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A PRIMER OF FINE ARTS IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN STATE Colorado has experienced something of a cultural boom in recent years. Let's review. BY MICHAEL PAGLIA

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CONTRIBUTORS

▶▶ MICHAEL DELEON

Colorado Up Close, page 22

Born and raised in Denver, Michael has been capturing the splendor of this state for the past six years. It wasn't until after high school that he begin taking up the art of photography. His main mission in pursuing the photographic arts is to share the beauty of this land with the rest of the world. Being based out of the Front Range, he is able to capture incredible scenes from both the rugged Rocky Mountains and the rolling American prairie. His images in Where GuestBook Colorado express the rugged beauty of this state.



▲▲ TOMAS ZUCCARENO

Contributing photographer, Tales from the Top, page 36 There is nothing Tomas Zuccareno won't do to get a photo. He might lie in the middle of the street, hang out of the back of a rental car, or climb Colorado's highest 14,000-foot peak — he'll even crawl on his belly through a parking lot to get that perfect shot. He has spent the last 10 years chasing mountaineers and X Games crazies all over the globe, squeezing in dozens of editorial shoots while maintaining an impressive corporate and commercial client list.



◀ KRISTINA JENKINS

Tales from the Top, page 36 She's not a snow bunny herseslf, but in anticipation of readers curious to know what really happens on the mountain, she found a bona fide pro skier who was willing to dish. In addition to her work in Colorado, Kristina currently writes and edits for four other Where publications in Arizona.



Tapping Into Colorado Craft Beer, page 28 Dan Rabin, a freelance writer and Colorado resident for 20 years, describes himself as "a beer drinker with a biking problem." When he's not concocting award-winning homebrews, he can often be found coaxing his road bike up the canyon roads near his Boulder home. His travel stories have appeared in newspapers throughout North America. He contributes regularly to Masters Athlete Magazine and Celebrator Beer News.





MICHAEL PAGLIA

Museums a Mile High or More, page 32 Michael Paglia was born in Philadelphia, but has lived in Colorado for many years. His writing has appeared in such periodicals as Art News, Art & Auction, Architecture and Modernism. For more than a dozen years, he has chronicled the region's art and architecture in his column in Westword, Denver's weekly newspaper. From that vantage, he's had a front-row seat for every museum opening.



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"From the rugged Rocky Mountains to the rolling prairie, Colorado is truly a land of contrast and unmatched beauty."

— MICHAEL DELEON







PREVIOUS PAGE: FIRST-GROWTH GREENERY WELCOMES SPRING ON THE PRAIRIES AND IN THE FOOTHILLS. THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE: GEOMETRIC PATTERNS APPEAR IN THE ICE OF THE SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS; AUTUMN'S IMPENDING ARRIVAL AT GOLDEN GATE CANYON STATE PARK; FROST TRAPS COTTONWOOD LEAVES IN LAKESIDE REEDS AT WESTMINSTER HILLS OPEN SPACE PARK. FACING PAGE: A PASQUE FLOWER PUSHES THROUGH AFTER WINTER IN JEFFERSON COUNTY OPEN SPACE PARK.









FACING PAGE: CHARRED PONDEROSA PINES REMAIN AFTER WILDFIRES IN JEFFERSON COUNTY OPEN SPACE PARK. THIS PAGE, FROM TOP: GRASSLANDS ON THE FRONT RANGE IN JEFFERSON COUNTY OPEN SPACE PARK; A SMALL BARREL CACTUS ENDURES THROUGH WINTER IN SETTLERS' PARK OUTSIDE BOULDER.