

https://www.theeastsiderla.com/news/echo-park-tent-city-as-art-weekend-news/article_9c28be16-79fa-11eb-9c0c-373d9485dffd.html

Echo Park tent city as art + Weekend news

Feb 28, 2021

Hello!

Welcome to the Daily Digest, featuring the latest content from TheEastsiderLA.com.

Please read on for our Sunday report.

Jesús Sanchez, Publisher

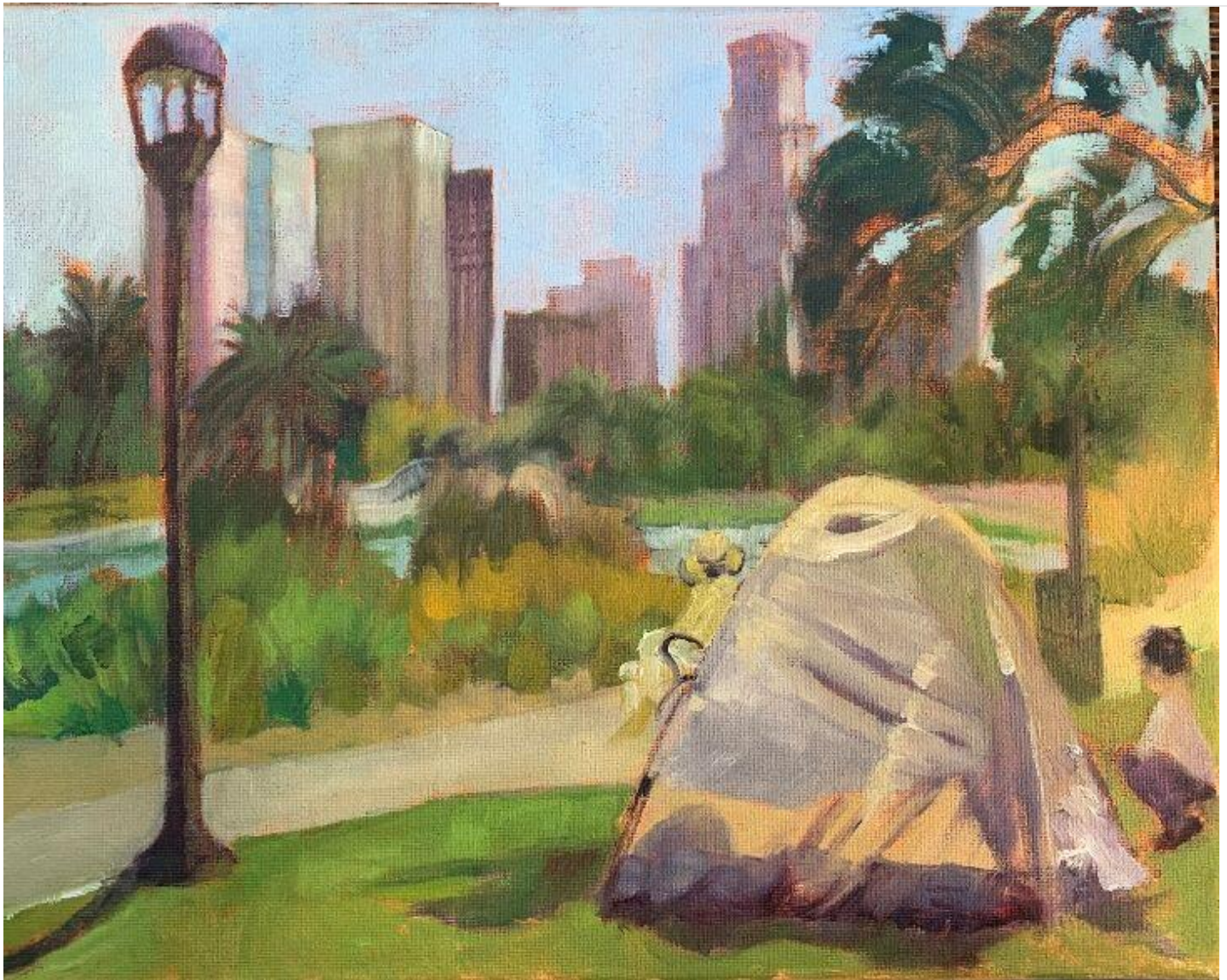
- Got a story idea or photo to share? Submit it here.

Eastside Scene

18th Street Arts Center

Visit the Indonesian Art Sc





"Homeless Tent in Echo Park" by Karen Pokraka; oil on 9" x 12" canvas.

A tent city has become part of the landscape and art of Echo Park

Painters like Karen Pokraka have long been attracted to Echo Park Lake: its swaying palm trees, colorful lotus blossoms and a fleet of pedal boats are ideal subjects for the plein-air artists who set up easels in the park.

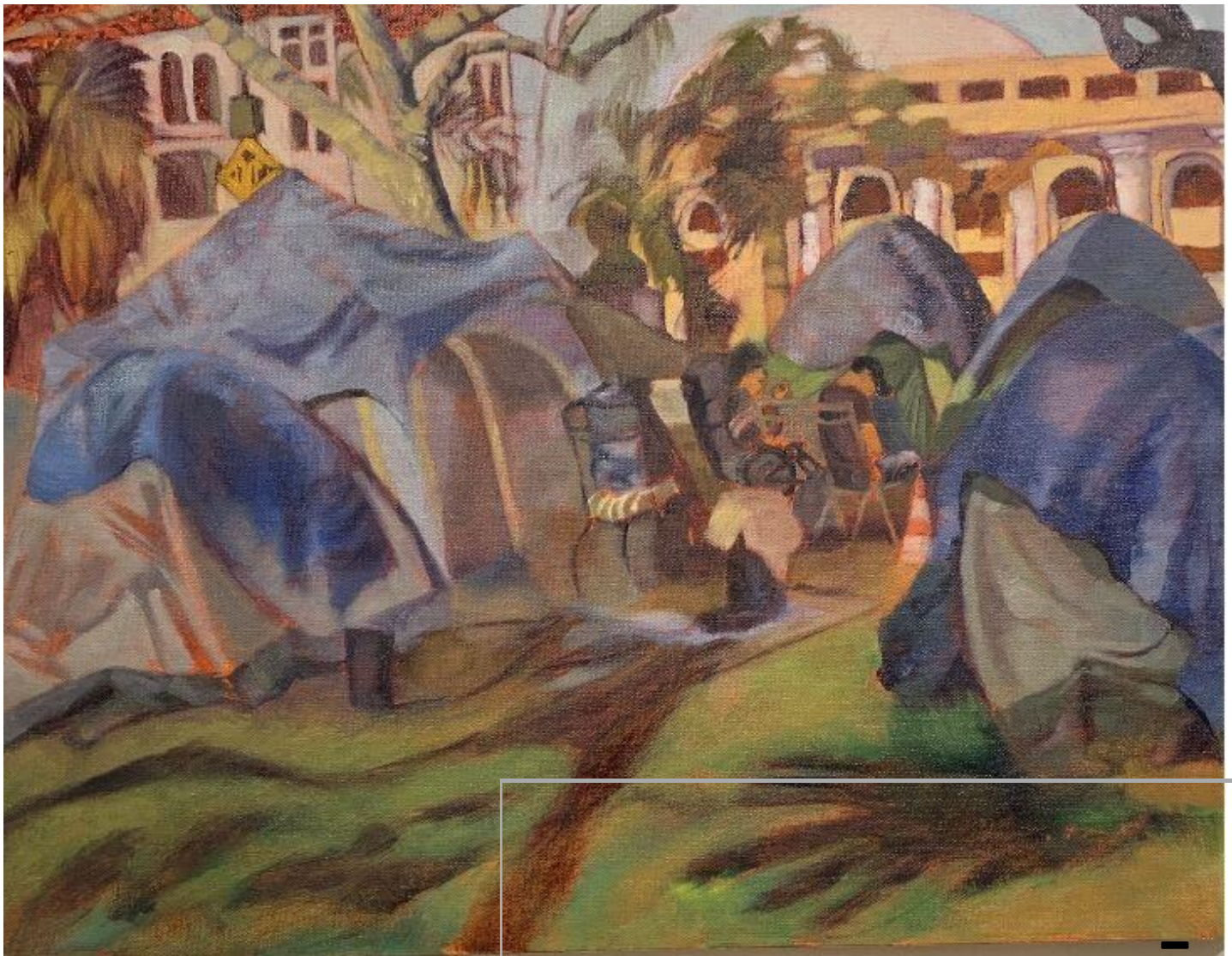
But it is in this idyllic setting that a large homeless encampment has sprung up. More than 100 tents have sprouted under trees and up against the water. They have become part of the landscape, and part of Pokraka's paintings.

Pokraka, a longtime resident of Silver Lake and Echo Park, has been painting for more than 40 years. She had been painting scenes at the lake for several years when the tents and homeless dwellers began to appear.

Her painting of a lone tent with Downtown in the distance was made in the fall of 2019. When she came back a few months later, the tents had continued to multiply. She ended up focusing on a cluster in the northwest corner of the park across from Angelus Temple.

"I painted it to document what was happening and to show the relationship between the tent community and the Angeles Temple and the surrounding luxury apartments, Pokraka said in an email. One of the tent dwellers told her he had a king-sized bed in his tent and had tapped into the park's electrical system.

The sight of so many tents and homeless people living in the park is sad, Pokraka said. But for now it's part of a landscape that residents and artists can't ignore.



"Homeless Encampment and The Angeles Temple" by Karen Pokraka; oil on 16" x 20" canvas.

Photo by Karen Pokraka



Weekend News

- **Shooting leaves man dead in East LA**
- **Anti-vax protesters return to Dodger Stadium**
- **Firefighters bring Echo Park geyser under control**



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Featured Homes in Frogtown on the L.A. River!

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- **Find out more about Coolidge Place**



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Silver Lake Neighborhood Council Elections Las Elecciones del Consejo Vecinal de Silver Lake



- Meet the Candidates Zoom Forum on **March 20th**
Conocer a los candidatos en Zoom el 20 de marzo
- Request a vote-by-mail ballot by **March 30th**
Solicite su boleta antes de 30 de marzo
- Return your ballot by **April 6th**
Devuelva su boleta antes del 6 de abril

For more info and to request a ballot:
Para obtener más información y solicitar una boleta:

slnc2021.wordpress.com



Get Ready to Vote: Here's your chance to have an impact on Silver Lake

The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council Election is fast-approaching and there is no better way for Silver Lake stakeholders to make an impact in their neighborhood. In neighborhoods across our great city, these councils bring City Hall right to your doorstep. They carry your voices directly to decision makers in government and no one knows an area's needs, priorities, and challenges better than somebody who's living on the block that needs the help.

- For more information, go to [SLNC2021.wordpress.com](https://www.slnk2021.wordpress.com) or send email to elections@silverlakenc.org.



Upcoming Events

Go here for details and more events

Sun, Feb 27: Barnsdall Arts Sundays

Tue, March 2: Neighborhood Science (NeiSci) Tuesday: LA Native Plants

Go here for details and more events



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