTIST'S EXPERIENCES WITH FIREFIGHTERS**  
*Nine original paintings document and commemorate the lives of firefighters*

Los Angeles County Fire Stations 93 and 136, dedicated today by County and City of Palmdale officials, feature oil on wood paintings that are the result of artist Jason Greene's week-long residency with Los Angeles County firefighters. The Portland, Oregon-based artist spent many days and nights at area stations, accompanied firefighters on ride-a-longs and researched the role of the fire department within the Palmdale community

Greene conceived the oil paintings based on sketches, photographs and memories from his residency. He captured both the extraordinary acts the firefighters accomplish every day as well as the more routine details of their jobs. This juxtaposition intimately documents and commemorates the two extreme aspects of the firefighters' lives.

"These paintings are a fitting tribute to the County's firefighters," said L.A. County Fifth District Supervisor Michael Antonovich. "They are powerful representations of their heroism and dedication."

Each new fire station is an 11,000 square foot facility that houses equipment bays and provides dormitory space for a Battalion Chief and Fire Department personnel. Four of Greene's artworks have been installed in Fire Station 93 (5624 East Avenue R, Palmdale) and five in Fire Station 136 (3650 Bolz Ranch Road, Palmdale).

Greene resides and exhibits his artwork in Portland. In 2004 he was chosen as an artist-in-residence for the Portland Fire Bureau and produced approximately two hundred paintings for six fire stations. Greene continued to follow his interest with public art in 2007 by serving on a selection committee for artwork at the Portland Fire Bureau Headquarters. That same year he was contracted to help paint the *Woman Making History in Portland* mural. He was the exhibit designer and conservator for *Artquest*, a children's interactive art gallery, and at the Portland's Children's Museum. Greene has a BFA from Mississippi State University with an emphasis in drawing and painting.

Greene's paintings were commissioned under Los Angeles County's Civic Art Program, administered by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission. Carrie Brown of the Arts Commission was project manager for Fire Stations 93 & 136. Under the Civic Art Program, one percent of construction costs of County capital projects over \$500,000 is set aside for the incorporation of civic art.

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The **Los Angeles County Arts Commission**, Laura Zucker, Executive Director, provides leadership in cultural services of all disciplines for the largest county in the United States, encompassing 88 municipalities. The Arts Commission, in addition to overseeing the County's Civic Art Program for capital projects, provides leadership and staffing to support the regional blueprint for arts education, *Arts for All*; administers a grants program that funds more than 300 nonprofit arts organizations annually; funds the largest arts internship program in the country in conjunction with the Getty Foundation, programs the John Anson Ford Theatres and supports the Los Angeles County Cultural Calendar on ExperienceLA.com. The Commission also produces free community programs, including the L.A. Holiday Celebration broadcast nationally, and a year-round music program that funds more than 50 free concerts each year in public sites. The 2009-10 President of the Arts Commission is Betty Haagen.