

5/17/96 Dear Rhoda, I hope this is what you need!! Seymour Rosen / SPACES 213-463-1629

WHEREAS:

The Honorable Padam Shri Nek Chand Saini, a citizen of India, a distinguished self taught artist of tenacity, vision and creative genius did create a multi-acre public artwork known as the Rock Garden of Chandigarh, and;

WHEREAS:

From 1958 to 1974 Mr. Chand gathered hundreds of tons of natural materials and discarded objects, from which he would mold his artworks. Out of necessity he worked clandestinely, in a forest landscape on public land far into the night. Using his hands, simple tools, and a vivid imagination he created twelve acres of paths and interlinking courtyards populated with hundreds of sculptures.

When the site was discovered by authorities Mr. Chand's "Hidden Kingdom" by law should have been demolished. However, the government overwhelmed by the incredible scope and imagination of Nek Chand's creation decided to supply him with helpers and hired him to continue his good works which are still in progress to this day. Currently his garden is expanding to some sixty acres filled with waterfalls, bridges, towers, palaces, and thousands of small to monumental sculpture of people and animals.

Since the Garden was officially inaugurated and greatly expanded, over 12 million people from all over the planet have felt joy and awe having walked through Nek Chand's world, and;

WHEREAS:

Mr. Chand has had exhibitions of his sculptures in France, Spain, Russia, Germany, England and in the United States. Additionally, he was given the "Grand Medaille de Vermeil" award in the city of Paris, the keys to the city of Baltimore, and a Nek Chand day was declared in Washington, DC.

Mr. Chand has created another monumental environment in the nations' capital with the help and encouragement of the Indian government, United States trade unions, the private sector, and numerous volunteers. Because of his concern thousands of Americans have now share the wonder and whimsy of this world status artist, and;

WHEREAS:

The universal acknowledgement of Mr. Chand's accomplishments has elevated the understanding and acceptance of other self-taught individuals working in many mediums, and;

WHEREAS:

The City of Los Angeles is honored by the visit of such a distinguished personage who has generously given of his time to share his thoughts with the citizens of the city, and will inspired Rhoda to clean up the terrible syntax, and;

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In recognition of his many achievements the City of Los Angeles ...On the occasion of his visit to Los Angeles. May 1996 ...

Thanks Seymour