The southwestern desert has long stood for American individualism, modernist and anti-modernist sentiments, and social and political experiments. As such, it has attracted artistic and architectural movements that give visual and embodied form to these ideas. This conference brings together scholars from diverse disciplines to explore the relationship between desert extremes and the built environment.

**LOCATION:**
Rothenberg Hall, Steven S. Koblik Education and Visitor Center

Everything And the Kitchen Sink, Noah Purifoy
Noah Purifoy Desert Art Museum of Assemblage Sculpture
Joshua Tree, California
Image by permission of the Noah Purifoy Foundation

**FiRDAY, APRIL 15, 2016**
8:30 Registration & Coffee
9:00 Session 2
Moderator: Lyle Massey
Emily Elias Scott (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology)
“Spectra of Aridity: Desertification in California and Beyond”
Karen Finkus (Cornell University)
“The Anthropocene Desert between Geology and Geography”

11:45 Lunch

**SatURDAY, APRIL 16, 2016**
9:00 Registration & Coffee
9:30 Session 4
Moderator: Michael Carson (University of California, Los Angeles)
Ed Dimendberg (University of California, Irvine)
“Explosive Modernism: The Southwest Architecture of Hiram Hudson Benedict”
Sylvia Lavin (University of California, Los Angeles)
“Architecture not in Evidence”

11:30 Lunch

2:30 Break
2:45 Session 6
Moderator: Bridget Cooks (University of California, Irvine)
Yael Lipshutz (Independent curator)
“A NeoHooDoo Western: Noah Purifoy, SpiritFlash, Art, and the Desert”
Charlie Hailey (University of Florida)
“Concrete on Sand: Casting Freedom between Necessity and Control in Slab City’s Desert Camp”

4:45 Closing Remarks: James Nisbet

The Fabricated American Desert: Modern and Anti-Modern

**ConfERENCE REGISTRATION AND MEALS BY RESERVATION ONLY. NO CONFIRMATION WILL BE SENT.**

**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEE:**

- $25.00 (Students/Free)
- $75.00 (Students/Free)
- Vegetarian (check one)

**TOTAL**

Please mail form and check payable to “The Huntington” to:
Juan Gomez, The Huntington, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino CA 91108.
PHONE: (626) 405-3432 EMAIL: researchconference@huntington.org

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Please note: Conference registration does not include entrance to the research library.

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