

# MODERAL SCHOOL LITERARY AND ARTS JOURNAL

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# FROM THE EDITORS

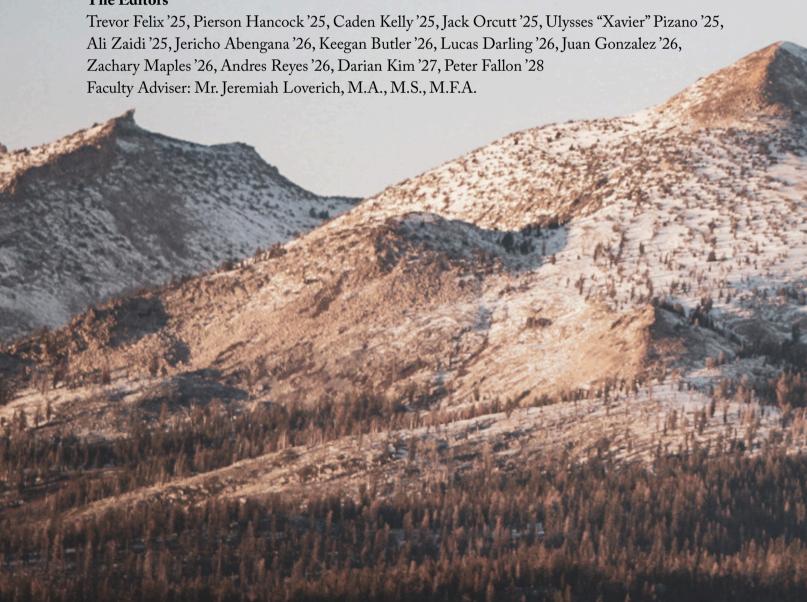
Art doesn't always come with answers. It often starts with a question, a feeling, or a moment we can't quite name. In Moorings, we gather these moments not to explain them, but to honor them. The works in this issue embrace uncertainty, spark imagination, and invite us to see the extraordinary in the everyday.

This publication is a connection—between artist and viewer, reflection and discovery. Whether you pause on a line, a brushstroke, or a burst of color, I hope you feel something that stays with you.

Thanks for spending time with us.

Zachary McDonald '25 Editor-in-Chief

### The Editors



# **FEATURING**

### **Front Cover**

Our Lady of Guadalupe by Micah Espinoza '28  $\,$ 

## **Back Cover**

Banner of Hope by Andrew Berglund '26

# **Photography**

Brandon Curry '25

Cole Arnold'25

Jack Orcutt '25

Pierson Hancock'25

Juan Gonzalez'26

Noah Nast'26

Drake Budzinski-Stauffer '27

Jack Tzimenatos '27

Michael Mahnke '27

Wesley Clark'27

### Art

Andrew Berglund '26

Caleb Haynes '27

Pablo Romo'27

Micah Espinoza'28

# **Poetry**

Liam Stout'25

Max Troppmann '25

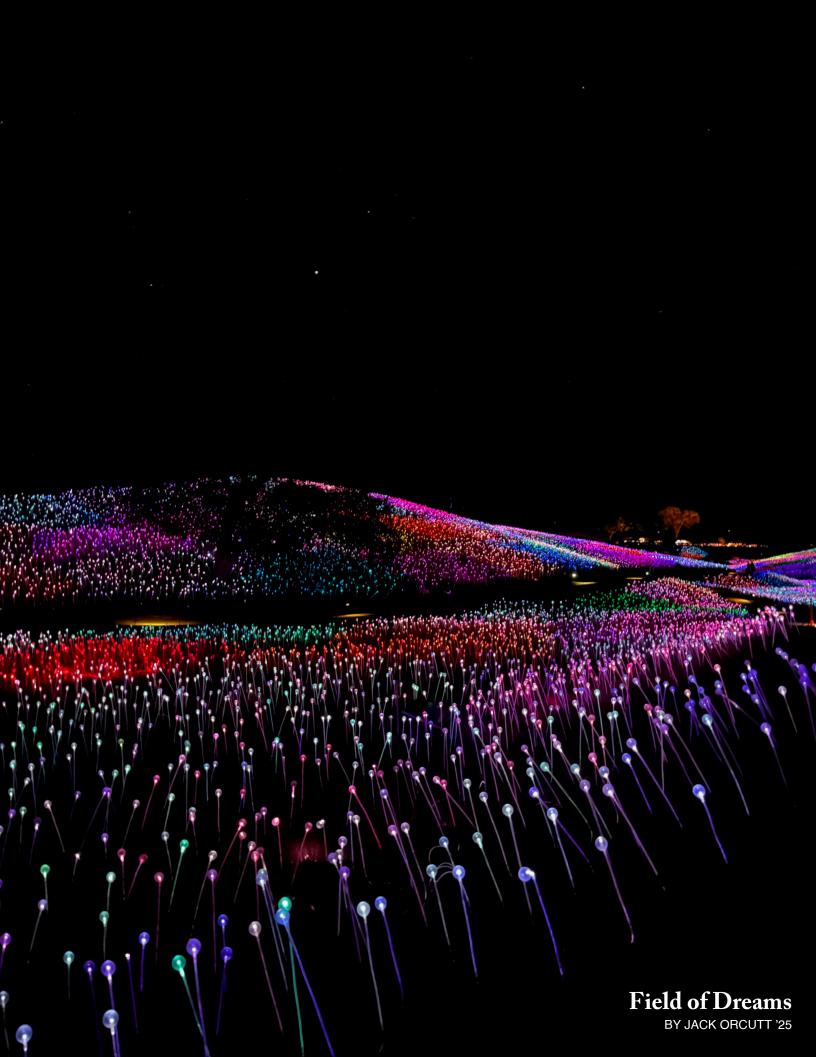
Drew Eandi'27

Darian Kim'27

### Music

Jack McWilliams '27





# Bestseller No. 9

BY DREW EANDI '27

In slanting, hobbled coteries
Dictated by earth's gravity
Fusty troops pleat wearied brows
And hoist the battered houses

The eldest, clad in leather camo Swollen with sheen rucks and numb Abhor the youngsters' pomp and glamor Prefer a tight-kept, furtive glum

Such gaudy jacket, bold-faced lies Through smarmy print make one despise Neat tales of the modern woes Pulled piping from McDonald's rows

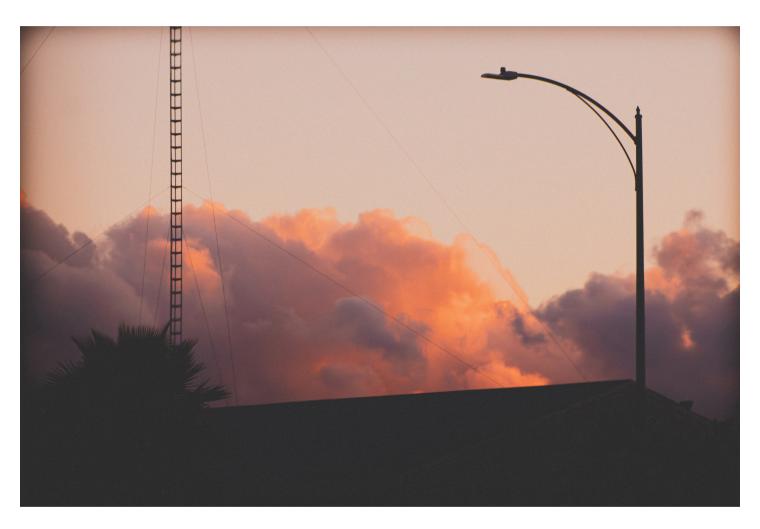
Pampers has a hardback line Its tycoon ranked bestseller nine Now literary boffins lurk And ire the airport bookshop clerk



Marquee
BY COLE ARNOLD '25



Pair
BY JUAN GONZALEZ '26



**Dreamer**BY JUAN GONZALEZ '26

# Retirement

# BY LIAM STOUT '25

The fire in his eyes is drowned, the sun of passion shunned by unfeeling void.

His items are slowly transferred out, the memories of times soon forgotten cast aside.

His voice is soft and somber, the final echoes of his work falling on glistened ears.

He does not shed a tear, the only sign is his furrowed brow.

His home is now his lone refuge, to wither alone until eternity.

Our Destiny.



a quiet night
BY CALEB HAYNES '27



# The Kingdom by the Piss-Fouled Sea

BY DREW EANDI '27

It was two midlife crises and sacks ago,
In a kingdom by the piss-fouled sea,
That mothers entombed on plastic gilt
Wearily loosed leaping artillery;
And these missiles zoomed to annex and tilt
The bobbing and sulking, heraldic floaties.

Mom was a mess and Dad was a mess,
In this kingdom by the piss-fouled sea,
But on annular thrones perched the buoyant larks—
Mewling and grizzling weans—
With treacherous squalls they tore at the walls
Rousing mothers from ribboned sepulchery.

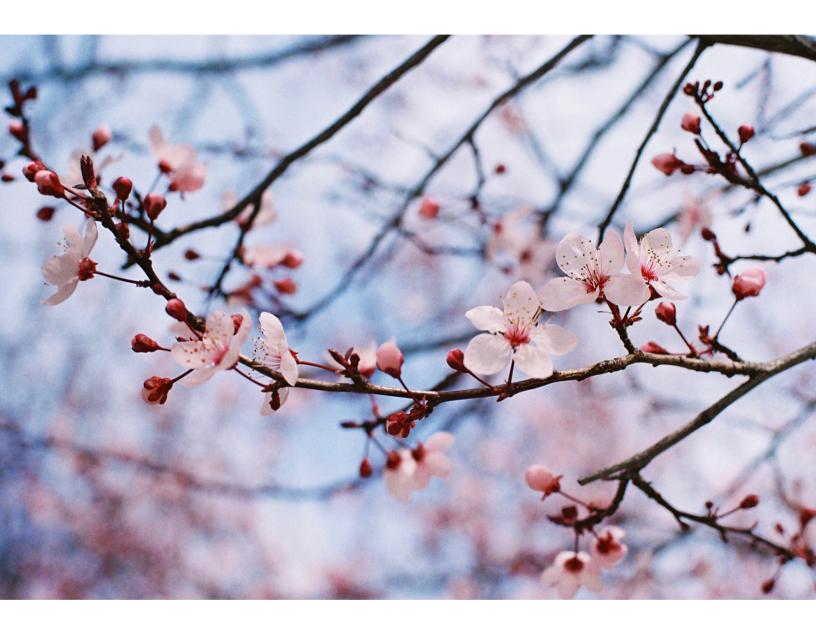
And in flaccid embrace, freed of pace,
In this kingdom by the piss-fouled sea,
The steamy-eyed clowns flopped down, shunning
Their carping and simpering weans;
So the mortified tiddlers clung
To sunscreen enameled buoys,
Whose potbellies boiled and roiled with gas
This kingdom by the piss-fouled sea.

The bridge, leering visored overhead,
Grinned at its mise-en-scene—
Pests!—here was the product (an authentic fake,
In this kingdom by the piss-fouled sea)
That would forge happy bonds with their loves at long last,
Taming and laming the difficult weans.

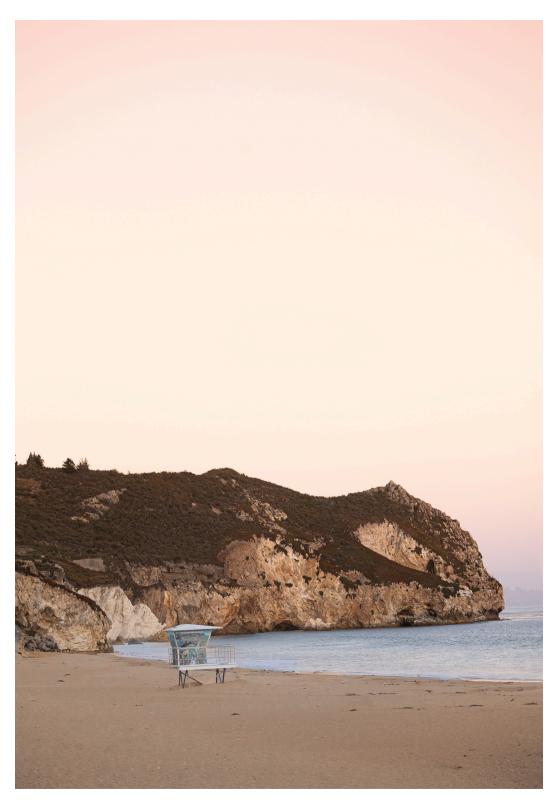


Glacial Blue at 7014

BY JACK TZIMENATOS '27



Pastel Reveri
BY PIERSON HANCOCK '25

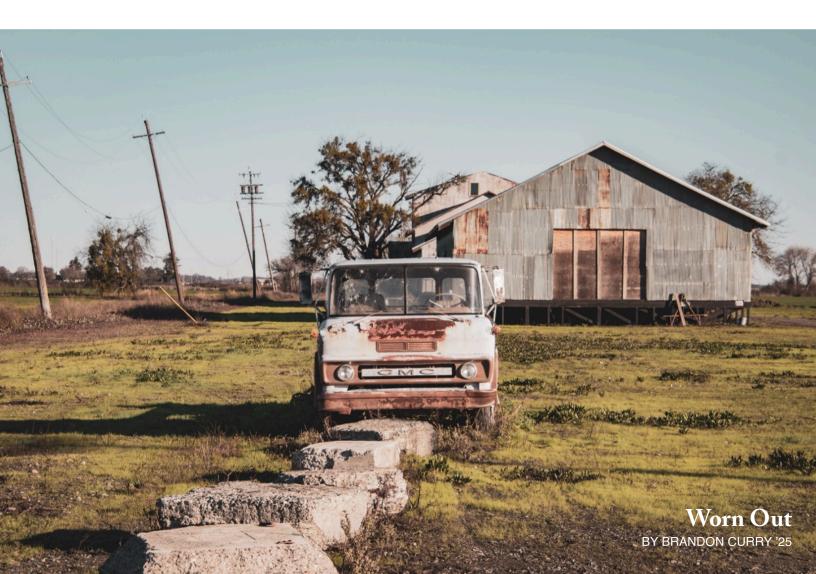


Quiet Coast
BY DRAKE BUDZINSKI-STAUFFER '27

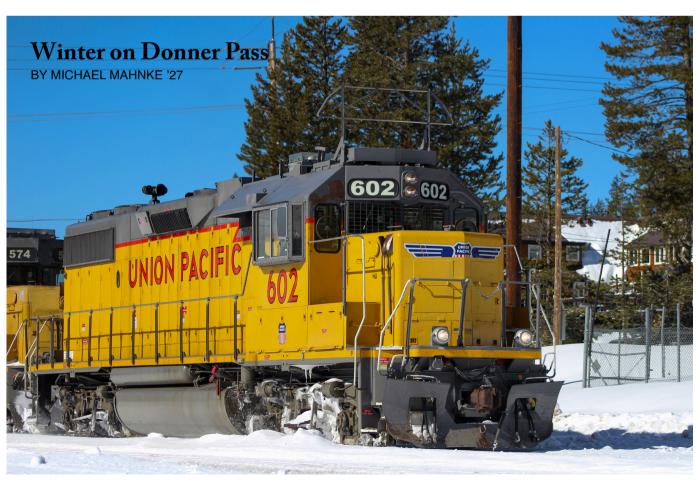
# Relevance

### BY MAX TROPPMANN '25

Brigades of cars pass overhead. With time,
The road submits to fate, eternal dare
Of humankind. With massive cracks and grime,
The road is broke, has crumbled in despair.
A leaf grows forth, a beauty on the tree,
A verdant green that under sunlight gleams.
Maturing red, our leaf descends. With glee,
The worms make earth, and ground with freshness teams.
Will I be like the road, a man undone,
Who yields and disappears once he is through?
Or rather like the leaf, not one to shun,
Who, perished, nourishes with life anew?
'Tis only tides of time that tell the tale,
Determine if my deeds the world avail.



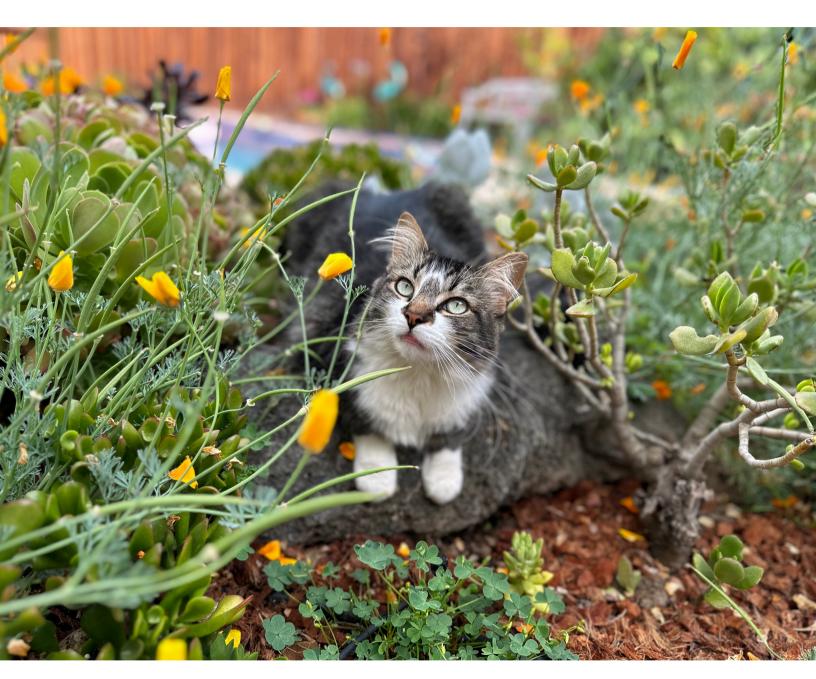






Almost Done
BY MICAH ESPINOZA '28





Oreo and Poppies
BY WESLEY CLARK '27

# The Attic

### BY DARIAN KIM '27

In the attic light bruises the floora hush of mothwing gold. The sofa slouches, linen pale as lullabies, its skin veined with flowers, threadbare, soft-edged, hushed by the hush. A faint ring settles into the fabric tea, perhaps, or something sweeter, tipped mid-laughter, never scrubbed away. It stays, like small forgettings. The cushions breathe with echoes: grape juice dreams,

sticky fingers,

the ghost of a crayon sun. A seam unfastens gently,

not broken-

just loosened by time. And still it keeps

> it's quiet posture, a hush in bloom among the boxes,

> > waiting for no one, but staying.

# The Basement

BY DARIAN KIM '27

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At the top
     of the stairs—
     a squeal,
     a slip,
     silence.
          It tumbled—
          bright plastic gleam,
          pink and perfect,
          clean seams unscuffed,
          eyes wide with pretend.
               But it landed
               where centipedes curl
               like inked signatures
               beneath broken boxes
               and webs hang like guilt.
                    Its face is moonlit
                    in rot-smelling dark,
                    nestled in sludge,
                    shimmering oddly
                    next to crushed cans
                    and the dried kiss
                    of cat droppings.
                         "I'll get you another,"
                         said the voice upstairs.
                         The child paused—
                         glanced
                         down
                         the yawning stairwell
                         and did not come.
                              It stays,
                                   untouched,
                                         unbroken,
                                             but unwanted—
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perfect,

but fallen.

# Prelude in G Minor, Op. 23, No. 5

BY SERGEI RACHMANINOFF PERFORMED BY JACK MCWILLIAMS '27







