

MetroABQ Real Estate Newsletter



Including Rio Rancho, Corrales, Placitas, Atrisco Valley, Los Lunas & the East Mountains.

January

Year In Pictures: A 2019 Photo Essay

&

**Community Along The Rio Grande--
A Cimino Compound Open House**





I love this city! There are more things to do & see in the MetroABQ than hours available. During the course of my job, I am very fortunate to spend time around three favorite activities: Architecture, Art & Scenery. The last year beautifully satisfied all three: unique & [exciting architecture](#) to see almost daily, [public art pieces](#) & private exhibitions that expanded my mind, & the stunning [New Mexico landscapes](#) always thrill & electrify. The photo essay above & below are images captured during the last year...

The three images above are from a Foothills home built by architect Bart Prince, probably the Metro's most famous & quirky designer. Nestled deep in the Sandia Heights & sitting on over 3500sqft, the curvilinear features flow organically from one part of the home to the other, with constant visual reminders of the never-ending city skyline views. The front entry was a sweet architectural treat: a three-dimensional corner door with six translucent windows. It's currently for sale, at \$740,000...





Some homes are so unique as to be almost indescribable. The two images above are in another [Sandia Heights](#) neighborhood, steps from the Sandia Peak Tramway at the Foothills Open Space. Stepping into the entry foyer of the almost 5000sqft home, you are no doubt transported directly to an [Italianate](#) Tuscan villa. The heated lap pool sits in it's own (Moor-ish designed?) wing, with sculpted cherubs adorning each corner. I had a lot of fun holding the home open... And how sweet is it to pass a [Little Free Library](#) on your way out of the neighborhood, directly below.





Close to Sandia Heights a few neighborhoods to the south, sits Glenwood Hills. The annual [Albuquerque Parade of Gardens](#) tour went through Glenwood Hills in 2019; the image above is [from that event](#). This year the Parade includes gardens at homes in the Sandia Heights & North ABQ Acres communities, & I will certainly be attending...



Shifting toward one of the Metro's NW communities, I found myself in Rio Rancho atop a [Vista Entrada home](#), staring at a 24-panel photovoltaic solar array on one side & stunning views of the Sandia Mountains on the other. To show both, we hired my favorite [Drone Pilot](#), who captured dozens of images around the home & property, two seen above.

From the [drone images](#), there appear to be PV solar arrays on numerous homes throughout the neighborhood, which is a big deal: due to the benefit of the solar panels, the above home has no monthly electric bill & is paid ~\$600 per year from the electric company, for the energy it over-produces.

Closer to the Rio Grande, in a [Corrales greenbelt](#) property, hangs the image Four Horses, a mid-century [Agnes Sims](#) painting. Perfectly adorned among the adobe-brick walls, the owners of the four-acre horse property graciously left the artwork, below, for my client, who's a skilled horsewoman.

Below that is my favorite bathroom of the year, with it's cobalt penny-round shower tile, floating vanity & 'skatepark' porcelain sink, found at the La Luz townhome complex near Coors & Montañó Blvd.







Staying on the West Side of the Metro, this year I was fortunate to explore the West Cliffs area, a bunch of neighborhoods that [live along the bluffs](#) on both sides of I-40 east of Coors Blvd. The image two above is a pergola in West Cliff Park, often utilized by marrying couples, with it's extraordinary skyline views.

Just above is a scene from one of my favorite recent properties; the image was taken by the happy new owners (see: MAX, directly below). South of Interstate 40 sits a discreet West Cliffs neighborhood seen from the highway as you head west. There you will find homes densely layered on the west bluffs, dating from the 1960's to the present, with magnificent panoramic scenes that change hourly. The image itself is also multi-layered: in the foreground is the Rio Grande, ensconced by trees on both sides; next are the lights of the highway crossing the Rio; & of course the Sandia Mountains above that, with the moon looming largely behind. Just below is an incognito portrait of Max, one of the three happy owners...





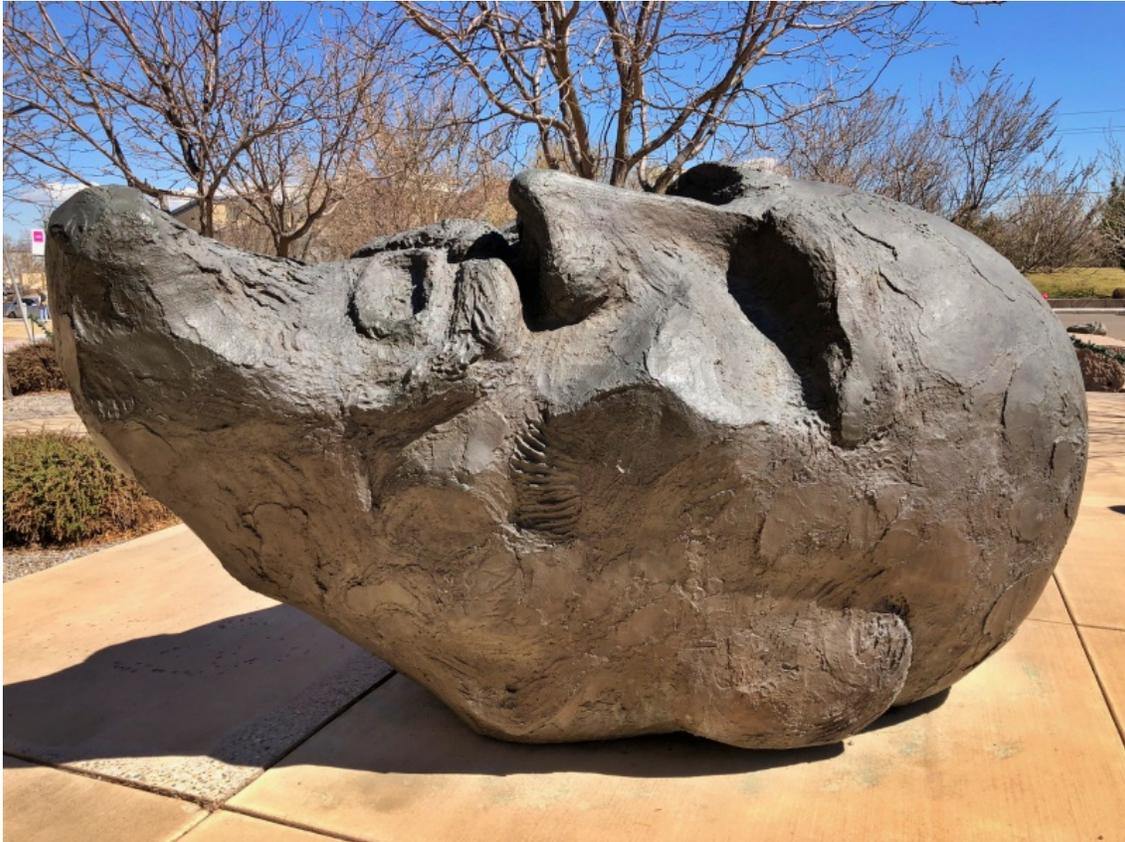




The five images below *Mighty Max*, above, are from architecture, garden or art tours I've taken this past year. The top image is *Downtown: the El Vado complex* has been reimagined & is clearly thriving now; also downtown, two ceramic wall tile pieces adorn the façade of the Pueblo-Deco designed [KiMo Theatre](#); for the [Huning Highlands Mother's Day Home Tour](#), we got to go inside the dramatic split-face stone building, which has an uncommon stone-brick cap & was a busy market over a century ago.

Directly above is a scene from the 2019 [ABQ Mid Mod Home Tour](#)--a fabulous day-long self-guided tour through numerous Mid-Century Modern homes. Homes opened to the tour included a typical Four Hills Mid-Century with [wonderful views](#), to a classic hairpin legs-style Parkland Hills 'modern prairie' home, to the landmark [Flatow & Moore](#)-designed Indian School/University-area church, a stunning [Expressionist-style Mid-Modern work of art](#), with a swooping façade seen for miles.

Directly below is a fun piece at the ABQ Museum, part of their [open air sculpture garden](#). The piece is amazing from any angle...





Appreciating artwork--in the form of architecture, or spread out across the MetroABQ as [public/private art](#) pieces, at no charge--is [available to all](#). Above are four more images featuring some of the installations. These & other randomly found artworks are almost always a part of my week.

A geometric mural, installed after [MuralFest](#), top left, can be found in a small parking lot in Nob Hill. The red energy tower, in front of the 'Mansard Victorian', sits as part of the [Fruit Ave Sculpture Garden](#). The Mushroom Shades, built by [Pascetti Steel](#), can be found in [Smith Plaza](#) on the UNM Campus; & the slick green & blue [worm-like sculpture](#) sits across the street from Monte Vista Elementary School & celebrates 100 years of Nob Hill--the texture & lighting of the photo gives it a somewhat surreal look...

With all this, & tons more to have seen & experienced in 2019, I am looking forward to an even more amazing 2020 coming up. Thank you for coming along...



Open House at the Cimino Compound Community:

From 1-3p Sunday January 26th, Unit #1 will be available to tour. Currently listed for sale, [One Cimino Compound](#) is a fabulous introduction to all that Cimino has to offer: acres of gardens & greenspaces, a community clubhouse, dog park, swimming pool & more...

You want to know more? See the [3-D Virtual Walking Tour](#).
The floorplan can be [found here](#)...



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Unless otherwise indicated, all photos by Chris Lucas.

Max the Puppydog was taken by Michelle & Ethan...



I am a dedicated seven-days-a-week real estate professional, in **the top 5% of MetroABQ Realtors**—I love this city!

I continually seek out the hidden gems in all areas for my **Buyers**, & I am a tireless promoter for all of my **Sellers'** listings.
I love talking about real estate...

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