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# Oasis

Artist: Robert Minervini

2024

3369 Union Ave, San Jose, CA 95124 / Council District 9

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## ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Camden Community Center is a welcoming, positive place that provides a wide variety of quality programs and services for people of all ages and abilities aimed at building community through fun. As the largest hub facility in San José, Camden Community Center is a one-stop shop for recreation opportunities and community events. The center hosts several special events throughout the year, including cultural and holiday celebrations. Camden is also home to various aquatic and fitness programs, such as year-round lap swimming and swim lessons in the summer. In addition, there is a fitness room that's equipped with strength training and cardio equipment, as well as daily drop-in sports (pickleball, volleyball, and basketball).

Artists considered for this project are in the Public Art Program's Mural Artists Roster which features Bay Area artists. The Public Art Program released a Request For Qualifications (RFQ) on September 19, 2022 on Café, the online platform that is widely used for artist calls, and staff actively promoted and recruited Bay Area artists. From this roster artist Robert Minervini was selected for the Camden Community Center commission by the Public Art Program.

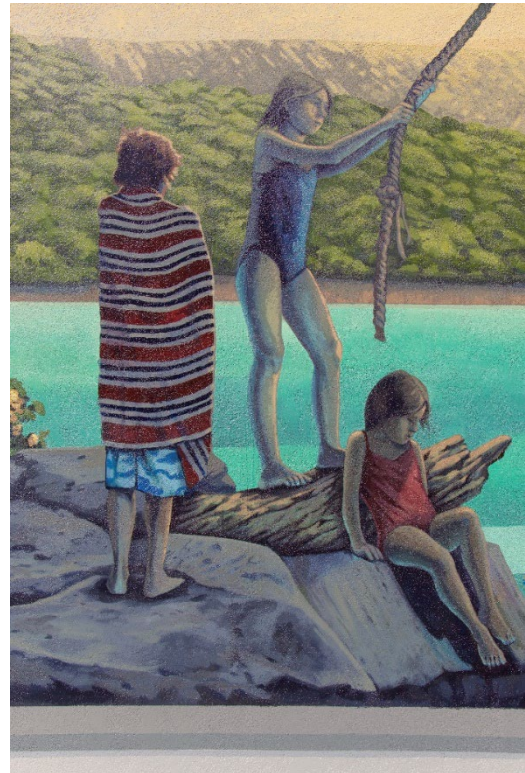


Inspired by the scenic beauty of the Santa Cruz Mountains and the Camden neighborhood, Robert Minervini's mural captures the tranquil essence of nature and the vibrant spirit of community. Positioned at the public entrance to the swimming pool at Camden Community Center, the mural, titled *Oasis*, invites the viewer to peer through three painted "windows" into a serene lakeside setting. In this scene, the golden light of a setting sun illuminates the landscape as people of all ages dive, swim, and play in the pristine waters. Surrounding them is a rich tapestry of lush greenery and

local wildlife. This mural reflects Camden's strong sense of community, its close connection to nature, and the shared delight of outdoor recreation.

### **ABOUT THE ARTIST**

Robert Minervini's painting and public art practice is an evolving relationship between nature and culture through the depiction of invented spatial environments. He utilizes tropes from art history, science fiction, film, and daily life to create compositions featuring grand landscapes to intricate still-lives. Minervini has completed multiple murals and public art commissions nationally including through the San Francisco Arts Commission, The Alameda County Arts Commission, and the Philadelphia Mural Arts Program. He has been a resident artist at the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, the Headlands Center of the Arts, the Vermont Studio Center. His art has been published in *New American Paintings* (No. 91 and No. 109), *Beautiful Decay*, and *Mural Art: Large Scale Art from Walls around the World*. Minervini's work is in the collections of the San José Museum of Art, the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, the City and County of San Francisco, and many private and corporate collections. Minervini received his MFA from the San Francisco Art Institute, and his BFA from Tyler School of Art. He currently lives and works in Florence, Italy, and Oakland, California.



More information on the artist can be found at [www.robertminervini.com](http://www.robertminervini.com).

### **ABOUT THE PUBLIC ART PROGRAM**

The City of San José Public Art Program seeks to build community identity by initiating artworks and exhibitions that enhance the civic landscape. Through active community engagement, public art strives to reflect the City's diversity, historic richness, and envision its present and future.

The Public Art Program is part of the City's Office of Cultural Affairs, a division of the Office of Economic Development. The Public Art Program was established by a 1984 municipal ordinance that provides public art through funding from City capital improvement projects and eligible private development.

For further information and photos, please contact the San José Public Art Program.