

# CITY OF PALMDALE

## *MEDIA ALERT*

CONTACT: John Mlynar  
PHONE: 661/267-5115  
DATE: August 7, 2014

### *PHOTO/INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITY*

WHAT: Installation of new public art features using recyclable materials and created by artist Sol Mesz.

WHEN: **Wednesday, August 13 at 11:30 am.**

WHERE: Neighborhood House #1, Community Garden, 503 East Ave. Q-3

WHO: Artist Sol Mesz, City staff.

THE PROJECT The City of Palmdale, as part of its public arts program, contracted with artist Sol Mesz to create two pieces for display at the Palmdale Transportation Center (PTC) and the City's Community Garden at Neighborhood House #1. The purpose of the displays is to promote recycling through the arts.

The piece at the PTC will feature two Joshua trees that stand 7.5 feet high and 5 feet high, respectively. At the Community Garden, the display will be two Joshua trees surrounded by sculpted poppies. All pieces are made with recycled glass beverage containers and reused metal parts.

The recyclable materials used for the artwork was donated to the City by Palmdale businesses including Vision Engineering, U.S. Pole, and the Allan Company.

**An official Dedication Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 20 at 10 am at the Palmdale Transportation Center, 39000 Clock Tower Plaza Drive, in Palmdale.**

THE ARTIST: Sol Mesz has received extensive training in the arts in areas such as glassworking techniques, ceramic glaze theory, silversmithing, along with courses of study in public art and gallery technology & management.

She was trained by renowned Argentine glass and vitraux artist Carlos Herzberg in different glass working techniques, including

pâte de verre, vitraux, slumped and fused glass. Incorporating techniques from other disciplines, such as pottery, metal and silversmithing, she specializes in turning transparent sheets of glass into unique pieces of decorative and functional art, contemporary in style, which are also environmentally friendly.

Perhaps the most outstanding characteristic of most of her work is that she practices the ancient technique of making stains and glazes for glass, which allows her to achieve a unique palette of textures and colors. As a result, Mesz does not use any industrially colored glass (she used recycled beverage bottles for the City pieces, therefore, those were already colorized), and since she also creates her own molds, each one is unique in shape. In addition she uses a wide variety of techniques to add texture. The combination of creativity, technique and materials is what makes each piece unique.

Mesz is a member of the Glass Art Society, Buenaventura Arts Association, American Craft Council, Southern California Artists and Ventura Artists' Union.

Some of her many awards include: **Honorable Mention, "Kiln Processes Using Recycled Glass,"** sponsored by the California Environmental Protection Agency and the California Department of Conservation, May 2006; **Merit Award**, from the Buenaventura Art Association, August 2004; and **Merit Award**, from the Buenaventura Art Association, May 2004

INFORMATION: Sol Mesz - **Phone:** 805/766-4599. **E-mail:** solmesz@hotmail.com  
**Web site:** [www.sillice.com](http://www.sillice.com)  
City of Palmdale – Ben Lucha – **Phone:** 661/267-5308. **E-mail:** blucha@cityofpalmdale.org