

# Indian Wells Arts Festival begins this Friday, April 1



**Skip Descant, The Desert Sun** 2:58 p.m. PDT March 29, 2016



*(Photo: Submitted photo: Indian Wells Arts Festival)*

There is no reason to wait until next year's BNP Paribas Open to enjoy a day at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden. Why not head out there next weekend for a nice little "Eggs + Champagne" brunch, listen to the music of Steve Madaio, oh and check out some incredible artwork from more than 200 artists from across the country and around the world.

This is but a small snapshot of what's in store with a day spent at the Indian Wells Arts Festival, now in its 14th year. The festival runs Friday, April 1 through Sunday, April 3 at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden, adding to the buffet of events filling April.

The festival "has grown to present an international palette of artists and their works representing 30 countries around the world," said Marisa Holladay, Indian Wells Arts Festival Marketing Strategist.

Artists will be traveling to the valley from as far away as Uganda, Nigeria, Japan and Sweden. The juried show will also include artists from the Inland Empire such as Diane Morgan of Indian Wells, Linda and Charles Perkins of La Quinta, Russell Mott of Desert Hot Springs, Penelope Krebs of Morongo Valley, Mark Doolittle of Joshua Tree, and Snake Jagger of Yucca Valley.



**The annual Indian Wells Arts Festival runs April 1-3 at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden.** *(Photo: Wade Byars, The Desert Sun, Wade Byars, The Desert Sun)*

The festival attracts a range of followers from collectors to the sorts of casual day-trippers trekking out to the valley for a sunny weekend.

"Some are following the art and the Festival's respected reputation for presenting a great variety in genre of fine art, with up to 35 mediums in contrast with the standard 10 of other shows," Holladay said.

"Others attend for the fun, artsy atmosphere in a true festival setting that enables attendees to leisurely enjoy the full day with art-filled pathways, live entertainment, numerous artist demonstrations ... food and cocktail awaits under the comfort of a shaded pavilion with plenty of seating areas throughout the grounds," she added in an email.



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In addition to food, wine and other cocktails, the festival also features its "Gourmet MarketPlace," a spread of goods ranging "from craft vinegar and oils to artisan body and bath products."

Visitors can experience artist demonstrations, from massive stone sculpting from High Desert artists David and Chris Falossi to Antonio Mendoza's ancient pedal-loom weaving techniques from the Zapotec culture of southern Mexico, as well as glass-blower Bruce Freund who bends and molds works of art with 2,000-degree heat from his custom portable furnace.

The festival hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$13 for adults and free to children 12 and under. Parking is free, and valet service is available.

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