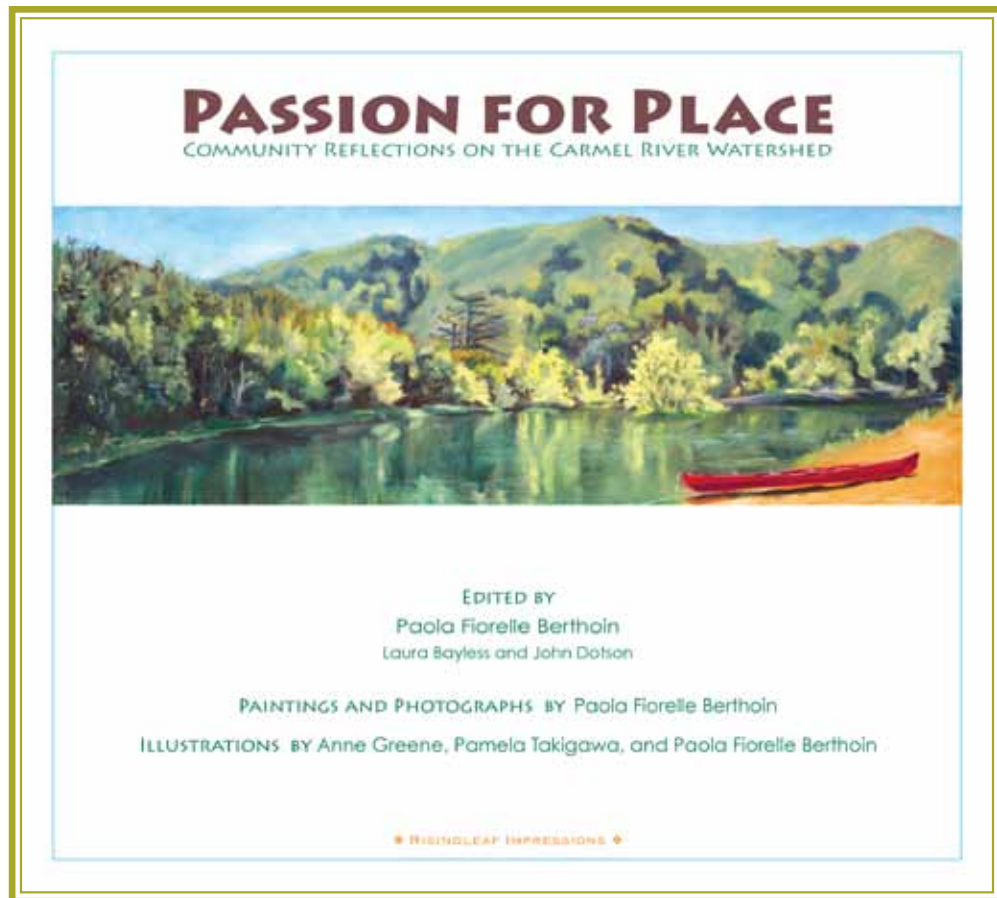


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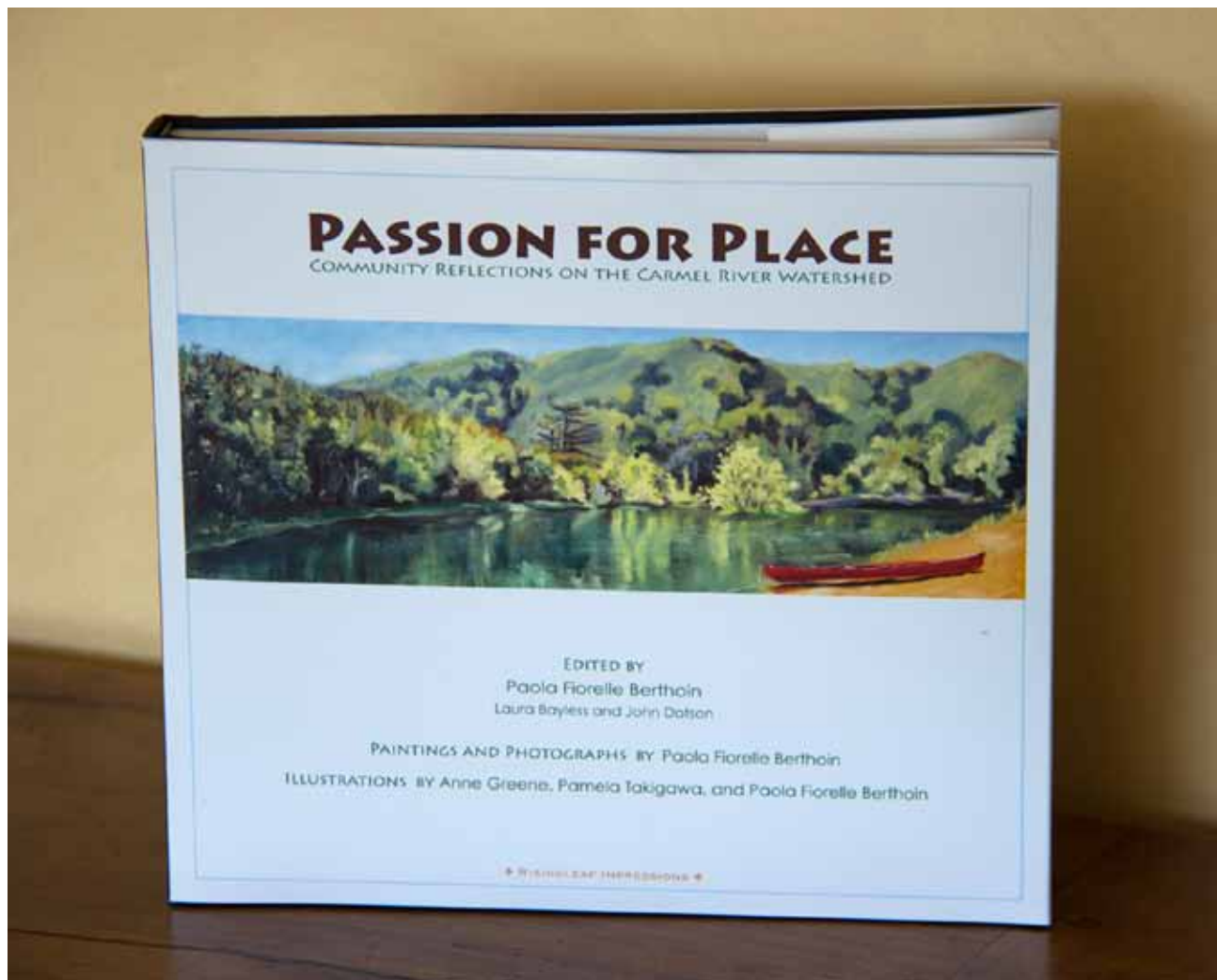
Passion for Place *Community Reflections on the Carmel River Watershed*

Recipient of a 2013 IPPY Bronze Award



*Passion For Place is exquisite.
You can feel the River coming off the pages.
And the wisdom of the people who belong to it.*

Barry Lopez, nationally recognized, award-winning author, *Arctic Dreams*



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“PASSION FOR PLACE: COMMUNITY REFLECTIONS ON THE CARMEL RIVER WATERSHED” RECEIVES IPPY BRONZE MEDAL AWARD FOR THE BEST REGIONAL BOOK

May, 2013. Carmel, CA. Carmel Valley Author/Publisher/Artist Paola Berthoin is pleased to announce that the book, *Passion for Place: Community Reflections on the Carmel River Watershed*, has received a prestigious IPPY Bronze Medal Award (tie) for the Best Regional Non-fiction book for the West Pacific Region, from Alaska to Hawaii and the West Coast states. IPPY Awards are the result of the “world’s largest book awards contest” for independent

publishers from the Jenkins Publishing Group in Traverse City, Michigan. 2500 independent publishers submitted their books and 382 awards are given for “best of” categories. Seventy-five books were considered for the West/Pacific Region category. Awards were announced on April 30, 2013 and will be presented in New York City on May 29, 2013.

Passion for Place (www.passion4place.net) was designed and published by Paola Fiorelle Berthoin. This distinctive book, co-edited by John Dotson, Laura Bayless and Paola Berthoin, and CD



features stories, poems, and essays by forty-six community members of the Carmel River Watershed and beyond in Central California plus beautiful paintings, photographs, and drawings. From the top of the watershed out to the ocean, the anthology captures the importance of water and nature, their beauty and serenity, and their capacity to inspire creativity. The book and CD reveal the collective power

that stories and natural sounds, paintings, photographs and illustrations have to connect people with each other and the land, rivers and oceans.

Passion for Place is a bio-regional book with a global vision that provides a profound and insightful message to anyone around the world who wishes to preserve the beauty of nature in their backyards, communities and watersheds. In the tradition of John Muir and Rachel Carson, Berthoin and her colleagues are alerting all of us to the significance of reconnecting to the natural world and the importance of healthy rivers as the life-giving source around the globe. In 1999, the Carmel River was determined to be one of the ten most-endangered rivers in the United States by the organization American Rivers. The plight of the federally-listed Carmel River steelhead and threatened red-legged frog are but two species dependent on a healthy Carmel River, and are catalysts, in part, for creating this book.



Carmel River at Schulte Road Bridge



View from Touché Pass, Hills above Robinson Canyon Road

Paola Berthoin is available to talk about these themes from the book:

- Importance of the watershed around the globe
- Humans are made up of water so we are linked to our watersheds
- Bioregional/Ecological Imagination
- Watershed Arts: How/why the arts are integral to sustainability
- Stories, poems, and images and their power to connect and inspire action on behalf of the Earth

And for those wanting to learn about creating and publishing their own book, Paola is available to share her expertise in bringing *Passion for Place* into being.

According to Barbara Mossberg, PhD:

“Passion for Place brings together and creates this ethos of watershed consciousness, a community that gives life to mindfulness on living on our Earth—our most expressive humanity of conscience and attentiveness. *Passion for Place* “...honors the spirit of place, giving an energy and heart and beautiful order to the commitments and conscience of humanity.”

“Stunning photographs, drawings, and transcendent paintings of landscapes both grand and small orchestrate these stories into what can only be described as a symphonic love affair with home...” -David Cavagnaro, photographer, author of *Living Water*



© Pamela Takigawa

Publication Data:

Passion for Place: Community Reflections on the Carmel River Watershed
Trade Paper 200 pages, and CD, full color images throughout.

ISBN#: 978-0-9852949-1-5

\$49.50 retail

Limited Edition Hardbound 200 pages and CD, full color images throughout.

ISBN#: 978-0-9852949-2-2

\$85.00 sold direct from publisher only

Drawings by Pamela Takigawa, Anne Greene and Paola Berthoin
Paintings and photographs by Paola Berthoin

In keeping with its environmental goals, *Passion for Place* was printed locally
(Watsonville, CA) on 60% post-consumer paper.

Passion for Place is available for purchase at passion4place.net and
selected retailers.

Paintings by Paola Berthoin are available at passion4place.net and
paolafiorelleberthoin.com



© Anne Greene

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Passion for Place has been awarded a prestigious **IPPY Bronze Medal** for
Best Regional Non-fiction for the West/Pacific
(Alaska, Hawaii and West Coast states) by the Jenkins Publishing Group.



Paola Fiorelle Berthoin

Artist/Publisher/Author Bio



Paola Berthoin was born in London, England, and came to Carmel Valley in 1965 with her mother and three sisters. She is a graduate of Carmel High School and California College of the Arts where she specialized in printmaking, handmade paper and animal drawing. Paola has studied ecological design and permaculture with Dr. David Orr and John Todd at Schumacher College in England and with Penny Livingston and Brock Dolman at the Occidental Arts and Ecology Center.

Paola's deep commitment to living in the Carmel Valley over the past forty-eight years and tending the land she lives on for the past twenty-five plus years has infused her visionary and award-winning ways of interpreting the land through painting, writing, and advocacy for watersheds of the Earth. From being a pastry chef and owning and running a restaurant with her mother when Paola was twenty-four years old to establishing the organization, RisingLeaf Watershed Arts in 2001, and completing *Passion for Place* in 2012, many seeds of ecological awareness have been and continue to be planted locally and globally.



New Day Rising, View of Carmel Valley Looking East, 8:30 a.m.

Authors and Interviewees

Passion for Place features forty-six community members who have contributed their time, talents, and love for the watershed and river. Thirty-eight have written thought-provoking, beautiful stories, essays, and poems. Drawings by Pamela Takigawa and Anne Greene, plein air paintings, and photographs of water of the Carmel River and its tributaries by Paola Fiorelle Berthoin accompany the text. In addition to the writings, a CD features eight community members who have enthusiastically shared their stories in interviews. Excerpts from these interviews are accompanied with natural sounds from the watershed. Freeman House, author of *Totem Salmon: Life Lessons Learned From Another Species*, has written the Foreword. Internationally-recognized writers Terry Tempest Williams and Peter Forbes have lent their support for the book through granting permission to use excerpts from their writings.

The contributors are:

Pam Krone-Davis Pamela Takigawa Tom Little Bear Nason
Nikki Nedeff Karin Strasser Kauffman Rosemary Luke
Frank Emerson John Brennan Darby Worth
Thomas Christensen Melissa Taylor Sean Flavin
Paula Haro Warren Masten Steve Dorrance
Bob Schuh Anne Greene Doug Westphal
Marilee Childs Bill Leahy Debbie Whittlesey Paul Kephart
David J. Gubernick Stephen Meadows Rod Mesquit
Mark R. Stromberg Patrice Vecchione Paul Kephart
Illia Thompson Barbara Mossberg Alexander Henson
Pat Regan Karl Pallastrini Dale Agron Bryan Colter
Mary Cunov Mary Gale Laura Lee Lienk Robert Reese Cari Herthel
Nancy Abildgaard Vicki Andrews May Waldroup
John Dotson Laura Bayless Paola Fiorelle Berthoin

**THE BOOK IS A GREAT PROTOTYPE FOR OTHER COMMUNITIES.
I AM SO GRATEFUL FOR PASSION FOR PLACE.**

SUDY DOSTAL

What others say about *Passion for Place*:

Malcolm Margolin, publisher of Heyday Books, author of The Ohlone Way

This intimate book is a model of watershed literature, wind-scrubbed and open, traced with bobcat prints and chickadee song, full of words that join people to their place. While specific to the Carmel River, it reminds all of us that wherever we live the land around us is, and always has been, personal.

John Brennan

The book is beyond adjectives. The land, plants and water thank you from their beds, be it bed-rock, soil, or sandy stones...The People will thank you from their souls...a diamond-faceted gem.

David Cavagnaro, Author of Living Water

The book is really a testimony of the immense power of human creativity, in this case a collective demonstration of creativity in honor of love for place.

Excerpt from book flap summary by Barbara Mossberg PhD.

The arts and humanities play an historical and pivotal role in inspiring civic will to take action for wise regard of our Earth. John Muir, Henry David Thoreau, William Keith, Rachel Carson, Wendell Berry, Terry Tempest Williams and so many more citizens, past and present, all invoke through writing or art a passion for preservation and conservation.

In the stories and CD of *Passion for Place*, we are given examples of what happens when people take up the fate of the watershed community. Consider the ingenious efforts to help preserve the Carmel River steelhead and the sustained, impassioned efforts to create forward-thinking planning documents to help protect the beauty of the river and Carmel Valley. This fusion of scientific and political efforts joins conscience and imagination in caring about the fate of the fish, the fate of soil, the fate of trees, the fate of us.



View from Echo Ridge, Mitteldorf Preserve

Paola Fiorelle Berthoin

Author-Publisher-Artist

Frequently Asked Questions/Answers

Why did you create the *Passion for Place* book/CD project?

In 1999, the Carmel River was determined to be one of the ten most-endangered rivers in the United States by the organization American Rivers. The plight of the federally-listed Carmel River steelhead and threatened red-legged frog are but two species dependent on a healthy Carmel River, and were catalysts, in part, for creating this book.

Additionally, *Passion for Place* was created:

- To help bridge the gap from the Carmel River and its tributaries being seen as only a resource to the living entity that it is.
- To inspire and educate about the importance of the preservation of the Carmel River Steelhead.
- To inspire people to care for where we live and to share people's voices about the watershed and their place in it.
- To create a whole picture through stories, essays, poem etc. for the reader expressing the value that the Carmel River and watershed have in everyone's lives and in the lives of the flora and fauna that depend on its ecological integrity.
- To act as an example for people in other communities as to how the stories people tell can help conserve and care for the land and rivers that sustain us all.

Why do you focus on the Carmel River and watershed?

While the Carmel Valley and Carmel River is not the place it once was only 200 years ago when skies were filled with an abundance of birds, grizzly bears ruled, and the steelhead run was so prolific that the river was a radiant rainbow stream—we are fortunate still to have many opportunities to experience memorable encounters with wild places and wildlife. *With habitats that are diverse and unique, the Carmel River Valley is a prime, cultural-historical location for the many people here who are aware of and who care about the integrity of the land to lead a movement of sustainability beyond green—sustainability that honors, supports, and restores the wild in all life. The Carmel River Valley calls to our deepest and greatest sense of personal and public responsibility and is a distinctly exceptional place to seek out and serve the possibilities of living in a bioregional way.*

Why is the book organized from the top of the watershed out to the ocean?

Passion for Place is organized around the concept of the watershed because watersheds are an effective way to understand our place in the larger whole, wherever we live. It is a whole systems, ecological approach to understanding connections of the living world we share.

Why is the arts perspective an integral aspect of the book/project?

The arts connect us to ourselves and to each other and inspire people to take action. Creativity in its greatest depth of the human psyche and genetic coding emerges from the wildness of the natural world. When we allow wildness, our own spirit to flourish within, we can also respect and allow nature's spirit, the wild outside, to exist.

How/why did Paola Berthoin get involved in watershed education through the arts?

Paola comes from a family of writers, artists, and educators and has created art since she could put her hands in paint or mud. She has lived in Carmel Valley for forty-eight years, thus, her experience of living in an area of open, natural places has formed her deep connection and understanding of the natural world. It was the Exxon Valdez oil spill in 1989 that spurred Paola on to become involved in various environmental issues. These led her to learn about watersheds and related watershed issues on a local and global scale. Over time, she found a need to respond to these issues from a place of the arts and education, rather than the specific world of politics.

Water and rivers, and all that are part of those elements, have always been a main stay in Paola's life. Thus, it was inevitable that her work would be shaped by these forces.

What does the term *bioregion* mean?

A bioregion is defined by similar topography, soils, climate, and natural ecological community of plants and animals. Bioregions are generally organized around one or more watersheds and can be nested within each other. Thinking and acting on a bioregional scale helps people to reconnect to the land that surrounds and supports them.

How long did it take to create *Passion for Place*?

From deciding to create the book, it took approximately three years and four months. In the bigger picture it began with conversations with Pam Krone-Davis and RisingLeaf Watershed Arts in 2004. Paola Berthoin started the paintings in 2007 not knowing they would be a part of the book. Additional paintings were created for the book as it took shape through the stories people wrote.

What are the backgrounds of the people who were interviewed/wrote for the book?

Contributors to *Passion for Place* come from a variety of backgrounds. In reviewing submissions for this compilation and in having the conversations, an important aspect was to support the unique voices of the valley. Among the contributors are Rumsien-Ohlone and Esselen descendants, teachers and lawyers, artists and authors, restoration and research biologists, ecologists and resource conservationists, a dancer, an ecological designer, architect and rancher, a former county supervisor, a former principal of Carmel Middle and Carmel High schools, a former bookstore owner, a bee keeper, and fishermen. The stories and essays, poems and conversations reflect each person's experience of her or his connection to Carmel Valley, the river and ocean. A few of the submissions were written at an earlier time, thus reflecting a certain aspect of the valley and river at that time.

Why was post-consumer paper used?

RisingLeaf Impressions saved the following resources by using 7774 pounds of Reincarnation Matte, made with 60% post-consumer waste and manufactured with electricity that is offset with Green-e® certified renewable energy certificates: 51 fully grown trees, 23025 gallons of water, 21 Million BTUs of energy, 1459 pounds of solid waste, and 5106 pounds of greenhouse gases. Calculations based on research by Environmental Defense Fund and other members of the Paper Task Force. www.newleafpaper.com

Where was *Passion for Place* printed?

Watsonville, CA

Why was *Passion for Place* printed locally?

- To support local business.
- To reduce carbon emissions.

Where is the paperback book sold?

Locally: River House Books, Pilgrim's Way, Carmel Bay Company, Old Capitol Books, Wild Bird Haven, Carmel Video and Carmel Valley Video and directly from the publisher, Paola Berthoin/RisingLeaf Impressions.

It is also sold at the Point Reyes Book store in Point Reyes, CA.

Where can the Limited Edition hardbound book be purchased?

From Paola Berthoin/RisingLeaf Impressions, 831.624.9467

How can I contact the publisher?

831.624.9467, www.passion4place.net, paolafiorelleberthoin.com

Who designed the book?

Paola Berthoin

How were funds raised for the project?

Through direct ask campaigns and the Kickstarter crowdsource fundraising website. 147 people, five organizations and one business contributed financially to the project's success.

Who are the co-editors?

John Dotson and Laura Bayless. Both are published authors and poets.

Who created the drawings?

Pamela Takigawa, Anne Greene, Paola Berthoin

Who created the paintings?

Paola Berthoin

Are the paintings done in oil or watercolor?

Oil, painted on location.

Where can the paintings be purchased?

Contact Paola Berthoin at 831.624.9467, paolafiorelleberthoin.com

Who did the photographs?

Paola Berthoin

Where are the photographs taken?

Along the Carmel River and tributaries.

*Passion for Place is a bio-regional book with a global vision.
It is the only book of its kind on the Carmel River Watershed.
It is a book for visitors and locals alike.*

With habitats that are diverse and unique, the Carmel River Valley is a prime, cultural-historical location for the many people here who are aware of and who care about the integrity of the land to lead a movement of sustainability beyond green—sustainability that honors, supports, and restores the wild in all life. The Carmel River Valley calls to our deepest and greatest sense of personal and public responsibility and is a distinctly exceptional place to seek out and serve the possibilities of living in a bioregional way.

Paola Fiorelle Berthoin



Carmel River Lagoon

Selected Excerpts from

Passion for Place: Community Reflections on the Carmel River Watershed

David Gubernick

I slowly approached with camera in hand and sat cross-legged about ten feet away. The kit appeared to be totally oblivious to my presence. It was a thrill to be that close and to see the details of its face, to hear it breathing and to photograph it. I was lost in time, in a dreamlike state where nothing else existed except for me and the young fox. The magic trance was broken suddenly by a growl from the kits' mother or father who was sitting on the roof of my car intently staring at me. I retreated and gave thanks to the kits and parent fox for the gift of their presence.

Bill Leahy

There's one little Swainson's thrush that flies thousands of miles to South America, returning every year to the same thirteen-acre patch of protected Carmel River landscape. Fish struggle to hang on in the river's deep pools; questions and controversies remain about the Monterey Peninsula's water supply. None of what we hope to accomplish will be easy. I think about the steadfast determination of that little songbird whose understanding of the power of place is etched into the racing rhythms of its heartbeat, and I feel certain that as a community we can come together and for generations to come care for the Carmel River as it has cared for us.

May Waldroup

Slowly, and ever so quietly, I reached the fence and came face to face with a mountain lion! We locked eyes. Those beautiful amber eyes were set in a head that has no equal in beauty it seems. I had never seen a mountain lion, had longed for an encounter yet feared it. We both stood still—looked—and a spiritual connection was there between us for a moment, two creatures of the earth in a first meeting. Then I lost my balance just slightly and that small move broke the bond. One last look the lion gave me, then turned and with the grace of a dandelion seed in the wind bounded away from me, back into a thicket at the edge of my garden. I was stunned. Nothing in my life had ever brought me such a flow of feelings of exhilaration. I felt I could fly! What a moment of superb joy.

Robert Reese

The longer we spent in the river, the more effortlessly and quietly we moved. The effect was intoxicating, providing a sense of attention and affinity with the water. I did not want to feel again the sequence of daily events, of analysis and deliberation—just the affirmative hues of warmth and physical activity. Pillar, fish, rock, wind, and water were all joined by movement and light, creating a sort of participatory haiku. Walking in the river is sometimes like that. In the late afternoon, the deep brown, silky bottom of the river, the ribbons of tiny fish, and the wheeling geese fall away—fall away and the music of our life is in them.

Pam Krone-Davis

To the human eye my place of birth—in Pine Valley on the Carmel River—was a serene mountain stream, a tree-lined, babbling brook bathed in sunlight and bedazzled with smooth granite boulders, glittering with mica inlays. But to me, as a juvenile steelhead, it was a place filled with shadows, unknowns, and the need to be on constant alert to the nearest hiding place. Surrounded as I was by water, my eyes were mostly attuned to the nuances of light and dark, to abrupt changes in the shadowy content that lay somewhere outside the waters overhead, in a world I had no contact with and could not know. None-the-less, it was a world that constantly haunted me as I darted in and out of crevasses to escape the shadowy masses that continually startled me into instant flight behind a ledge, beneath a rock or into a dark shelter. At any moment a blue heron, standing so still and silent, could end my life with the stab of his yellow beak. A raccoon could grab me in his palms and bite me in half with his sharp teeth. My life was a daily struggle to eat without being eaten, to find water cool enough to meet my oxygen needs and to fulfill my instinctual urgings, that would eventually drive me to do strange things and to undertake journeys of great length.



A deepening awareness heightens our attention and engenders integrity in action with the natural world—thus embodying an ecological imagination. As more of us practice this kind of imagining, we are regenerating together communities in which nature and the arts have priority—watershed arts become front and center to our lives. As we educate ourselves, a new

relatedness arises, one that guides our decision-making in all facets of our lives and helps us from the ground up to change a business-as-usual mentality. Given enough nurturing, the emergence of living in harmony with our own selves, with each other, and with the wild, natural world, can truly happen.

Paola Fiorelle Berthoin



When we live together with a watershed consciousness, we come to understand more clearly how our actions affect the greater whole. Rivers are the connecting force in all our lives.