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LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHY

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443

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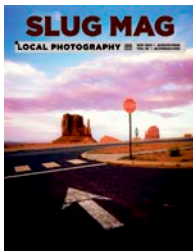
Originally from Charleston, South Carolina, Nicole Marriner is a masterful food stylist and photographer. She joined the team in August 2024 and has since blessed our pages with mouthwatering shots of Utah’s best dining establishments. Find her work on page 24 and at [sugarbeetsupperclub.com!](https://sugarbeetsupperclub.com/)



Derek Brad

Contributor Limelight
Photographer

Derek Brad is a legendary concert photographer with 19 years of experience in the business (and 1.5 years with *SLUG*). Though his specialty is musician portraits, he can capture just about any subject with ease, from high fashion to documentary. Find his work on SLUGMag.com and at @derekbradphotography on Instagram!



Local Photography: For our eighth annual Local Photography Issue, *SLUG* provides a snapshot of Utah’s brilliant photographers, each of whom views our state through a unique creative lens. **Flip Twogood’s** stunning landscape image titled “Take Me to the Desert” graces this month’s cover, shot on Kodak 120 Portra 400 film at Monument Valley in 2024. See more of his work on page 8 and on Instagram at @flippytwogood.



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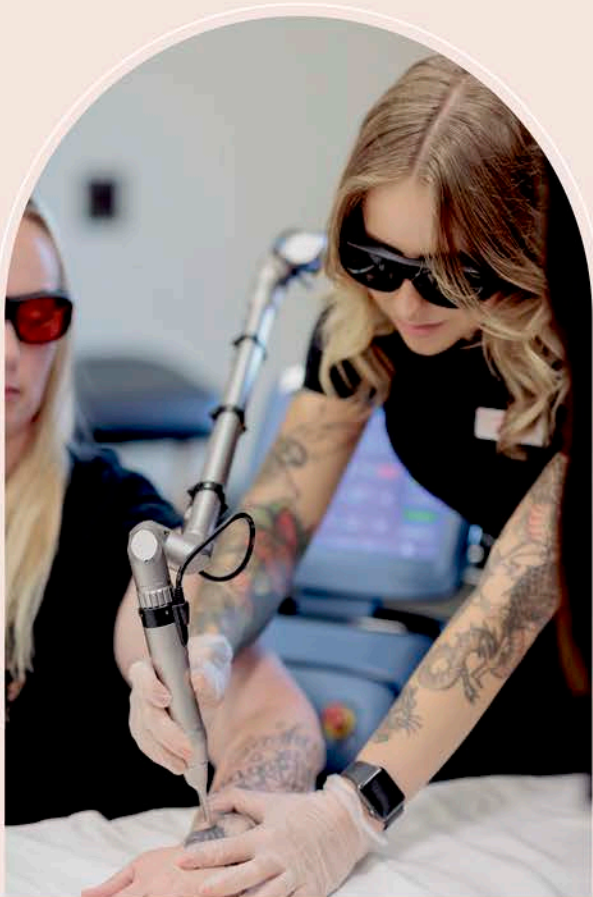
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Photo: Victoria Hills

rasa legal

Clearing Records,
Changing Lives

By Mallory Meados
@mallory_michele_



Photo courtesy of Rasa Legal

One in three Americans has a criminal record, which can follow an individual throughout their life, preventing them from accessing housing, getting a job or advancing in their career.

Thankfully, most states have a legal way to clear past criminal charges, by allowing individuals who have remained crime-free to expunge their records and pass a background check. However, the legal system can be challenging to navigate, not to mention costly, with traditional attorneys charging between \$1,500 and \$3,000 per record for expungement.

Rasa Legal is a mission-driven organization that has demystified the expungement process and built technology to streamline the legal work, all while minimizing costs. As an innovative, technology-forward law firm based in Utah, Rasa Legal has built software to efficiently analyze your records to determine eligibility for expungement or offense reduction. You can then use that info to hire Rasa Legal's team for full legal representation and case management. Determining eligibility costs only \$15, and the expungement process starts at just \$250 per case.

"If companies can complete criminal background checks to deny individuals opportunities, why can't we use the same digital records to create opportunities for people?" says **Noella Sudbury, J.D.**, the founder and CEO of Rasa Legal.

Sudbury was exposed to poverty in her extended family and became passionate about understanding the causes and solutions to inequality. After finishing law school, she practiced as a public defender and later served as Senior Policy Advisor for Salt Lake County, working in criminal justice and system policy change to improve laws surrounding criminal record clearance. "I would see my clients work hard to redeem themselves, remain crime free and try to live better their lives, only to be blocked from new opportunities because of an old charge," Sudbury says.

Sudbury has worked with lawmakers in over a dozen states on criminal record policy and legislation. "These reforms are backed with bipartisan support. By allowing for record clearance, we improve people's right to work, make a livable wage and access housing. People don't have to only rely on public assistance when we give them more opportunities," she says.

While working for Salt Lake County, Sudbury hosted an expungement clinic. Public defenders, judges and policymakers in attendance were shocked by the turnout. Nearly 1,000 people arrived with hopes of clearing their record. "Many came with their children in hand. It was a chance for policymakers to meet individuals and learn why they wanted to clear their criminal record," Sudbury says. "Many grew up in poverty or were exposed to addiction or abuse and wanted to build a better future for their children."

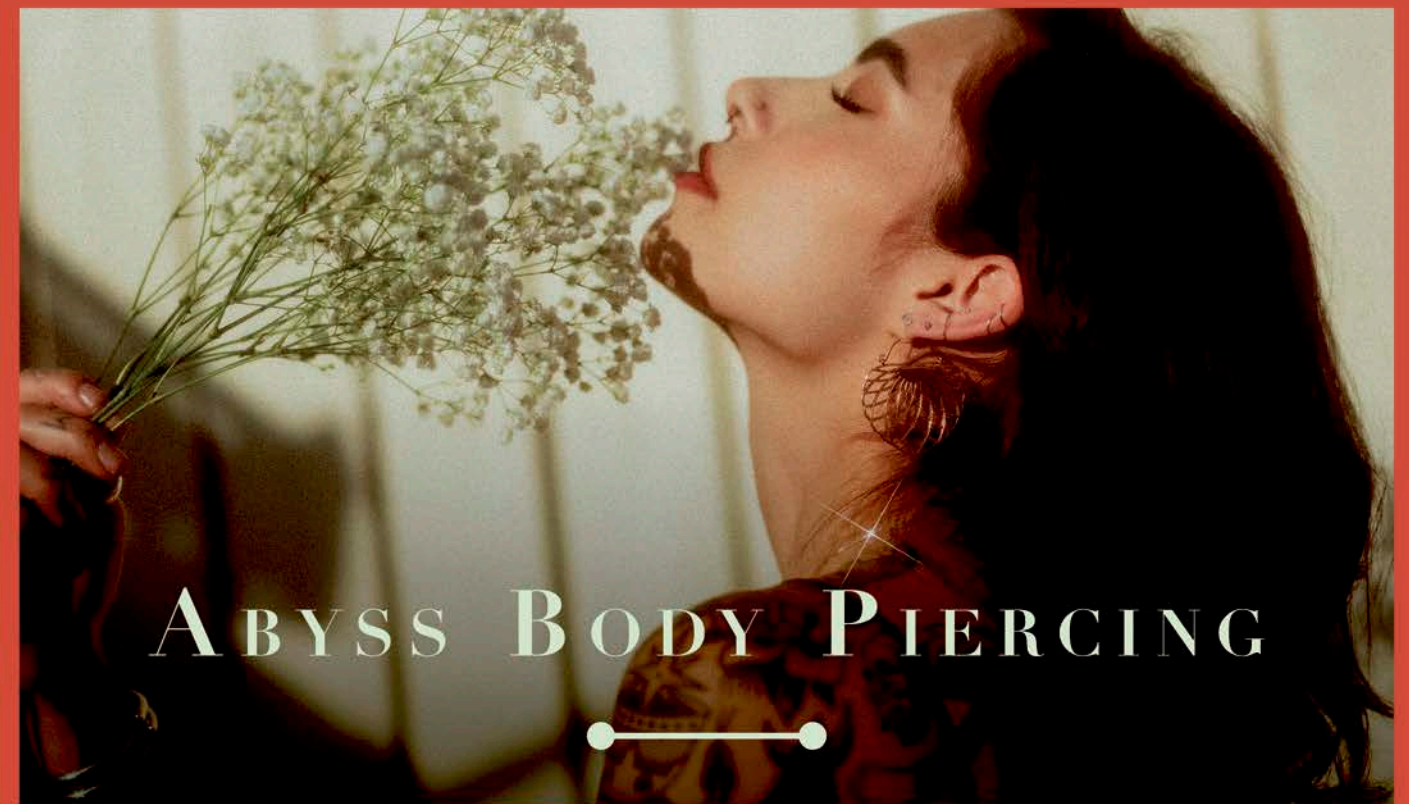
"Realizing the high demand, I wanted to provide this service for as many people as possible. I saw the path to do that, at scale, was tech-

nology," Sudbury says. "The expungement process is difficult even for a lawyer to navigate; imagine how hard it may be for someone with only a high school education." Most individuals cannot easily access their records or remember the details surrounding their charges. With Rasa Legal's digital services, gathering that information can be done in just a few minutes. "We're democratizing the law, putting it into the hands of the people and making the justice system accessible," she says.

Rasa Legal also connects clients to new opportunities. "During our intake, we ask what you want in life. While you are getting your record expunged, we try to connect you to resources like health insurance, fair chance employment opportunities and scholarships for those interested in higher education," Sudbury says. "One of our clients wanted to become a public defender after clearing his records, and now he's finishing his first year of law school." People can go from homelessness to homeownership, or from struggling financially to providing for their family. "What we offer our clients is not just legal services, but the ability to dream," Sudbury says.

Rasa Legal has helped over 24,000 people check their eligibility for record clearance and has successfully expunged more than 5,000 records — more than many traditional lawyers will clear in their lifetime. Rasa Legal recently opened their digital platform in Arizona and will soon open in Pennsylvania. To learn more, visit rasa-legal.com/slug-nov-25 or use the QR code below for a free eligibility check — normally \$15 but currently free for *SLUG Magazine* readers.

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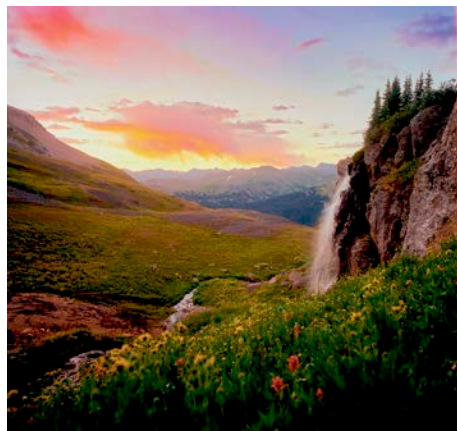
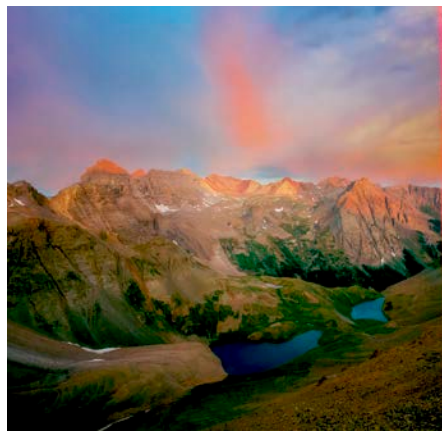
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“When I got to the top and saw the view, I knew it was well worth the effort,” Flip Twogood says. This past summer, he estimates he hiked about 500 miles, always with a camera in hand.

FLIP TWOGOOD: Discovering Film, One Roll at a Time
By Olivia Watts || oj.watts5@gmail.com

TOP LEFT: “Big Island Coast,” Kodak 120 Portra 400, 2024. Kailua-Kona, Hawaii.

TOP MIDDLE: “Desert Sunset,” Kodak 120 Portra 400, 2024. Arches National Park, Utah.

TOP RIGHT: “Alpine Start,” Kodak 120 Portra 400, 2025. Mount Sneffels, Colorado.

BOTTOM: “Mornings in the San Juans,” Kodak 120 Portra 400, 2025. San Juan Mountains, Colorado.

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"Live music ... strikes more emotion than other types of photography did for me," Cassilyn Anderson says. "When I shoot, I put an emphasis ... on the fact that this is a historical moment, and I want to tell the story of this show."

CASSILYN ANDERSON: From Fangirl to Concert Photographer
By Cam Elliott || cameronchelliott@gmail.com

"Untitled," 2024, 35mm. Matthew Shultz of Cage the Elephant.





There's something dreamlike about a Jillian Meyer photograph. The Utah-based photographer has a way of capturing stillness that feels alive. "I think it's really beautiful, taking the time to recognize these things that are around us all the time and making them look beautiful — but also abstract, in a way," Meyer says.

These days, Meyer's personal work leans toward nature, but not in the usual sense. "I'm having a lot of fun with this *Flora* project," she says. "I've been using a speed light [which adds] different kinds of light to the plants ... and red flash gels." The technique is careful, but her

PLAYING WITH SCALE: Jillian Meyer Sees People in Petals

By Lexi Hall || lexieliz05@gmail.com

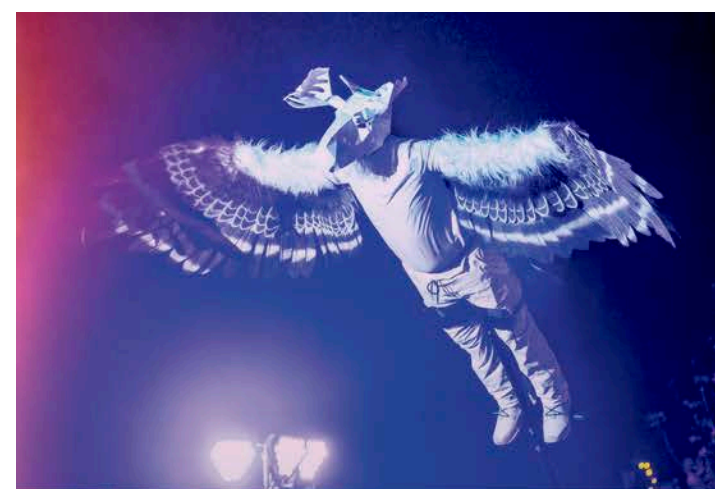
TOP: "Red Grasses at Night," 35mm, 2025. From the *Flora* series.

BOTTOM LEFT: "Among the Trees," Digital, 2023. From the *Little People* series.

BOTTOM RIGHT: "Lone Surfer," Digital, 2023. From the *Little People* series.

approach stays intuitive. "I take photos of flowers and plants, almost photographing them as people ... taking the time to light the subject as if I'm taking a photo of a fashion model."

Meyer describes her style as "honest but abstract." Her compositions often play with scale — "a small silhouette against a giant mountain" — to explore that feeling of smallness she finds comforting.





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When Kelly Hannah points his lens toward the Great Salt Lake, he's not chasing the perfect shot. He's listening. The longtime photographer moves slow, waiting for the water, light and sky to align into something that can't be staged. "I'm mostly trying to stay open to the photos moving to me, rather than the opposite," he says. "It's less about creating and more about receiving."

LISTENING TO THE LAKE: Kelly Hannah and the Art of Seeing Differently
By Emily Shelton || sheltonem09@gmail.com

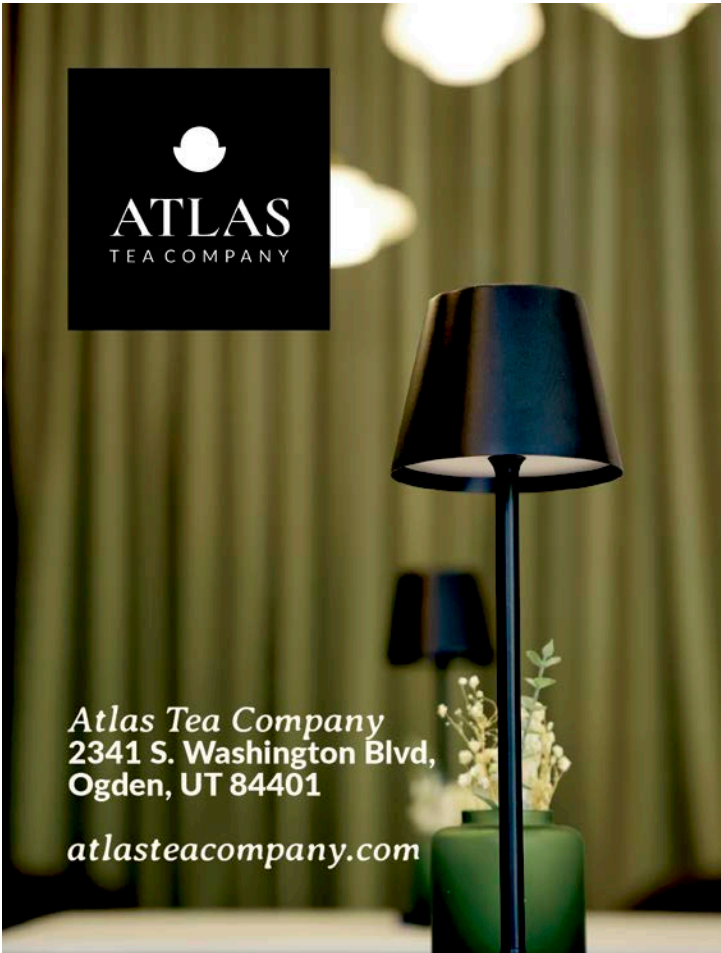

TOP: "Ripple Effect (Thanksgiving Day)," Digital, 2024. White Rock Bay at Antelope Island.

BOTTOM LEFT: "Fast Cars & Slow Dumpsters," Digital, 2017. Bonneville Speedway.

BOTTOM RIGHT: "Deliverance of Clouds," Digital, 2024. North Arm of the Great Salt Lake.

Hannah's conversations with the lake have stretched from quiet dawns at the shoreline to turbulent afternoons when clouds and foam become indistinguishable. His work plays with that blur, the thin space where boundar-

ies between elements disappear. "Out there it's hard to tell what's air and what's water," he says. "That compressed perspective fascinates me — it's about what connects things, not what divides them."



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LOCALIZED SEEKING THE SUN

By Hans Magleby
hemagleby@gmail.com

Photo: Harry Connolly

(From L-R): Seeking The Sun is Juniper Wolf on vocals, Joseph McDaniel on bass, Sean McDaniel on drums and Max Pecora on guitar.

The great Salt Lake City just keeps on rocking with the lineup for November’s edition of *SLUG Localized!* With alt-rock riffs from opener **CAMO** and heavy-hitting chords from both Seeking The Sun and **Chausie**, it’s a night you don’t want to miss! Be at *Kilby Court* on Nov. 18 to experience the truest form of local rock. Sponsored by *Riso-Geist*, the show costs just \$5 for entry.

Joseph McDaniel and **Juniper Wolf** met in a high school music class. In adulthood, the pair moved to Colorado and formed Seeking The Sun during the COVID-19 pandemic. But now, split between New York and Salt Lake, Seeking the Sun is creating expansive and layered tracks that

may cause listeners to shift between veils of various realities. The group references a wide range of influences including **Devo**, **Korn**, **Black Midi** and **Geordie Greep**’s excellent solo record *The New Sound*. McDaniel sums up this spread: “A lot of groove-heavy bands.”

LOCALIZED CHAUSIE

By Hans Magleby
hemagleby@gmail.com

Photo: Brent Landes

(From L-R): Preston Johnson (guitar, lead vocals), Ammon Aholelei (bass), Elliott Moore (guitar) and Landon Parker (drums) break out the alt-rock claws with Chausie.

Preston Johnson and **Landon Parker** were classmates in high school with ambitions of starting a band. Johnson had been playing guitar for four to five years, and Parker had previously played drums but lacked a kit. Johnson provided a kit and suddenly the two were intent on making fast, riff-heavy garage rock inspired by punk rockers such as **Meth Wax**.

This led to the formation of a group called **The Pretty Kitties** that ran as a three-piece before evolving into what is now Chausie (pronounced “chow-sea”), with the addition of **Elliott Moore** on guitar and substitut-

ing in **Ammon Aholelei** as the now-quarter’s bassist.

Johnson works as Chausie’s primary writer, coming up with lyrics, riffs and even fully structured tracks on his own before Parker, the group’s engineer/producer, adds his drumming and the two work on it from there. “There are definitely two forces I bring,” Johnson says. “One is a desire to make music that’s very experimental and more like ‘let’s have fun with this,’ and there’s another energy that’s more about making people go crazy!”



Shanna Demke’s hope is that every client, no matter their shape, size or identity, leaves with a sense of empowerment and self-love. “If you’ve got a body, you are a boudoir body,” she says.

SHANNA DEMKE: Redefining What’s Sexy Through Boudoir Photography
By Jordan Thornblad || jordan.thornblad@gmail.com

“Desert Whisper,” Digital, 2025.

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Jonathan Lovett recognizes faith as one of the “thematic recurrences” in their work — even accidentally. Early photographs on film featured dream-like visions. Though not raised in the LDS Church, “I was raised very religious,” Lovett says. They began creating a collection of documentary-style images following young ex-Mormons’ journeys.

LEAVING THE CHURCH: Jonathan Lovett Captures Stories from Utah Youth
By Carlysle Price || carlyslep@gmail.com

TOP: “Under the Willow,” Analog Photography, 2025. Provo, Utah.

BOTTOM LEFT: “leviticus 24:16 (stone me),” Analog Photography, 2024. From the *Same Sun, Different Saints* series.

BOTTOM MIDDLE: “Jonny,” Analog Photography, 2024. From the *Leaving the Church* series.

BOTTOM RIGHT: “Inhaling Poppers,” Analog Photography, 2025. Los Angeles, California.



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Leo Wilson's approach to photography mirrors the same mindset that defines skating. In some photos, his 16mm fisheye lens couldn't get any closer to the deck of a moving board. "To me, it's worth breaking stuff to get what I'm going for," he says.

ANALOG RGB: The Skate Photography of Leo Wilson
By Gavyn Cundari || cundarigavyn@gmail.com

"Bridge grind up the canyon," Nikon F3 35mm film, 2025. James McMaster.

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Blockbuster Bites at Nomad East

By Sean Rinn
rinnsean@gmail.com

Photos by Nicole Marriner

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Nomad East's nontraditional menu is brimming with exciting flavor combinations beyond just the pizza list. Immediately, the Roasted Fingerlings (\$12) caught my eye on the list of starters. Crispy potatoes are glazed in a crimson gochujang sauce as green onions, sesame seeds and beautiful gobs of stracciatella are evenly dispersed on top. A sweet and spicy Asian sauce with creamy cheese on top of a bed of potatoes — it seemed like a no-brainer. It was exact-

ly what I needed to build my excitement to try three different pies, each named after a movie or an element of pop culture.

TOP: Roasted Peaches, Children of the Corn, Popeye's Pie, Roasted Fingerlings, The Braveheart (clockwise from top).

BOTTOM RIGHT: Chefs **Robin Gomes** (left) and **Diego Najarro** (right) cook their pizzas in wood-fired ovens.

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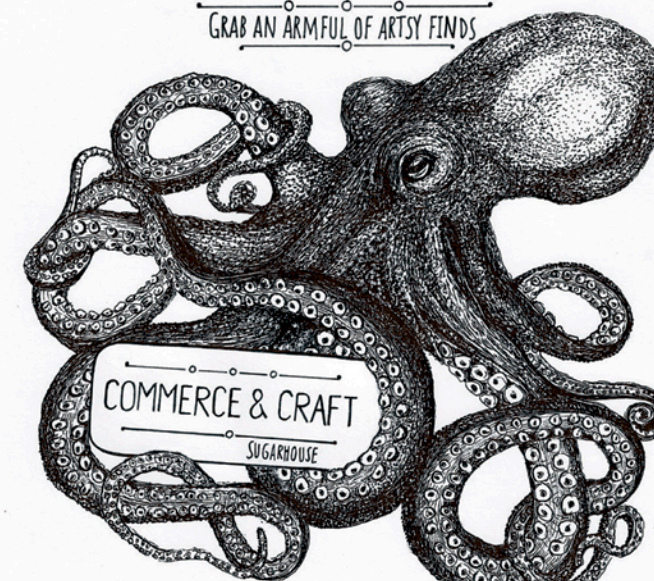
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SLUG MAG

ASTROLOGY


FORECAST


Burning Convictions


NOVEMBER 2025


By Nichole Huntsman • nicholehuntsman@gmail.com

You could be right, but you could be wrong. This is an emotionally reactive month; positions are taken and lines are drawn in the sand. It's highly charged and full of confidence. Humility and grace will go a long way during this Sagittarius season.


ARIES: 
Is the Grass Greener?
There will be a need to get out of your comfort zone. Are you satisfied with where you are in life? This could be a restless month. You may feel a need to expand, change or grow. Questions of existence and divinity could be highlighted. Time to examine your thoughts and weed out the pre-programmed material.


TAURUS: 
Discernment in Relationships
It's the season for gaining clarity. A better understanding of the motivations and true intentions in your relationships. What is the arrangement? Friends? Lovers? Business partners? You'll have a chance to clarify your position. Be proactive in your relationships and prepared for these conversations.


GEMINI: 
Strategic Partnerships
Use your clever mind to outthink your opponents this month. Rework the presentation and own the meeting. You'll see a new way to work the deal. Flexibility in thought will be an asset. There are always loopholes.


CANCER: 
Say What You Mean to Say
Personal empowerment comes through radical honesty with the self. Let's get rid of past self-denial, shame and negation. You may find yourself collaborating with like-minded individuals — perhaps others who are also working on


honest self-expression. Agree to disagree. It's okay to be your own version.


LEO: 
Fated Changes
Sometimes fate forces a leap. Upcoming opportunities begin this winter. Dial in your inner monologue and remember: I am that I am. Fill yourself with a positive mindset. Take a risk but have patience in the process. The time will come.


VIRGO: 
Clean Out the Cobwebs
Your outer environment reflects your inner psyche. Clean out the closets, flip the mattresses, edit the unnecessary. Work in the physical world is reflected in the inner world. Meditation and mindfulness will help with the process.


LIBRA: 
Here, There and Everywhere
This will be a busy month. You're out and about and on the go. You'll have the resources needed — but be careful not to overspend. Remember to keep a balance between home life and the outer world. Use your calendar. It's a good time for a big trip, or many little trips.

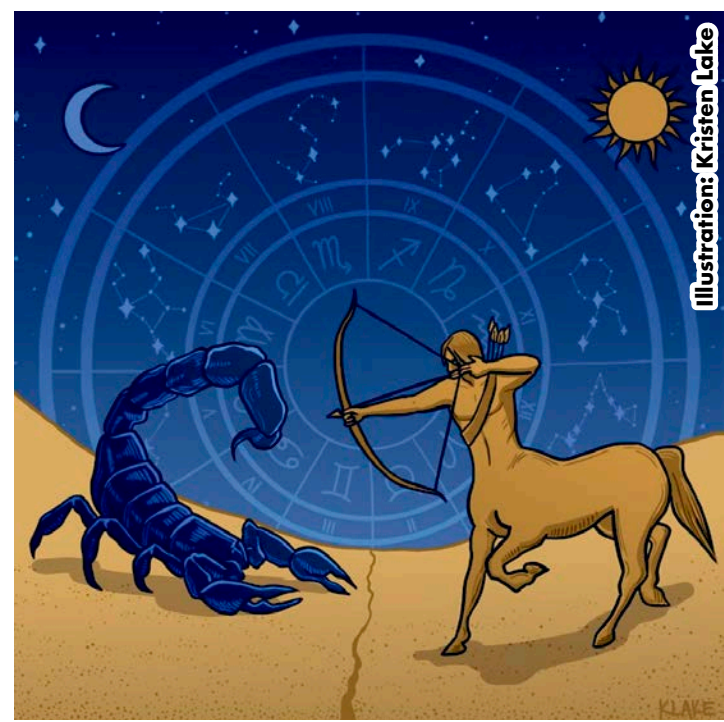
SCORPIO: 
Receiving the Gift
It's your month to shine, in your own low-key Scorpio way. You may need a personal shopping trip. It's time to be spoiled. Accept the gift, the invitation, the compliment. Life is short, and you deserve the sweet things.

SAGITTARIUS: 
Launching Out
Ignore the imaginary monsters and set sail. Your convictions and self-assurance are unstoppable this month. You may drop your compass off the side of the boat. Trust your inner guide; harnessed sails will take you where you need to be.

CAPRICORN: 
Dollar Waiting on a Dime
You're waiting on the other one. There are changes in agreements, needing a commitment. Unexpected information is coming from new sources. Take time to research the other team. Experimenting with A/B testing before going live is worth the effort.

AQUARIUS: 
The Power of the Free Thinker
Reach out to friends and important contacts to share advice. You may find yourself in the middle of swirling opinions. This is your chance to lead with a rational approach. Your independence of thought and originality will inspire others this month.

PISCES: 
Through the Psychic Grapevine
You may see some startling replays of your nighttime dreams. There's a good chance you have an especially queued-up intuition this month. Synchronicities are coming through on repeat. REM sleep and daydreams: What does it all mean?





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KIMBALL
ART
CENTER

By Jordan Turner
jordanturner1221@gmail.com
Photos by John Taylor

Tucked into the heart of Park City, the *Kimball Art Center* has long been a hub for creativity and community. Founded in 1976 by **Bill Kimball**, the center champions artists whose works spark conversation and connection. Its latest exhibition, “Gaze Into These Eyes,” pushes that mission further, inviting viewers to reconsider how portraiture can reshape our understanding of justice, empathy and humanity.

The show is a collaboration with the *Center for Art and Advocacy*, an organization founded by artist **Jesse Krimes** to support creatives directly impacted by the U.S. carceral system. What began in 2017 as the Right of Return Fellowship, providing \$20,000 grants to six artists annually, has grown into a national nonprofit. “When I originally came home from prison, there were next to no support systems ... particularly within the art world,” Krimes shares at the exhibition opening. “I realized we couldn’t wait for institutions to create something; we needed to create it on our own.”

Since its founding, the *Center for Art and Advocacy* has supported more than 40 fellows and helped its artists gain national recognition. Fellows have gone on to receive MacArthur Fellowships, Guggenheim Fellowships, Pulitzer Prizes and Creative Capital Awards, with work collected and exhibited by institutions such as the *Museum*

of Modern Art, the Brooklyn Museum and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. As Krimes notes, “A number of artists were homeless, living out of their car when they applied. I think that’s a testament to the impact the organization has and the people we support.”

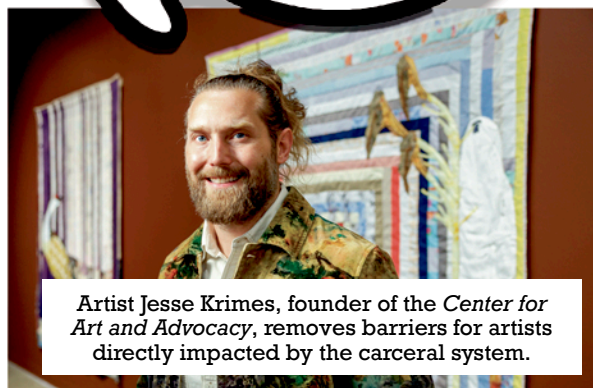
So, what exactly is “Gaze Into These Eyes?” The exhibition brings together works that “confront, reclaim and reimagine systems of representation.” Through portraits, whether painted, quilted or captured in other media, each artist invites the viewer to pause and connect. *Kimball Art Center* curator **Nancy Stoaks** explains, “Portraits are an important tool for human connection. We all can see pieces of ourselves in these works, which is quite extraordinary, even though we may have very different lived experiences.”

Krimes’ own series, “Elegy Quilts,” exemplifies this approach. Developed during the COVID-19 pandemic, the works began when he asked incarcerated people to describe their favorite memories of home. He then stitched these memories into quilts, often incorporating clothing and ephemera from the participants and their loved ones. “It was a way to remind people that even while incarcerated, they’re still part of our community,” Krimes says.

BRANDED CONTENT

‘Gaze Into These Eyes’

CHAMPIONS
JUSTICE-IMPACTED
ARTISTS



Artist Jesse Krimes, founder of the *Center for Art and Advocacy*, removes barriers for artists directly impacted by the carceral system.

The show features many powerful voices. **Fulton Leroy “Mr. Wash” Washington’s** “When I Returned” captures the emotional weight of reentry after incarceration, while **Victor “Marka27” Quiñonez’s** “I.C.E. Scream” series uses seemingly playful pop imagery to reflect on detention and deportation. Nashville-based painter **Omari Booker** brings bold, expressive works that confront systemic injustice, and photographer **Frank Blazquez** offers stark portraits that document identity, struggle and survival in the Southwest. Together, their works broaden the exhibition’s call to see and truly reflect on the humanity in each subject.

For **Carly Fischer**, deputy director of the *Center for Art and Advocacy*, the exhibition’s placement in Park City carries its own significance. “People asked, ‘Why here?’ But why not?” she says. “Why can’t Park City be at the center of a national dialogue on what’s happening in contemporary art?” As one of the region’s oldest creative nonprofits, the *Kimball Art Center* has long elevated emerging artists while sparking national conversations. “We curate all of our exhibitions,” Stoaks emphasizes. “We tailor-make our shows for this community, because institutional collaborations and artist voices are at the root of what we do.”

“Gaze Into These Eyes” is on view through Jan. 4, offering ample time for visitors to immerse themselves in its stories. On Nov. 12, the center will host an artist panel, providing deeper insight into the practices and lived experiences behind the work.

Show your support by visiting the *Kimball Art Center*, bringing a friend and joining in the conversation. More information can be found at kimballartcenter.org and on Instagram at [@kimballartcenter](https://www.instagram.com/kimballartcenter). Learn more about Krimes’ advocacy work at centerforartandadvocacy.org.

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NOVEMBER 2025

Ax and the Hatchetmen - 11.1 Soundwell | **Lovejoy** - 11.1 The Depot | **Lexa Gates** - 11.3 Soundwell
The Living Tombstone - 11.4 The Complex | **Paige Fish** - 11.5 The Depot
They Are Gutting A Body Of Water - 11.5 Soundwell | **The Faint** - 11.7 The Depot
hannah bahng - 11.12 The Complex | **Lil Peep Memorial Show** - 11.15 The Complex
Richy Mitch & The Coal Miners - 11.19 The Depot | **The Happy Fits** - 11.21 The Complex
Minus the Bear - 11.23 The Depot | **Hot Mulligan** - 11.26 The Complex | **Cardinal Bloom** - 11.29 The Complex
Violent Vira - 12.1 Soundwell | **Story Of The Year + Senses Fail** - 12.7 The Complex | **Gavn!** - 12.10 Soundwell
Vincent Lima - 12.12 The Complex | **The Brobecks** - 12.13 The Complex

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BOLT CUTTER 11.1
Sub Urban - 11.2
Triathalon 11.3
NoSo - 11.4
Water From Your Eyes - 11.5
Dogpark 11.6
Hotel Mira - 11.7
The Kilns 11.8
99.9 KUAA Presents:
Caroline Rose 11.9
upon your dead body +
The Culture + Tampa Chess Club 11.10
+ secondhandartwork
TOLEDO 11.11
asiris - 11.12
Marlon Funaki - 11.13
Molly Grace 11.14
The Last Wild Buffalo 11.15
Joel Sunny - 11.17
SLUG LOCALIZED 11.18
Home Is Where 11.19
Henrik - 11.20
World Record 11.21
Surf Hat 11.22
Great American Ghost 11.23
Red Bennies + Lysergic Ashes 11.25
+ Tampa Chess Club + Severin
Lounge Monkey + 11.28
Inversion + Sunnies
Rev3rent 11.29
RAYNES - 12.3

METRO MUSIC HALL

Yaotl Mictlan 11.2
SHEER TERROR 11.4
Death To All 11.6
The Emo Night Tour - 11.7
Psychedelic Porn Crumpets - 11.8
Dead On A Sunday 11.10
Hulder 11.12
99.9 KUAA Presents:
The Brian Jonestown Massacre 11.13
Entheos 11.14
Dan Deacon 11.15
The Beths - 11.18
Krisiun 11.19
Viva La Diva: Decades Diva 11.21
Viva La Diva: Decades Diva 11.22
Omnium Gatherum - 11.26
An Evening with: The Mountain Goats - 11.29
Atreyu - 12.3
The Home Team - 12.4
Viva La Diva: Jolly Holiday Diva 12.12
Viva La Diva: Jolly Holiday Diva 12.13
Viva La Diva: Jolly Holiday Diva 12.20
Viva La Diva: Jolly Holiday Diva 12.21
Viva La Diva: New Years Eve Diva! 12.31
LIGHTS - 2.24

URBAN LOUNGE

Like Moths To Flames 11.1
That 1 Guy 11.2
Ryan Davis + The Roadhouse Band 11.3
Night Moves 11.4
Telescreens 11.5
Traveling Wilburys Revue 11.6
Shai Hulud 11.7
Nuclear Daisies 11.8
Belmont 11.10
The Fretliners 11.12
Ariana and the Rose 11.13
BORIS - 11.14
Nuovo Testamento 11.15
Bass Drum Of Death 11.16
Greet Death 11.18
Keep Close 11.20
Stylie 11.21
Sean Baker's Recycled Stardust +
Cecet Souls + HOOCH 11.22
Corbin - 11.24
Merula 11.29
Promiscuous: Y2k Club Bangers Party 12.5
Madball 12.7
House of Harm 12.8
Save Ferris 12.10
Birth-Tay Par-Tay: 12.11
Taylor Swift Dance Party
Twelve Bands Of Christmas 12.12
Cattle Decapitation - 12.13
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