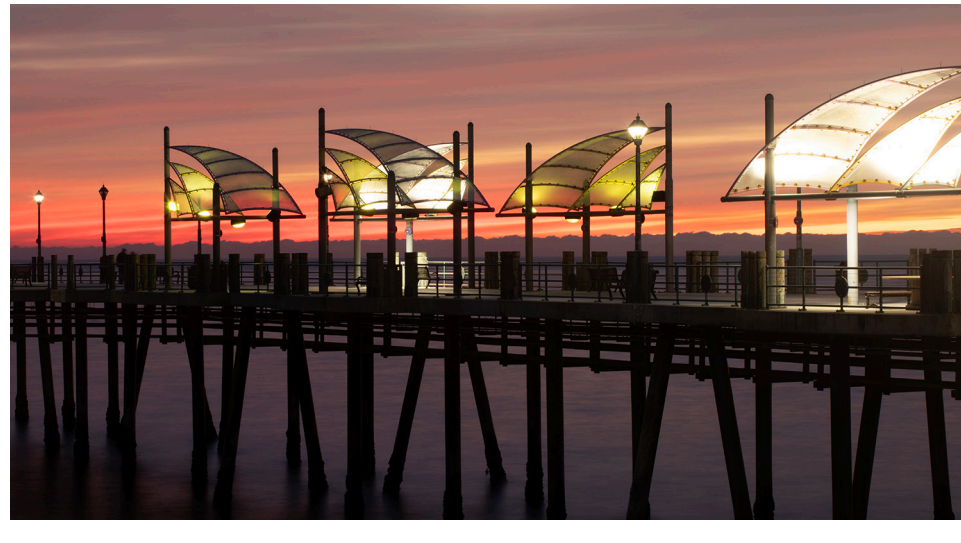


Majestic California Piers

Photographs by Dan Merkel & Bill Dewey



Majestic California Piers is now available for inter-museum loan through the **Santa Barbara Maritime Museum!**



Majestic California Piers

As a coastal state, California has many communities on or near the ocean. Early on, cities grew from goods carried across the ocean on massive ships. Tall ships would come into port, with crews making several trips as they battled weather and waves to bring their goods ashore.

The pier was born out of necessity as it is a structure that stretches from land out into and over the sea. With the invention of the pier, sailors could now unload their cargo safely and efficiently.

But as cities grew, so did roadways and railways, and this new infrastructure slowly made the original purpose of piers obsolete. Instead of work areas, piers began to provide a completely new experience - one connected to tourism and leisure activities. Whether strolling along the wooden planks or viewing the sea below, piers offer a dramatic view of the ocean or the shore (depending on the point of view) that often lives on in memory. Piers are now places to watch boats, seabirds, sunrises, and sunsets; as well as sea life clinging to pier pilings or waves stretching out to the horizon. Today, piers are an integral part of beach town culture, remaining a focal point for surfers, fishermen, and sightseers in search of the perfect California beach experience.

Merkel



Imperial Beach Pier 12"x 36"



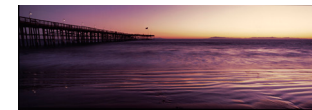
Newport Pier 12"x 36"



Balboa Pier 12"x 36"



Oceanside Pier 12"x 36"



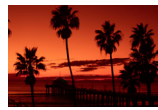
Ventura Pier 12"x 36"



Seal Beach 12"x 36"



Stearns Wharf 24"x 36"



Manhattan Pier 24"x 36"



Redondo Pier 24"x 36"



Avila Pier 24"x 36"



San Clemente Pier 24"x 36"



Santa Monica Pier 12"x 36"



Cayuvas Pier 24"x 36"



Goleta Pier 24"x 36"



Huntington Pier 24"x 36"



Pismo Pier 24"x 36"



Malibu Pier 24"x 36"

Dewey



Stearns Wharf 24"x 36"



Ventura Pier 24"x 36"



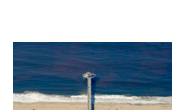
Balboa Pier 24"x 36"



Goleta Pier 24"x 36"



Malibu Pier 24"x 36"



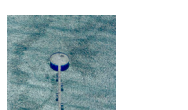
Manhattan Pier 24"x 36"



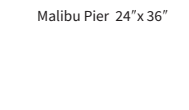
Sta Rosa Pier 24"x 24"



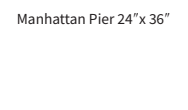
Naples Pier 16"x 24"



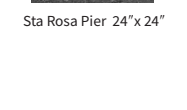
Venice Pier 36"x 24"



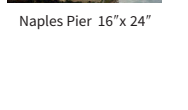
San Clemente 24"x 36"



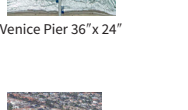
Newport Pier 24"x 36"



San Simeon Pier 24"x 36"



Sri Pier 24"x 36"



Huntington Pier 36"x 19"

For more details and availability please visit sbmm.org/traveling-exhibits. To book this exhibit, contact Emily Falke by email at efalke@sbmm.org.

Dan Merkel

Dan Merkel was hired to work for various surfing magazines in the early 70s and is considered the most famous surf photographer in the world. Today he spends most of this time taking panoramic landscape photos, traveling the world to capture scenes mostly by the ocean. Merkel shoots from under and along the side of the piers revealing the beauty of the structure of piers. Waiting for the perfect light to illuminate the piers, he often photographs at sunset or sunrise.

Bill Dewey

Bill Dewey has photographed the California landscape since 1971. He is especially interested in aerial photography as it provides the viewer with different views and perspectives, often capturing majestic architectural structures or pristine views of the natural terrain. As a private pilot, Dewey can specifically curate his aerial shots, often taking off from Santa Barbara Airport. The ariel photographs show how piers connect with towns and cities, often becoming the hub of the community.