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Winter in Santa Barbara

Bundle up as artists take you outside in a snow-covered city

By **DAVE MASON**

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It must be winter! Snow is falling by The Granada, and there's a big snowball fight outside the Santa Barbara County Courthouse. Duck!

Yes, artists have turned Santa Barbara into a winter wonderland.

The News-Press asked local artists to re-imagine the city with snow and tell us their favorite memories of — what's that called again? — snow in honor of today, the first day of winter.

But before you read further, put on your mittens. It's cold outside.

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Dress warmly if you're seeing a concert or play. It's snowing outside The Granada in Santa Barbara assemblage artist Judy Nilsen's collage.

Mrs. Nilsen, who likes to create beauty with ordinary objects, earned her master's degree in American folk art in 1976 at California State University Dominguez Hills. She has had exhibits at the Santa Barbara Tennis Club, Art From Scrap (now Explore Ecology) and the MichaelKate Gallery, among others.

She recalled when it really did snow on the streets of Southern California.

Back in 1948.

"It snowed in San Fernando," Mrs. Nilsen said, reflecting on her childhood. "I think we threw snowballs."



NIK BLASKOVICH/NEWS-PRESS
Judy Nilsen



COLLAGE BY JUDY NILSEN