

Kelp forests are preened
by hungry otters snacking
on kelp-mowing urchin flowers



coast to protect their industry. Spain decided to populate their landclaim to thwart this invasion and the poaching of their resources. Spain also determined to "domesticate" this area's Kumeyaay peoples – for the purpose of holding their land, manning their presidios, and praying to their Catholic God. But damage was done. Killing all the otters allowed the spiny urchins, the otter's staple food to multiply, maraud and mow down their own favorite food, kelp moorings.

Our vast kelp forests, which once nursed our whole marine environment – from planktons, to anchovies to tuna – are now

1700's North Pacific Ocean



sparse. The lush ocean bounty which nourished the Kumeyaay, floated away with the moorless kelp. All we have left are the legends of those people, habitats and times – and a smiling city on a sparkling, reflective bay.

Aleut skin kayak



Kumeyaay person



Jonathan Louie is interested in the convergent force of physical form, storytelling, and visual metaphor. Those three come together and alloy in logotypes, landscape designs, signs, posters, books, websites, advertisements, writings, drawings and now art in public places. He is attracted to places in which birds and fish congregate.