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Dorland Pond #36 1983
Gilah Yelin Hirsch

Happy Winter 2024 from Dorland Mountain Arts!

“Simplify, simplify, simplify!” Ellen Babcock Dorland Co-Founder Dorland Mountain Arts

President’s Message

Ellen Dorland’s watchword is good advice in art and in life: simplify. Certainly she followed her own edict, living with radical simplicity at Dorland into her nineties, and we have tried our best to provide a continued haven from the fraught pressures and demands of a hyperactive world, overwhelmed with technology and its often-superficial connections. Of course Dorland is far from perfect in that regard, it depends mostly on the honor system of its residents, who must find their own way of unplugging. But at least we offer that precious opportunity. It’s not quite the near-19th century lifestyle that Ellen practiced, but it will do. Thank you for being part of it.

Curtis Horton

News of Music and Dance!



REHYA STEVENS

Hello Dorland Family :)
I want to thank you again very much for letting me stay for a few days back in 2021 to work on writing songs for a Christmas



MICHAEL REMSON

Performance News: Summer of 2022 saw the premiere of “Mimi’s Perfect Day” a chamber opera I composed at Dorland during my first residency. The piece was premiered

Dorland & You!

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SUPPORT CREATIVITY

Dorland’s Mission Statement is to provide a unique working retreat for visual artists, writers, and musicians inspiring creativity in a secluded, natural setting. The Residency Program provides a secluded working retreat for national and international artists, writers, musicians and composers.

Residents!

We welcome your submissions for our Spring Newsletter!

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"behind the songs" inspiration videos that were composed during my stay with you. I did a very special tribute to Dorland in the video for "Christmas Is Comin' Again."



essays, new art, links to music, quotes and memories of life at Dorland.

[SUBMIT WORK](#)

[CHRISTMAS IS COMIN' AGAIN GET](#)

[A FREE TRACK!](#)

Other songs written at Dorland:

["Don't Be Late"](#)

["Me, Myself & I"](#)

["Spread A Little Love For Christmas"](#)

Publication News: In September of 2022, my new web-based educational program, "[Music Education for Dancers](#)" based on my 11 years as a faculty member at Houston Ballet Academy and my 3 years at San Diego Civic Youth Ballet was published by Human Kinetics. A lot of the work on this program, including all the introductory videos, was completed at Dorland.

JOIN US

Submit your application for a [Dorland Mountain Arts Residency Information](#) [Cottage Availability](#)



Featured Dorland Artist Resident:



[Ja'net Danielo](#) *'Dorland is magical - amazing!'*

I met with poet and college English professor, Ja'net Danielo, on a morning phone call in mid-October. Her voice is a gentle melody. She quietly introduced me to what it was like for her to have survived breast cancer while her cousin, who had also been diagnosed with breast cancer, had not survived. Ja'net felt such grief and also guilt; she was aware that she needed to write about this. *"It needs to be acknowledged that I lived...that my body is part of the larger ecology of all living things."* In time, she realized the experience warranted a full-length book of poetry. (*In the Tempered Dark*)

Ja'net started on the path to write this book with a goal of finalizing her manuscript at her next Dorland residency in March 2024. Her first stay at Dorland had been *"Nothing short of magical, exactly what I needed - time alone with my work, shifting focus away from daily life to art."* So, she knows that Dorland is a place where she can express herself, *"read her work out loud to herself as many times as she wants in the privacy of her cottage."* She's looking forward to *"spreading her manuscript out all across Horton"* to do what she calls a 'kinesthetic walk' and really experience each page because she believes *"every poem is a world of its own. And it takes a certain amount of imagination and reaching in, which can include other forms of art, to arrive where I need to be as the creator of these worlds. I need to hear the music of each poem to propel me to this place."*

by Leslie Bevans

[Selected Poems](#)

[In The Tempered Dark Pre-Sale](#)

[Word Women: Poetry Heals](#)

NEWS FROM DORLAND WRITERS

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JUDY REEVES

My memoir, [When Your Heart Says Go](#), was released in October and since then I've been making the rounds... on various podcasts, radio shows, in written interviews, and webcasts, talking about the book,



and about writing memoir and writing in general. I especially enjoyed the conversations with Adam Greenfield on his podcast, "[The Written Scene](#)," and Drew Schlosberg's "[Spotlight on the Community](#)," when Dorland alumnus Kristen Fogle was co-host.

year when my daughter, Amy Boyd, stayed with me a couple of days in Connors while we worked on a project together. Amy is a talented performer and writer who creates videos solo and with her sketch comedy partners. I loved sharing the beauty and inspiration of Dorland with her.



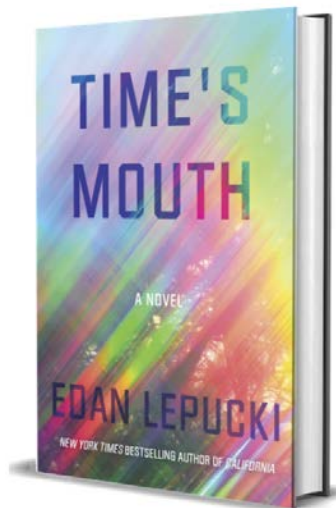
I visited Northwest Missouri State University to celebrate the publication of [my poetry chapbook](#) by The Laurel Review and GreenTower Press located there. Most of the poems in *Gloss* were drafted and/or revised at Dorland. Four of my poems (three of which were written at Dorland) were published by [Citric Acid](#).

Mark Sarvas



I'm pleased to announce that my third novel, *@UGMAN*, has been acquired by ITNA Press for a Fall 2024 publication. I completed the revision of this novel during my week in the Horton Cottage in July of 2021. It was the perfect space to put the finishing touches on this offbeat comic novel. Thank you for all the wonderful hospitality and support. Author of [MEMENTO PARK](#) **Winner, American Book Award and the AJL Fiction Award** "... gripping ... a powerful meditation..." *Salman Rushdie*

Edan Lepucki



My Novel, *Time's Mouth*, was longlisted for the Joyce Carol Oates Prize which "annually honors a mid-career fiction writer who has earned a distinguished reputation and the approbation and gratitude of readers."

[More About this Prize](#) →

JoBeth McDaniel



Journalist and author, JoBeth, enjoyed a week of solitude at Dorland in July, working on her memoir proposal. In October, **Next Avenue** published her essay about the importance of adult play.



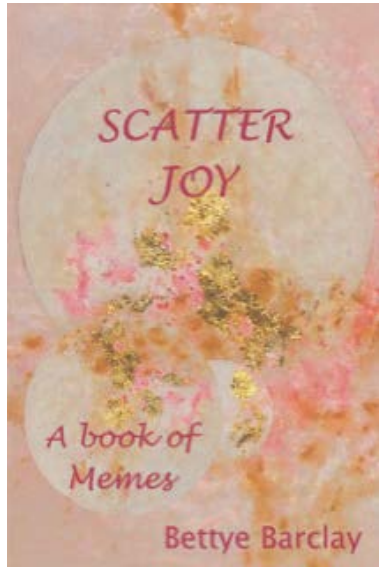
[Read Article in Next Avenue](#)

Kate Brody

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I am pleased to announce the publication of *Scatter Joy*, a book of Memes.

I choose sixty-five memes from the many I sent daily by email starting in March 2020 and published them in [Scatter Joy](#).

Barbara De-Marco Barrett

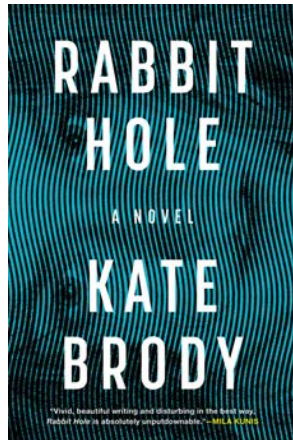


I've been to Dorland many times over the past eight years and it always provides respite and a time to work and recharge. My article, "[Dusk Therapy](#)," came out of my first stay.

Two stories out this fall: "[Animals](#)" is in The Literary Hatchet, #36, free for now. And another, "[Rowboat](#)", nominated for a Pushcart Prize, is coming out in Kelp Journal in Dec. 2023.



My novel, [RABBIT HOLE](#), is out on January 2nd. It is a literary thriller about a young teacher who falls into a web of internet conspiracy around her sister's disappearance. I'll be on tour this winter (dates on my website) and would love to see or hear from other Dorland alum. As the mom of two small children, it sometimes feels like Dorland is the only place I can really write, and I am so grateful to have found it.



"The first time I put together what would eventually become this book (General Release from the Beginning of the World) was at a residency at Dorland Mountain Arts Colony. I needed the old-school printing out of poems to see if, or how, they spoke to one another, reading the work out loud. It took getting away to another place with a dear writer friend and having my own space and silence for me to gather the nerve to assemble a full collection."

Donna, a Dorland resident in October 2019, was chosen by [Poets & Writers](#) for their Feature Article, 5 Over 50: 2023



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[Sarah Tomlinson](#)

stays at Dorland, most recently in summer 2023. I always feel rejuvenated by the quiet, long walks, hot air balloons, and the lovely Dorland community who were so supportive of my debut novel, "[The Last Days of the Midnight Ramblers](#)," due out from Flatiron Books on 2/13/24. [Read Review!](#)



News from Dorland Visual Artists



[Sheryl Stradling](#) Artist and Writer

I enjoyed two productive residencies this year. Dorland's beauty, solitude and stillness provided me the space to clarify my vision for a large piece I'd grappled with since my previous year's residency. "Pattern," and will be one of ten pieces (half of which were done during previous residencies) in the City of Temecula art show January 8 through March 1, 2024. Gallery date: City of Temecula 1/8/24 - 3/1/24 at the Civic and Welcome Centers, 41000 Main Street, Temecula (in Old Town).

Author of [Faith, Power, Joy: Spiritual Guidance from 5 Generations of Remarkable Women](#)

[Bruria Finkel](#)

A day after we hung the show in the Henry Crown Gallery at the Jerusalem Theatre, the War started. We were not able to have an opening or an artist talk where we invited some of the important scholars in Kabalah, everything was postponed. But we managed to create a video ([Meditations on the Alphabet](#)) that included the Phd's and I was able to present my ideas and process of my work at the gallery.

[Watch: Meditations on the Alphabet](#)



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I just wanted to let you know that my first solo exhibition opened on Saturday, November 11th during the Claremont Art Walk with some of my paintings, as well as my drawings. My inspiration? France! No surprise!



The painting to the left won a first-prize in the [Pamona Valley Art Association](#) online competition in November. [Read Debra's BIO](#)



Melody Nunez

OCT: Melody had five pieces on exhibit at the *Threads That Bind Exhibition* Co-hosted by MuzeO and the [Brea Gallery](#).

SEPT: City of Laguna Beach Juried Exhibit: displaying *Existential Crisis #100: The Onslaught*

SEPT: Anaheim Art Association Juried Exhibit: awarded Auxilia d'Arts award for my piece *Missing Child*

JULY: Irvine Fine Arts Center All Media 2023: *Motherhood: VOID* (on exhibit)

JULY: [OC Fair Fine Arts Competition](#) *Existential Crisis #100: The Onslaught* (won my Mixed Media class and Division)

MAY: 2023 Fullerton Museum: [Looking Back/Moving Forward](#) - two pieces on exhibit

Vicky DeLong

I spent a fabulous week in Connors Cottage in September 2023. This was my second time at a residency at Dorland. Such an amazing place to spend a week creating!

My focus this year was creating sculpture pieces in fiber arts. Earlier this year I took an online course through Fibre Arts Take Two based in Australia. I have a studio in [Spanish Village Art Center, \(Studio 16B\)](#). Open every day 11:00 am – 4:00 pm. Come by on Mondays and Tuesdays when I am working in the studio.

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The Garden of Delight



Rusty Brush

[Ann Stromquist](#)

My Time at Dorland ~ I came to Dorland for the four weeks of June, 1998. My wedding date was set for not much more than a month later, August 8th. Even though I still had the majority of wedding preparations to do, including finding a wedding dress, I was very determined to put all those thoughts aside. This would be a time to focus entirely on my art ... Relaxing into a creative life revolving around the sun, surrounded by oaks and a deep sense of nature, I had no trouble finding a way forward and finished a series of seven works on paper. (Three of which, *You Me Us 1, 2, & 3* are shown here.) ... Thanks, Dorland, for a wonderful month that I've always remembered with love. [READ STORY PDF](#)



[Gilah Yelin Hirsch](#)

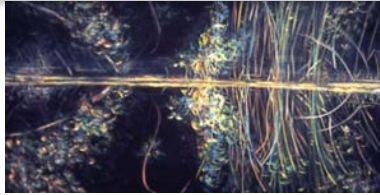
Painter, Writer, Filmmaker and Curator

Gilah Yelin Hirsch's life and work changed entirely because of her first residency at Dorland in 1981. Uninterrupted time to focus on the pond revealed alphabetic morphology in nature and subsequently honed her vision profoundly to discover greater multidisciplinary secrets continuously incorporated in her internationally exhibited work. Participating in Painter's symposium, visiting artist, exhibition of paintings and films, publication of [Archaeology of Metaphor](#).

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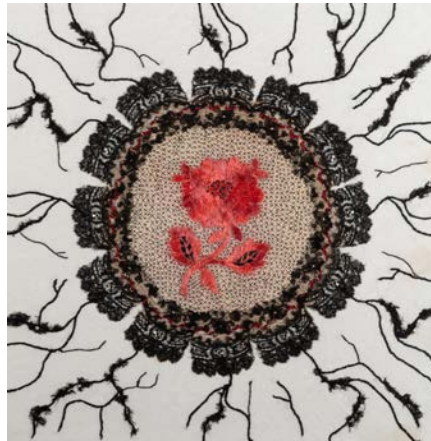
Dorland Pond #61 1984



Dorland Pond #19 1982



Terramottol Illuminated



Existential Crisis 200 The Darkness is Creeping In
Melody Nunez



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