

Firedworks Gallery

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CHANCE ENCOUNTERS

with Andoni Canela & Rita Roberts

PRESS RELEASE: [CHANCE ENCOUNTERS with ANDONI CANELA & RITA ROBERTS](#)

Firedworks Gallery is pleased to present *Chance Encounters*, an exhibit with the artwork of Rita Roberts and photographs of Andoni Canela.

Opening Reception and for the artists: Friday, November 30th, 7 to 9 pm

Video and presentation at 7:30 pm

Show will be on view through the holidays.

THE EXHIBIT. LIGHT, LANDSCAPE AND WILDLIFE OF THE SAN LUIS VALLEY

Twenty-two paintings and photographs that reflect the incredible diversity of the San Luis Valley will be on view at Firedworks Gallery in Alamosa. Two masters experience and observe together, the rhythms of art and nature, as an integral part of their creations. Each, in their own way, generate images in devotion to the wild, as well as the personal.

Both artists have contributed to land and wildlife conservation efforts. The Chance Encounters collection includes habitats protected by the Rio Grande Headwater's Land Trust (RiGHT), the Nature Conservancy, Great Sand Dunes National Park, Monte Vista and Alamosa Wildlife Refuges, and State Wildlife areas.

THE ARTISTS

Andoni Canela. For 20 years, Andoni Canela has been working as a wildlife photographer, traveling throughout the world in search of endangered species – such as polar bears, grey whales, Bengal tigers, Iberian wolves, pandas, grizzlies, condors and quetzals. His photographs have been published in **National Geographic, Time, Geo, The Sunday Times, Newsweek, La Vanguardia** and **El País**. He is the author of a dozen books and has made several expeditions to the Arctic, Amazon, Himalayas and the savannas of Africa. Beginning in the summer 2013 he has a [touring exhibition](#) with his 5 year work on the Arctic. This exhibition will be on view in more than 40 cities in Spain.





Rita Roberts. Artist, and long-time resident of Monte Vista, Rita Roberts has teamed up with this master photographer. As a naturalist and landscape painter, Rita's work has gained national attention. She is a signature member of **Oil Painters of America** and has been featured in national publications including, **Southwest Art, American Art Collector, and The Artist's Magazine.** She holds a BFA from the Kansas City Art Institute and will complete an MFA

at the Academy of Art University in 2014. She shows regularly in prestigious exhibits like **Salon International** in San Antonio, **Women Artists of the West Invitational,** Tucson and **Wendt Gallery Invitationals** in Laguna Beach.

Gallery hours are Monday—Saturday, 10 am to 6 pm. For more information please contact Carol Mondragon carol@firedworks.com or 719-589-6064. Some of the paintings and photographs can be seen at: www.ritaroberts.com/chance-encounters

CHANCE ENCOUNTERS

RITA ROBERTS & ANDONI CANELA