

Media Release

Presentation House Gallery

The Altered Landscape

Photographs from the Nevada Museum of Art's Carol Franc Buck Collection

April 10 to May 30, 2004

Co-curated by Diane Deming from the NMA and Bill Jeffries from PHG



Robert Adams,
Dead Palms Partially Uprooted, Ontario, California.
1983. Silverprint.

Presentation House Gallery's next exhibition is a collection of 110 landscape photographs from the Nevada Museum of Art's Altered Landscape collection.

The collection focuses on contemporary photographers who push the boundaries of landscape photography to question human impacts on the land rather than simply celebrating the beauty of the landscape. The exhibition offers viewers privileged access to otherwise hidden examples of land use and to the varied ways in which artists have responded to our changing use and misuse of the environment.

The exhibition of 37 artists includes: **Robert Adams**, considered to be one of the most important photographers working today, who has been documenting the environmental destruction of the American West in the late 20th century. **Richard Misrach** and **Mark Klett** are the most important photographers of the American desert; **Lewis Baltz's** topographic work examines the crises of technology. Their work has influenced a generation of photographers who have investigated the limits of photographic objectivity.

This exhibition has roots: *The Altered Landscape* builds on the 1975 *New Topographics: Photographs of a Man-altered Landscape* exhibition at the George Eastman House in Rochester in which photographers such as Lewis Baltz, Robert Adams, Frank Gohlke, and Joe Deal challenged the tradition of presenting the landscape as a pristine wilderness.

CATALOGUE

A full-color, 144 page book, with texts by Dave Hickey, Thomas Southall, and Patricia Limerick accompanies the exhibition. Available in the Gallery Bookstore for \$45.00.

PROGRAMS & EVENTS:

Saturday April 10. 2pm – *New Topographics, Old Topographies* – a short talk on The Altered Landscape & walking tour of the exhibition with PHG Director Bill Jeffries.

Thursday April 22, 8pm – An illustrated talk by Claudia Beck exploring the relation between the New Topographics and recent Vancouver photographic practices. Claudia Beck, is a writer and was co-owner of NOVA Gallery (1976-82).

Thursday May 6, 8pm – *The Bomb in the Garden*: An illustrated talk by John O'Brian, professor in the UBC Department of Art History, Visual Art & Theory, on the interconnections between photography in the American west and the conduct of the cold war.

Artists in the exhibition:

Robert Adams, Lewis Baltz, Wayne Barrar, Virginia Beahan, Barbara Bosworth, Marilyn Bridges, Ed Burtynsky, Steve Davis, Robert Dawson, Joe Deal, Terry Evans, Terry Falke, Geoffrey Fricker, Frank Gohlke, Peter Goin, Emmet Gowin, Wanda Hammerbeck, Timothy Hearsom, Avi Holtzman, Len Jenshel, Sant Khalsa, Mark Klett, Greg MacGregor, Lawrence McFarland, Richard Misrach, Joan Myers, Patrick Nagatani, Eric Paddock, John Pfahl, Mark Ruwedel, Jim Sanborn, Toshio Shibata, Sharon Stewart, Martin Stupich, James Turrell, Michelle Van Parys, Catherine Wagner.

Please mention Gallery hours in listings and reviews: Wednesday to Sunday noon to 5pm and Thursday nights till 9pm.

For more information and images contact **Diane Evans** at 604-986-1351.