



Greetings from  
WEST TEXAS

HERE ARE SOME OBSERVATIONS  
FROM A 5,000-MILE MOTORCYCLE  
TRIP IN MAY OF 2019.



Photo & Words  
by AUSTIN LONG





Greetings from  
BIOSPHERE 2

DESPITE ONGOING TECHNICAL CHALLENGES  
& INTERPERSONAL CONFLICTS, THE ORIGINAL  
BIOSPHERIANS CONTINUED TO WORK  
TOGETHER TO KEEP THEIR DELICATE  
ENVIRONMENT IN BALANCE. THEY WERE  
ACUTELY AWARE OF THEIR VULNERA-  
BILITY AS MEMBERS OF THE INTER-  
DEPENDENT LIFE SYSTEM IN WHICH  
THEY WERE ALL TRAPPED.

Photo & Words  
by AUSTIN LONG





Greetings from  
CACTUS FOREST [BLM], ARIZONA

THE CONCEPT OF 'PUBLIC LANDS' IS A WEIRD OUTPOST OF SOCIAL OWNERSHIP IN A COUNTRY OTHERWISE DOMINATED BY PRIVATE PROPERTY INTERESTS. TO CAMP ON PUBLIC LAND, ALL YOU DO IS FIND A 'BLM' OR 'WILDERNESS' AREA ON YOUR MAP, FOLLOW DIRT ROADS & TRAILS TO GET THERE, PICK A NICE-LOOKING SPOT AND SET UP CAMP. AT FIRST, IT ALMOST FEELS LIKE YOU'RE DOING SOMETHING WRONG — THERE ARE NO FEES, NO AMENITIES AND NO SUPERVISION. IT'S JUST YOU ALONE WITH THE THINGS YOU BROUGHT, YOUR CAMPFIRE AND THE WILDERNESS.

Photo & Words  
by AUSTIN LONG





Greetings from  
WHITE SANDS NATIONAL MONUMENT

AS FAR AS I COULD SEE , THERE WAS  
NOTHING BUT WHITE SAND & BLUE SKY.  
THEN , IN THE DISTANCE , I THOUGHT I  
SAW A TREETOP. SO I LEFT THE MARKED  
TRAIL & TRAVERSED ACROSS A DOZEN  
OR SO DUNES FOR A CLOSER LOOK.  
INSTEAD OF A TREE, WHAT I FOUND WAS  
THIS STUBBORN BUSH WHOSE ROOT  
SYSTEM HAD , OVER TIME , COMPACTED  
THE SAND BENEATH IT. WHILE THE  
LOOSER SANDS THAT SURROUNDED THE  
BUSH BLEW AWAY AND FORMED NEW  
DUNES, THE FIRMLY PLANTED BUSH  
TRANSFORMED ITSELF INTO AN  
IMMOVABLE , 40-FOOT TALL MONOLITH  
WAY OUT THERE IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE.

Photo & Words  
by AUSTIN LONG





Saludos desde  
LA FRONTERA

¿QUÉ PASARÍA SI TODOS PUDIERAN  
IR Y VENIR COMO QUIERAN?

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF EVERYONE  
COULD COME & GO AS THEY PLEASE?

Foto & Palabras  
de AUSTIN LONG





Greetings from  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

EARLIER THAT DAY, RANGER RICK  
(NO RELATION) HAD MET WITH  
DESCENDENTS OF THE ANCESTRAL  
PUEBLOANS —THE PEOPLE WHO HAD  
BUILT & INHABITED THE CLIFF  
DWELLINGS OF MESA VERDE  
THROUGHOUT THE 1200s. SOMETIME  
TOWARDS THE END OF THAT CENTURY,  
THE PUEBLOANS ABRUPTLY LEFT.  
CONTEMPORARY ANTHROPOLOGISTS HAVE  
THEORIZED THAT THE SETTLEMENTS WERE  
ABANDONED DUE TO A SUCCESSION OF  
BAD HARVESTS OR ONGOING CONFLICTS  
WITH NEIGHBORING TRIBES. WHEN  
RICK ASKED THE ELDERS ABOUT THEIR  
UNDERSTANDING AS TO WHY THEIR  
ANCESTORS HAD LEFT, THEY JUST SAID:

"IT WAS TIME TO GO"

Photo & Words  
by AUSTIN LONG



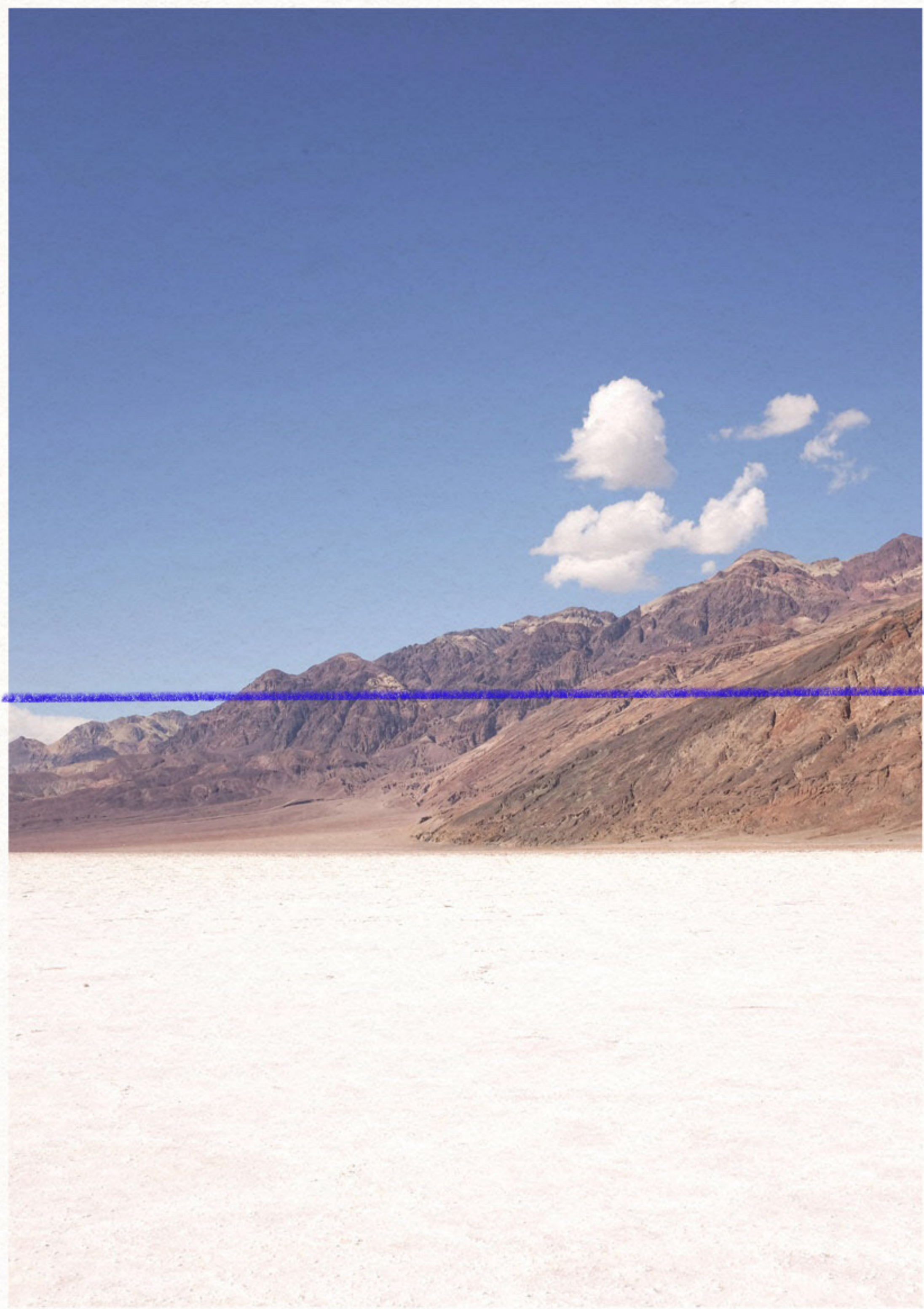


Greetings from  
ARCHES NATIONAL PARK

EVERY ARCH AT THE APTLY-NAMED  
'ARCHES NATIONAL PARK' IS IN THE  
PROCESS OF COLLAPSING. FORTUNATELY,  
FOR THE PEOPLE IN THIS PHOTO,  
EROSION TAKES PLACE ON A MUCH  
LONGER TIMELINE THAN PEOPLE DO.

Photo & Words  
by AUSTIN LONG





**Greetings from**  
DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

150,000 YEARS AGO, THIS WAS A LAKE.

Photo & Words  
by AUSTIN LONG



Greetings from  
THE END

THANKS FOR READING!

See more at  
[HTTPS://ALONG.DESIGN](https://along.design)