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Black and Purple Petunias, 1925 - O'Keeffe

I-20

Famous New
Mexicans Issue

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Georgia O'Keeffe, American Painter

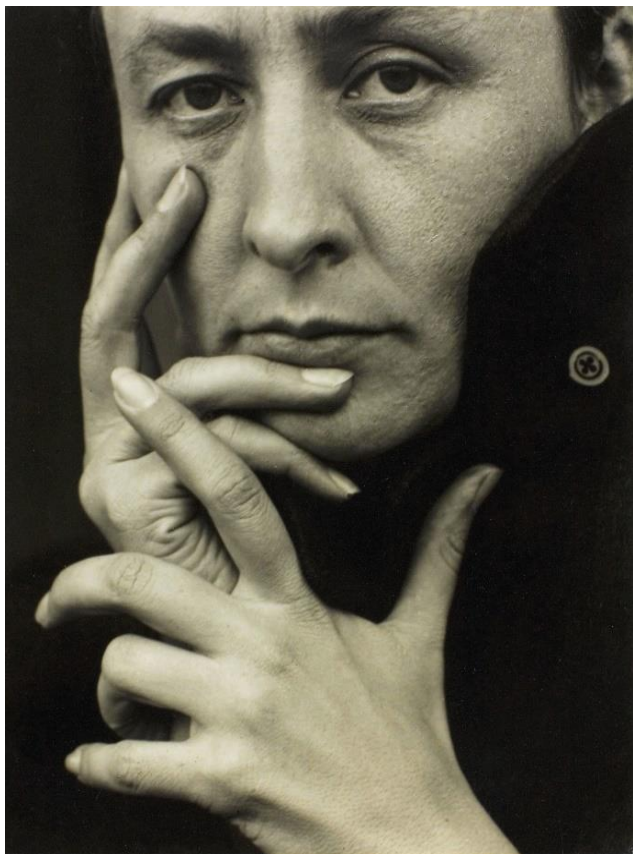
by Nobuko Nakagami, Japan

Georgia O'Keeffe was one of the most famous abstract painters in the U.S. The time I discovered her was in autumn 2013 when I visited Santa Fe for the first time and dropped by a small arts shop. In front of the shop, an old man was sitting and reading something. I found a postcard printed with two purple flowers that filled the entire postcard. The postcard attracted me, because of the vivid purple color. The old man noticed that I'm Japanese. He went back in the inner part of his shop, then brought me a pamphlet about Georgia O'Keeffe. It was written in Japanese. She devoted her whole life to painting her idea of "the wideness and wonder of the world as I live in it."

O'Keeffe was born on November 15, 1887 into a large farming family. In Chicago and New York, she studied the arts starting in 1905, where her major was traditional European painting. The year 1912 became a turning point for O'Keeffe when she was introduced to Arthur Wesley Dow's unique concepts in art. These gave

her a chance to search for her original style of painting based on her feelings and ideas for two years. In 1915, she unveiled abstract charcoal works in New York. There she had a fateful encounter with Alfred Stieglitz, who was a photographer and had his own gallery. In 1916, he was impressed with O'Keeffe's works and held an exhibit without her permission. O'Keeffe heard about the exhibition from her friend. When she visited Stieglitz with her complaint, he fell in love with her at first sight. She later married Stieglitz and became his model. The reason I could find a postcard with her painting in Santa Fe was because she has a connection to New Mexico.

O'Keeffe visited New Mexico and was inspired by the unique culture and environment, just as we are now. Later, she spent most of her life in New Mexico. O'Keeffe had two houses, one at Ghost Ranch and another in Abiquiu. She painted many landscapes of a



small mountain called Cerro Pedernal. In her long career as an artist, she seemed to enjoy painting landscapes, flowers, and animal bones.

O'Keeffe passed away in Santa Fe in 1986. Today, we can visit her homes in northern New Mexico and enjoy her art at museums all over the world, including one devoted to her here in Santa Fe. If you visit her museum, maybe your art sense will bloom like hers.

D.H. Lawrence, Literary Great

by Khalid Alzharani, Saudi Arabia

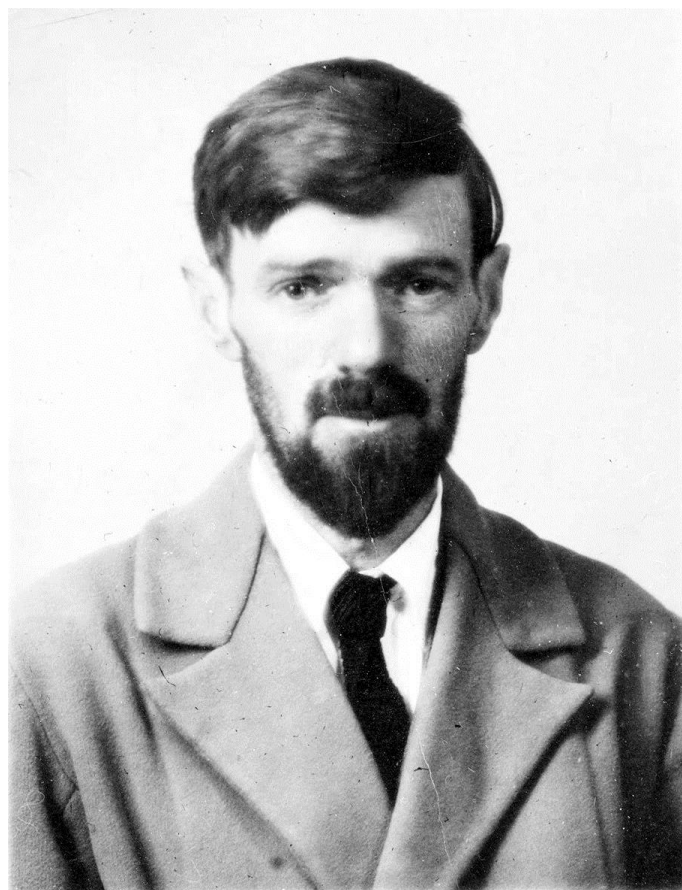
It is the instrument of any language in the world. Once you hear someone reciting it, it feels like you are listening to a piece of sad, romantic, emotional, happy, tragic music. You will not only enjoy its spectacular way of writing such as the mental pictures the poet creates through language, but also the strong words it has between its lines. It's highly appreciated in so many different part of the world, but it's uniquely respected in the Arab world.

Poetry is the use of a language in an artistic way; it is the music of any language in the world, which is being played by a poet. What makes poetry unique is the literary devices that it's full of such as rhythm, rhyme, personification, and repetition.

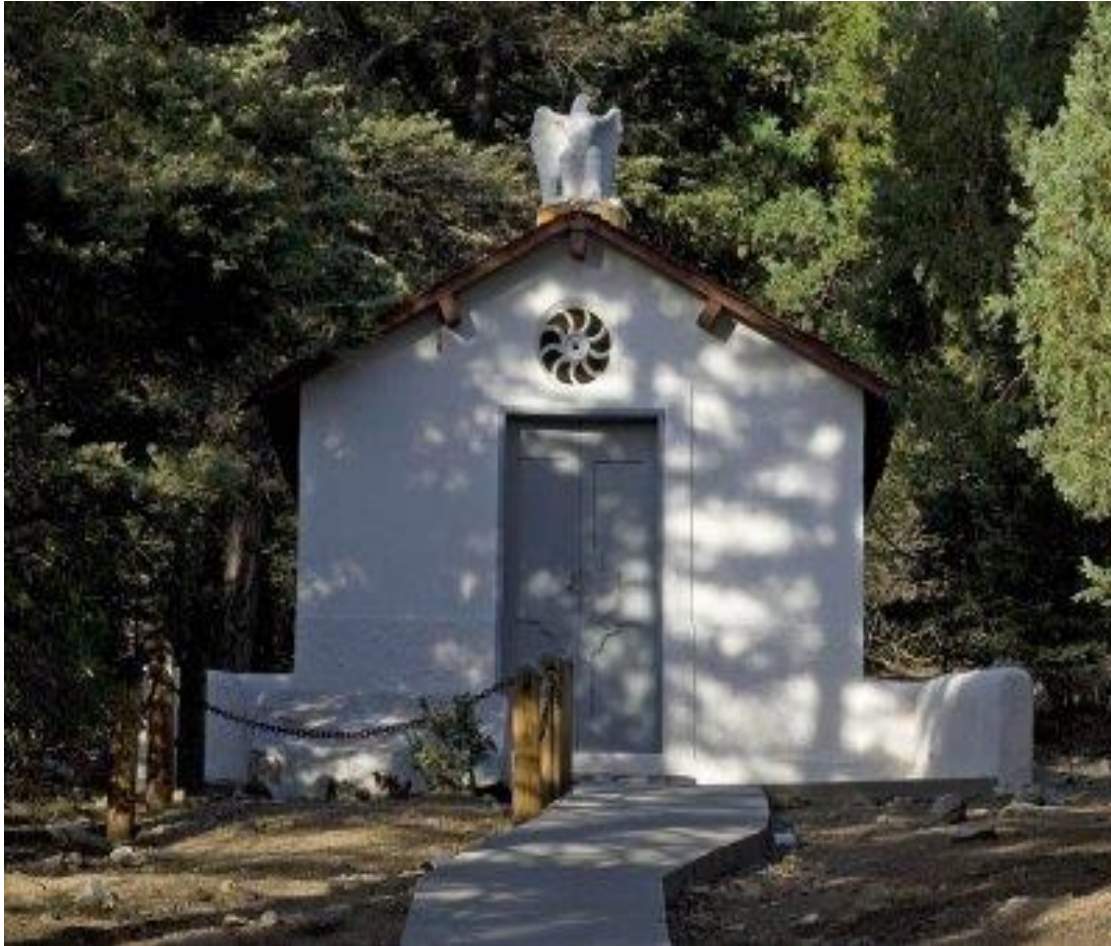
Every country in the world has some famous poets. Whether they write in English or any other language, they apply their own unique literary devices and use the powerful words their language has.

The state of New Mexico has some famous poets. One of them is D.H Lawrence. David Herbert Richards Lawrence was born on September 11, 1885 in Eastwood, Nottinghamshire, England. He wasn't only a poet but also a novelist, playwright, essayist, literary critic and painter.

D.H Lawrence was a child of a poor family. He used to work as coal miner during his childhood and attended Beauvale Boarding School which lately was re-named after Lawrence. Then he attended University College, Nottingham in 1908, during which years he was working on his first poems.



In 1922 D.H Lawrence and his family moved to the U.S. and more precisely the state of New Mexico. After his arrival, he bought a property which is now well known as D.H. Lawrence Ranch. He stayed only for two years in New Mexico.



Lawrence's memorial on his ranch near Taos , New Mexico

had. It certainly changed me forever."

During his stay in the U.S., Lawrence rewrote and published *Studies in Classic American Literature*, which is a set of critical essays. Furthermore, he completed several fictional works such as *The Boy in the Bush* and *The Princess*.

He is well-known as a novelist but he actually wrote several beautiful poems, the most famous of which are "A Winter's Tale", "Beautiful Old Age," "Self-Pity," "Butterfly," and "A Love Song."

Despite D. H. Lawrence's failing health, he continued to write poetry. In his last days of life he suffered from complications of tuberculosis which lead to his death in 1930.

His house which turned into a destination to many of his fans now-a-days, is also a nice place to visit for people who like literature and poetry.

The ranch is now placed on the National Register of Historic Places and the New Mexico State Register of Cultural Properties. It is located in the mountains near Taos down a seven-mile dirt road from State Highway 522.

D. H. Lawrence said that, "I think New Mexico was the greatest experience from the outside world that I ever



Neil Patrick Harris, Actor

by Tung Phan, Vietnam

Have you ever watched the comedy series “How I Met Your Mother” that ran from 2005-2014? Who do

you think is the funniest character? I think most people will answer none other than Barney Stinson. His real name is Neil Patrick Harris. Do you know that Neil, who is famous now, was born in Albuquerque? Let find out more clearly about his biography and career.

Neil Patrick Harris was born in June 15, 1973 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He graduated from La Cueva High School in 1991. He has participated and succeeded in many roles such as actor, producer, singer, comedian, magician and even television host. He got married and is having a happy life with his husband and twins kids.

There are a large number of movies that he participated in, but his reputation had not been known until he participated the comedy series “How I Met Your Mother,” and since then, his name has been widely known. In the series, he is considered as a breakout character of the show because he brought laughter to everyone.

He started acting when he was a child at a drama camp in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Harris participated as a main character in The Smurfs 1 and 2. In 2015, he hosted the 87th Oscar Awards. He also won the Emmy three times. On stage, he has also performed in Broadway in both musicals and dramas.

He is also a magician, for which he won the Tannen's Magic Louis Award in 2006. He is definitely a talented person. Beside artistic activity, he has many charitable activities. Most of them are about cancer, AIDS, giving food or supporting children. He also supports LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) causes.

Finally, Neil Patrick Harris is not only talented on stage, but also a generous person in society. He did many great things for those who are less fortunate. He is a special person, born and raised in Albuquerque, who is widely admired for his success.



Holly Holm, the Woman Behind the Octagon

by Erika Salazar, Mexico

The MMA (Mixed Martial Arts) is mainly dominated by men, but the first female competition was registered in Japan in the mid-1990s. After that in 2001, The Smackgirl competition was formed. But could you imagine a delicate and attractive woman fighting in the UFC (Ultimate Fighting Championship) cage?

Well, this is the case with Holly Holm. Holly is a delightful woman that was born on October 17, 1981 in the Land of the Enchantment (specifically, Albuquerque, NM). Holly grew up near Bosque Farms. Holly is the youngest of three children. Her father, Roger Holm, was a Church of Christ preacher for 18 years -which is where the nickname "The Preacher Daughter" first originated. He continues to work as a preacher and partner

with Holly in the real estate business. Meanwhile her mother, Tammy Bredy, is a massage therapist. They divorced before Holly graduated from Manzano High School in 2000. The Holms family are from Irish descent. During her life Holly enjoyed playing soccer, doing gymnastics, swimming and diving.

Holm always wanted to practice martial arts but her father did not let her because it was not for women. When Holly graduated from Manzano High School, she was enrolled for one year in the University of New Mexico, where she practiced aerobics and kickboxing. Her cardio-kickboxing instructor Mike Winkeljohn saw Holm's potential as a fighter and began training her. Winkeljohn mentioned in an interview, "She's got that instinct...when she gets hit, she knows it's time to come back. I wish I could bottle (what she has) and sell it." So this was the beginning of her great successful career in MMA. Holm

said, "I started aerobics to keep in shape, I saw the (kickboxing) class, thought it looked pretty cool, so I thought I'd try it for one fight and see what it was like."

This is how Holly Holm's story started and is making a new era in MMA. Holly Holm, amazed the world when she defeated the then champion, Ronda Rousey. With only 5'8" in height, but super lightning speed, she became the new champion by knocking out her opponent. Holm told *USA Today*: "I have heard that things are going crazy in Albuquerque already and I can't wait to get back there. I love my home so much, the people have shown me so much love and I can't wait to celebrate with them and thank them for their support." When she returned to Albuquerque, the Albuquerque City Council proclaimed November as "Holly Holm Month," according to KOB4.

Holly won her first national amateur championship in Kansas City,

Missouri in the fall of 2001, her last kickboxing appearance before her pro debut. She made her professional kickboxing debut on June 1, 2002 at Santa Ana Star Casino in Bernalillo, north of Albuquerque. Her pro boxing debut came on January 25, 2002 at the Isleta Casino and Resort south of Albuquerque. Holly won by a TKO over debut fighter Martha Orozco. Holly Holm credits Mike Winkeljohn for his skills in developing her as a boxer and, more recently, as an entry MMA fighter. "Practice makes perfect. It's a lot of dedication; you

just have to put your heart into it." She commits to about three hours daily of training. "It's very time consuming to train," Holm says, "but it's exciting. It's worth all the training."

Holly has a close relationship with her father and brothers, but her mother does not completely agree with her career in MMA.

Holly found real love in 2012 when she married Jeff Kirkpatrick, who is also from Albuquerque and who supports her in all her decision.

Holly's hobbies are snowboarding and hiking. Also, Holm enjoys her free time making crafts, sewing and working in her company that she shares with her father.

Holly Holm is an example of perseverance and success as an enchanting woman who demonstrates that, women can be delicate, feminine and at the same time adventurous and strong in their lives. Holm "fights" for her dreams and keeps her professional and personal life in balance.



Jeff Bezos, Founder of Amazon

by Thao Nguyen, Vietnam

As everyone knows, nowadays almost all people like shopping online because it saves time. They just need to have a phone, laptop, or ipad and credit or debit card. They can buy everything that they like or need. However, there are many websites to shop online.

One of the most reliable websites is Amazon.com which is everyone's favorite even me. Moreover, it isn't generally known that the person who founded Amazon.com was born in New Mexico. So I will write about Jeff Bezos in order that you know all about his life and success.

First, Jeff Bezos' history includes birthplace, education, and personal life. He was born in Albuquerque and is 52 years old. When he was young, he lived with his mother Jacklyn who was

a teenager at the time of his birth. When Bezos was four, she remarried.

After the wedding, they moved to Houston, Texas. As a child, Bezos was very excited by scientific interests and technological proficiency.

His family moved again to Miami, Florida where he attended the Student Training Program at the University of Florida and received a Silver Knight Award in 1982. He studied at Princeton University where he graduated with two bachelors of sciences degrees in

electrical engineering and computer science. After that, he got married with Mackenzie Bezos in 1993 and they had four children: one daughter and three sons.

When Bezos graduated from Princeton in 1986, he worked his first job on Wall Street in the computer science field. Eight years later, he risked his “well-paying job” at New York to found Amazon.com in Seattle. He set up the company in his garage at the beginning.

During this initial phase, he drew up a list of 20 products that could be sold on the Internet. Then he narrowed the list just to have 5 products: compact discs, computer hardware, computer software, videos, and books.

After four months of operation, Amazon.com became a very

popular website and was ranked sixth of the ten best sites on Point Communications. His business became more and more successful.

Furthermore, he founded Blue Origin, a space company, to help enable people to travel to space. This company was kept secret for a few years then it became publicly known. In addition, Bezos was one of the first persons to invest in Google.

He is known to people because of many titles and awards such as *Time* magazine’s Person of the Year (1999). He was selected as one of the America’s Best Leaders by U.S News & World Report (2008), and he was awarded an honorary doctorate in science and technology from

Carnegie Mellon University (2008), just to name a few.

Moreover, according to *Forbes News* 2015, he is the third richest person in the U.S and the fourth wealthiest person in the world. Bezos was ranked the second of the best CEOs in the world by *Harvard Business Review*.

All in all, I believe when you know about Bezos’ success, you will admire him. He pursued what he loved successfully. When I know he is the third richest person in the U.S, I think he passed through many hardships to make achievements in every aspect. So if you also would be like him, keep trying!



Georgia O’Keeffe- Cow’s Skull, Red, White and Blue 1931

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