

Korakia Pensione 257 S. Patencia Road, Palm Springs CA 92262 760-864-6411

**-- PRESS RELEASE--**

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**A TRIBUTE TO HISTORIC DESERT LANDSCAPE PAINTING  
ART OPENING AT THE KORAKIA PENSIONE FEATURING WORK OF  
ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PATRICIA SCHAEFER**

*April 8, 2011*

The Korakia Pensione in Palm Springs will host an opening for recent paintings by Patricia Schaefer, Artist in Residence for 2011, on Thursday, April 21, 2011 from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M. at 257 S. Patencio Road, Palm Springs, CA 92262. Refreshments will be served. The landscape oil paintings will be on display through June 1, 2011. The works included in the exhibition will be a tribute to the masters of desert painters from the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and are oil paintings painting from classic plein air locations. Schafer's paintings depict scenes from local landscapes that were the favored sites of historic plein air artists: Whitewater Canyon, Snowcreek, Chino Canyon, Indian Canyons, Anza-Borrego, the Salton Sea, Joshua Tree and the Pinto Mountains.

Schaefer, who first visited the desert ten years ago while still an art student, is now the Korakia's Artist in Residence. She is mindful of the historical legacy of painters and writers in old Palm Springs. Her work is being presented in the library at the Korakia Pensione, which was Scottish painter Gordon Coutts' art studio in the 1920's.

"I appreciate the history of Palm Springs," she says, "which in the 1920's and 30's was a small art colony attracting many fine writers and artists. Palm Springs was a place artists could come and live for practically nothing. The clear air, inherent spirituality and the unusual austerity of the desert drew painters and naturalists, those with a love and knowledge of the land – including Carl Eytel, Jimmy Swinnerton, Agnes Pelton and Maynard Dixon – I wanted these paintings to pay homage to the reverence they shared for the undiminished beauty of these landscapes."

Schaefer has spent the last three years hiking into the desert and the surrounding mountains, painting on location while being mindful of the resonance of the past. Her works create a glimpse into the intricacies and solemn beauty of this artistic legacy.

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