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PRESENTATION HOUSE GALLERY

EDWARD BURTYNSKY: THE CHINA SERIES

September 16 to November 5, 2006

Over the past two and a half decades, internationally acclaimed Toronto photographer Edward Burtynsky has explored the globe, documenting sites irrevocably transformed by industrial activity. His images of quarries, mines, railcuts, oil refineries and shipbreaking are powerful depictions of human endeavor and incursions into the earth. Burtynsky's alluring and richly detailed images achieve a disturbing eloquence—and gothic sublimity—through compositional clarity and rigorous attention to detail. Presentation House Gallery is pleased to present *The China Series*, an exhibition of twenty large-scale, newly completed works from the artist's recent trips to China. These include an important series depicting the controversial Three Gorges Dam Project, by far the world's most extravagant and intrusive engineering feat, where over 1.2 million people have been displaced and eleven cities razed. The exhibition also features cinematic depictions of China's burgeoning cities and industrial labour force, photographs whose formal geometries and tight organizational symmetries bring to mind the ambition—and polarity of meanings—of work by filmmakers such as Leni Riefenstahl and Fritz Lang.

Edward Burtynsky was born in St. Catherines, Ontario in 1955. His work has been featured in exhibitions around the world, and was recently the subject of retrospective exhibition organized by the National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa (2003), touring to the Finnish Museum of Photography at Cable Factory, Helsinki, Finland, The Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Ontario, and The Brooklyn Museum of Art, Brooklyn, New York. The artist is represented by the Charles Cowles Gallery, NYC and Nicholas Metivier Gallery, Toronto.

ILLUSTRATED LECTURE by Edward Burtynsky

Tuesday, October 10 at 12:30 pm at Vancity Theatre, 1181 Seymour Street.
Admission is free

RECEPTION FOR THE ARTIST

Tuesday, October 10, 7 pm at Presentation House Gallery

WESTERN CANADIAN PREMIERE

Wednesday, October 11, 9:45 pm at Empire Granville Theatre Cinemas #3

The feature documentary *Manufactured Landscapes* screens as part of the Vancouver International Film Festival. The artist will be in attendance.

Media contact: Diane Evans, 604-986-1351. devans@presentationhousegall.com

Interviews: Edward Burtynsky will be available for interviews on Tuesday, October 10 & Wednesday, October 11th in Vancouver

Edward Burtynsky: The China Series was organized by the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, Winston Salem, North Carolina.

Manufactured Landscapes is a feature documentary on the work of renowned artist Edward Burtynsky. Director Jennifer Baichwal follows Burtynsky through China as he photographs the country's massive industrial revolution. Produced by Mercury Films Inc. (Nick de Pencier, Jennifer Baichwal) and Foundry Films Inc. (Daniel Iron), in co-production with the National Film Board of Canada (Peter Starr, Gerry Flahive).