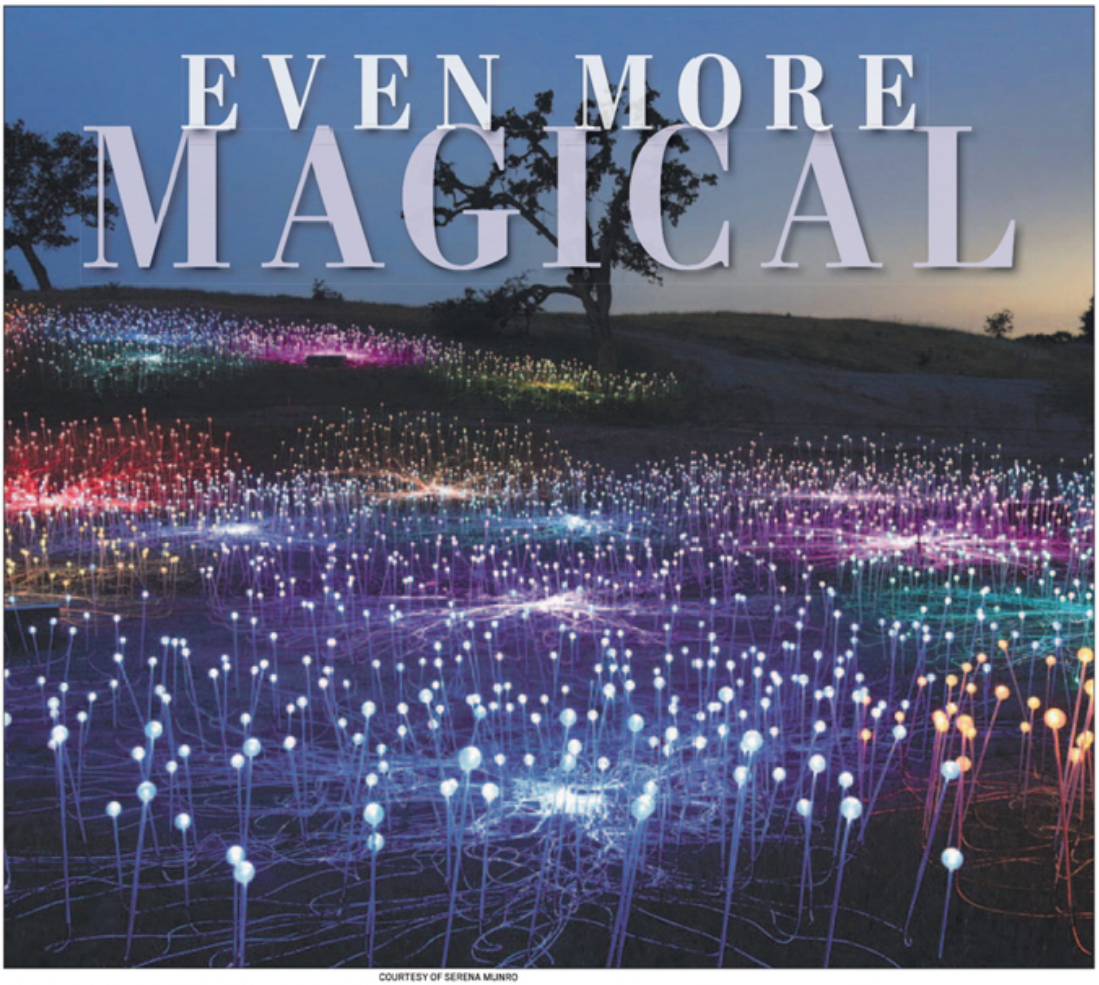
The Mercury News
Sunday
BayArea NewsGroup 24/7 COVERAGE: MERICURYNEWS.COM $2.50 111 MAY 30, 2021

7 Play

Spend a weekend in Paso Robles, complete with light installation and Champagne vending machine.

EVEN MORE MAGICAL



COURTESY OF SERENA MUNRO

Paso Robles' Sensorio has reopened its Bruce Munro installation, Field of Light, and added a new installation, pictured below, called Light Towers, made from 17,000 light-filled wine bottles.

COURTESY OF CHRIS HARDY

5 things you'll want to do in Wine Country

By Jackie Burrell » *jburrell@bayareanewsgroup.com*

Venturing out into the world once more is surreal to begin with. But at Sensorio, the Paso Robles performance space hosting Bruce Munro's latest Field of Light installation, the light at the end of the tunnel is apparently filled with ... ethereal fairy dust. Lights glimmer across the rolling fields, miles of optic fiber shimmer like blossoms in the gloaming.

Munro's illuminated art installations at sites as far-flung as Australia's Uluru and Saratoga's Montalvo Arts Center are always fantastical. But the 15-acre walk-through exhibit in the heart of Paso's wine country is his largest installation ever. Some 58,800 stemmed, illuminated bulbs sway gently in the evening breeze, creating twinkling fields of color.

It felt like a fever dream before. Now, the already fantastical Field of Light, which reopened in April, has been joined by Munro's new Light Towers installation: 69 huge, glowing structures created from 17,000 light-filled wine bottles.

At the end of this endless year, the magic is not only back, it's been multiplied. Paso's wineries have reopened, restaurants are bustling and two sleek new hotels – The Piccolo and Stables Inn – have joined the offerings for day-trippers too smitten to leave.

Whether you spend a day or a weekend exploring the region's winding country lanes or strolling downtown, you'll find plenty to do – not only light-strewn meadows, but new dining options, too, from a sunny beer garden with lobster rolls to a Baja taco spot with Napa cred.

WHERE TO STAY

Paso Robles' Hotel Cheval: Ranch-style elegance

The Piccolo hotel: Modern, luxe and sleek

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