LOOKING AT THE NEW WEST

Contemporary Landscape Photography

June 7 – December 15, 2013

Curated by William Wylie, Adjunct Curator of Photography and Associate Chair for Studio Art, McIntire Department of Art

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www.virginia.edu/artmuseum
Introduction

This exhibition features the works of six contemporary photographers: Joni Sternbach, Mike Osborne, Lois Conner, Mark Ruwedel, Robert Adams, and Michael Lundgren, who work in the landscape of the American West. All of the artists included came to this subject matter many years after Ansel Adams created the seminal work on view at The Fralin Museum of Art until October 13. And while the process of making the photographs is strikingly similar to what Adams used fifty years ago, the view and the artists’ motivation has changed. After the grand display of wildness and pristine nature that Adams’ best-known works sought to convey, these artists discovered another America, one that is full of human interventions and follies. Their work allows us to see the new West as if for the first time and to look on even those marginal places—from small-town backyards to abandoned industrial sites—with a sense of discernment towards what American writer and conservationist Wallace Stegner called “the geography of hope.”
Robert Adams  
American, b. 1937  
*Quarried Mesa Top, Pueblo County, Colorado, 1975–83*  
Gelatin silver print  
Collection of William Wylie

Robert Adams  
American, b. 1937  
*South Table Mountain, above Golden, Colorado, 1975–83*  
Gelatin silver print  
Collection of William Wylie

Robert Adams  
American, b. 1937  
*Alkali Lake, Albany County, Wyoming, 1975–83*  
Gelatin silver print  
Collection of William Wylie

Robert Adams  
American, b. 1937  
*Overlooking Long Beach, on Signal Hill, 1978–83*  
Gelatin silver print  
Collection of William Wylie
Robert Adams
American, b. 1937

*Untitled*, from *Prairie*, 1965–73
Gelatin silver print
Collection of William Wylie

Lois Conner
American, b. 1951

*Bluff, Utah, Navajo Reservation*, 1996
Platinum print, edition 4/10

Courtesy of the artist

Left to right:

Lois Conner
American, b. 1951

*Tuba City, Arizona, Navajo Reservation*, 1995
Platinum print, edition 5/10

*Canyon de Chelley, Arizona, Navajo Reservation*, 1996
Platinum print, edition 2/10

*Mexican Hat, Utah, Navajo Reservation*, 1992
Platinum print, edition 2/10

*Bluff, Utah, Navajo Reservation*, 1996
Platinum print, edition 3/10

Courtesy of the artist
Michael Lundgren  
American, b. 1974  
River Valley, 2003  
Gelatin silver print  
Museum Purchase with Curriculum Support Funds, 2013.1

Michael Lundgren  
American, b. 1974  
Basin, 2005  
Gelatin silver print, edition 1/5  
Courtesy of the artist and ClampArt

Michael Lundgren  
American, b. 1974  
Untitled, 2003  
Gelatin silver print, edition 1/5  
Courtesy of the artist and ClampArt

Michael Lundgren  
American, b. 1974  
Untitled (Water), 2001  
Gelatin silver print, edition 1/5  
Courtesy of the artist and ClampArt
Left to right

**Mike Osborne**
American, b. 1978  
*Vertellus (Valley I)*, 2012  
*Vertellus (Valley III)*, 2012  
*Vertellus (Valley II)*, 2012  
*Vertellus (Peak)*, 2012  
Archival inkjet prints  
Courtesy of the artist

**Joni Sternbach**
American, b. 1953  
*10.09.30 #1 Tracks*, c. 2010  
Unique wet collodion tintype on steel  
Courtesy of the artist

**Joni Sternbach**
American, b. 1953  
*10.10.02 #2 Lucin Lost Train*, 2010  
Unique wet collodion tintype on steel  
Courtesy of the artist

**Joni Sternbach**
American, b. 1953  
*10.10.06 #1 Tracks, Looking the Other Direction*, 2010  
Unique wet collodion tintype on steel  
Courtesy of the artist
Joni Sternbach
American, b. 1953
10.10.06 #7 Intrepid Potash, 2010
Unique wet collodion tintype on steel
Courtesy of the artist

Joni Sternbach
American, b. 1953
08.04.13 #7 Pilot Peak, 2008
Unique wet collodion tintype on aluminum
Courtesy of the artist

Joni Sternbach
American, b. 1953
08.04.10 #2 Breakers, 2008
Unique wet collodion tintype on aluminum
Courtesy of the artist

Joni Sternbach
American, b. 1953
08.04.18 #4 Cave, 2008
Unique wet collodion tintype on aluminum
Courtesy of the artist
Joni Sternbach
American, b. 1953

08.04.17 #6 Observation Rock, 2008
Unique wet collodion tintype on aluminum

Courtesy of the artist

Joni Sternbach
American, b. 1953

08.04.17 #8 Rock and Snow, 2008
Unique wet collodion tintype on aluminum

Courtesy of the artist
Mark Ruwedel
American, b. 1954

Row 1, left to right

Bullfrog and Goldfield #3, 1997
Tonopah and Tidewater #10, 2001
Pioche Pacific #4, 2001
Tonopah and Tidewater #8, 2001

Row 2, left to right

St. John and Ophir #8, 2001
Ludlow and Southern #7, 2002
Tonopah and Tidewater #23, 2002
Great Northern #7, 2005

Row 3, left to right

Nez Perce and Idaho #1, 2005
Denver and Rio Grande Western #43, 2003
Mohave and Milltown #3, 2004
Caliente and Pioche #1, 2002

From the series Westward the Course of Empire
Toned silver prints

Courtesy of the artist and Gallery Luisotti, Santa Monica, California