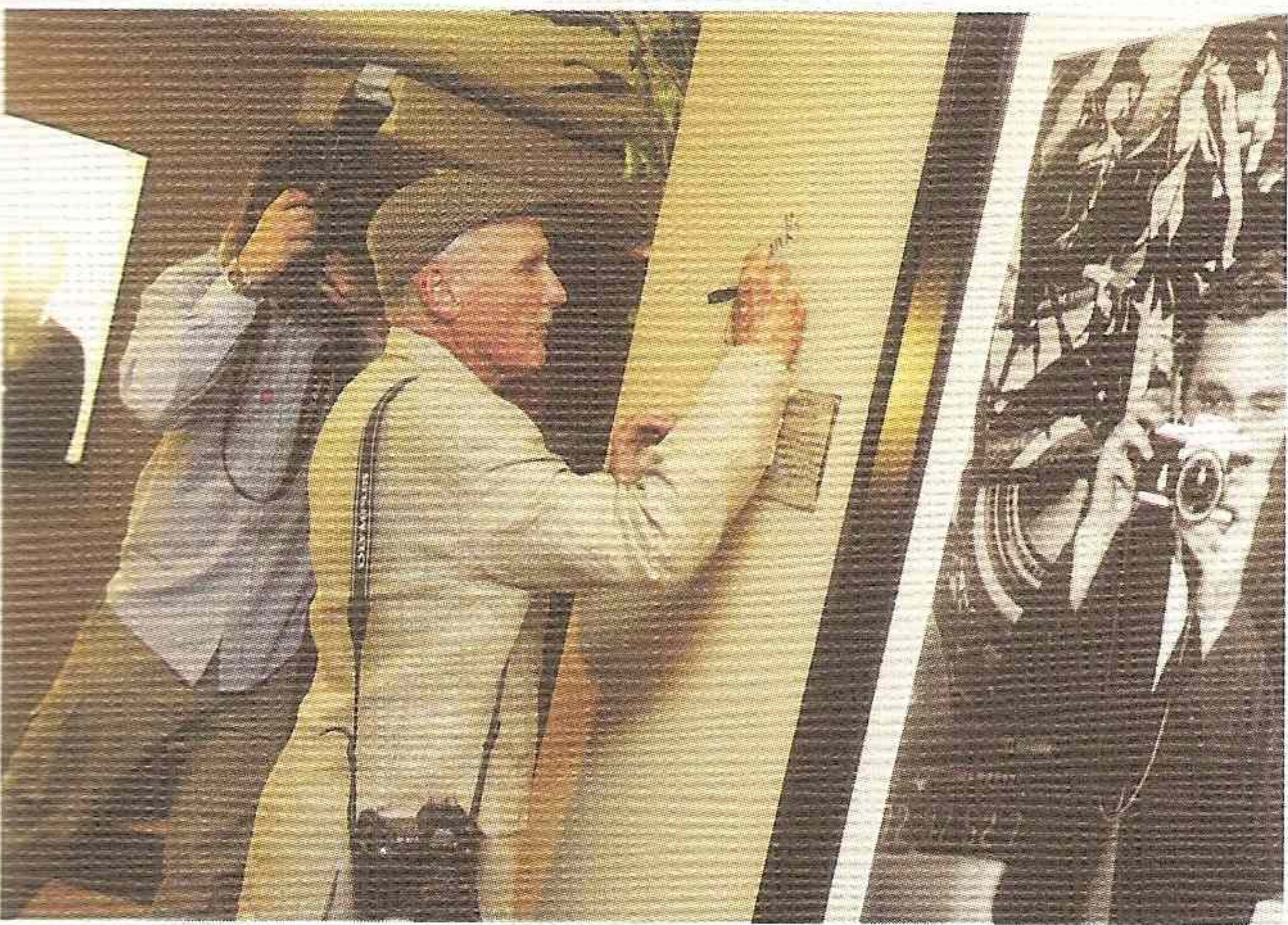




FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: MALCOM LUBLINER, WILLIAM CLAXTON, PEGGY MOFFITT, JOE GOODE, ED MOSES, JULIAN WASSER, DENNIS HOPPER, PETER ALEXANDER (SEATED) AND GEORGE HERMS IN FRONT OF DENNIS HOPPER'S *DOUBLE STANDARD* IN THE LOBBY OF AZZURRA

On Sunday, January 15th, Azzurra hosted a historic party in honor of the artists who helped create the now internationally famous *L.A. School of Art*. Over 300 art lovers turned out for the prestigious celebration including many of the artists featured in the Azzurra Art Collection: Peter Alexander; Joe Goode; Ed Moses; George Herms; Julian Wasser; Tony Berlant and photographer, poet, actor and filmmaker Dennis Hopper among others.



DENNIS HOPPER SIGNS HIS PORTRAIT ON THE THIRD FLOOR

The *L.A. School of Art* began in the late 1960s, on the heels of the New York Pop Art Movement, when a renegade group of Venice Beach and Santa Monica-based painters, sculptors and photographers began to implement advancing technology and unusual materials into their gutsy artistic creations.

Peter Alexander recounted, "In the 60s, the center of the art world was New York and we were just surfers from L.A., 15 or 20 artists, bouncing ideas off each other, trying to make it mutually supportive for all of us."

The "bouncing" must have worked because the maverick attitudes and skills of the artists, along with Southern California's free expressionism and "hang loose vibe," eventually gave birth to an entirely new artistic expression. Also known as the *Light and Space Movement*, the local art experiment exploded and grabbed headlines around the world.

Sunday evening's reunion of the acclaimed artisans culminated in a photograph taken by Jerry McMillan—a fine art photographer who captured many of the *Light and Space* originators on film long before they became rich and famous. The photograph, taken in front of Dennis Hopper's billboard "Double Standard, 2005" (a re-creation from his 1961 photograph of the same title and on display in Azzurra's lobby), is pictured above.

Please join us in thanking Azzurra Art Collection curator, Julie Cline and the large team of individuals who helped bring about the esteemed event that—for the first time in forty years—gathered together these seminal artists under the same roof.



CRAIG KRULL AND GEORGE HERMS PICTURED WITH JIM DINE'S *LIGHTS ABOVE THE TOWN*, WALLA WALLA, 2004