

## Artist 'Playing La Jolla (for all it's worth)': New mural goes up next to 'The Lot' on Fay Ave.

By Pat Sherman Sept. 22, 2015



Artist and outlaw country crooner Terry Allen's 'Playing La Jolla (for all it's worth)' was installed mid-September 2015 at 7611 Fay Ave., La Jolla, as part of the ongoing Murals of La Jolla public-art series.

*Courtesy*

A seemingly playful (yet deliciously subversive) work by painter and conceptual artist Terry Allen, "Playing La Jolla (for all it's worth)," is the latest attraction in the Murals of La Jolla rotating, public art series.

Allen's piece, which replaces Robert Irwin and Philipp Scholz Rittermann's "The Real Deal," was shunned by a property owner

near its originally intended location off Torrey Pines Road. The move proved serendipitous, however, as the mural was installed Sept. 17 where all eyes will surely be upon it — adjacent to the much anticipated luxury cinema complex, The Lot, at 7611 Fay Ave. — See story at [lajollalight.com/news/2015/sep/22/the-lot-movie-theater/](http://lajollalight.com/news/2015/sep/22/the-lot-movie-theater/)

Born in Wichita, Kansas in 1943 and raised in Lubbock, Texas, Allen received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Chouinard Art Institute in Los Angeles. He has been the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, as well as three National Endowment for the Arts grants.

In 1986, Allen created "Trees," one of the outdoor installations in the Stuart Collection at UC San Diego. For the piece, he salvaged three eucalyptus trees from a grove that was razed to make way for new buildings. He preserved two, encasing them in lead skins and placing them within a eucalyptus grove between the Geisel Library and the Faculty Club. One emits a series of recorded songs and the other poems and stories created and arranged specifically for this project.

The artist, also a respected singer-songwriter in the outlaw country genre, has recorded with everyone from Lucinda Williams to Ryan Bingham and Talking Heads' frontman David Byrne. A resident of Santa Fe, New Mexico, Allen has recorded 12 albums of original music and is pianist and lead vocalist for his own Panhandle Mystery Band.

"Playing La Jolla (for all it's worth)" will be on the Athenaeum Music & Arts Library's next Murals of La Jolla monthly tour, 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2015 — the same day The Lot screens its first films to the public. The tour starts at the Athenaeum, 1008 Wall St. Murals of La Jolla was founded by the La Jolla Community Foundation, and is today a project of the Athenaeum. More at [jathenaeum.org](http://jathenaeum.org) and [muralsoflajolla.com](http://muralsoflajolla.com)