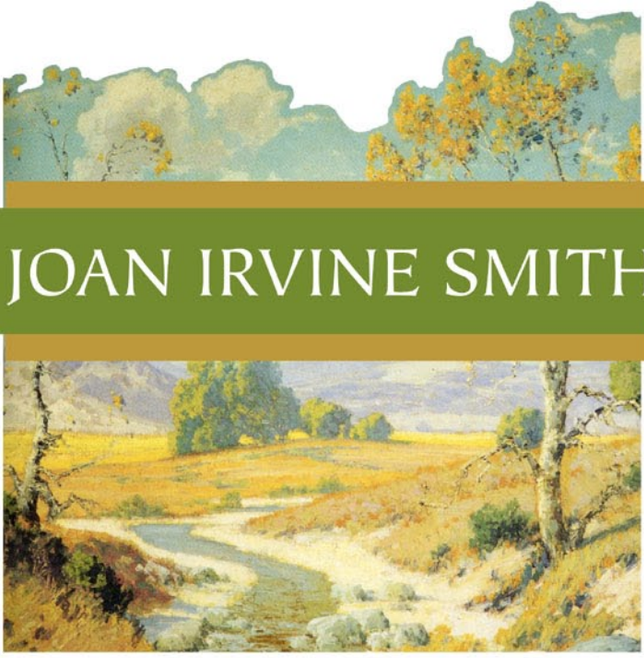

JOAN IRVINE SMITH

With an "anything is possible" attitude, philanthropist Joan Irvine Smith rallies to preserve California's vanishing landscapes. Southern California's Crystal Cove State Park - land once slated for development - is one success story.

Always the optimist, Irvine Smith also lobbies to find a cure for nervous system damage. The courage actor Christopher Reeve displayed following his paralysis moved Irvine Smith to establish the Reeve-Irvine Research Center at the University of California, Irvine. She sees the Research Center as a prototype for future research centers worldwide.