

NEWS

Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs
Appalachian State University
Turchin Center for the Visual Arts
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November 5, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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To download high-resolution images for the Turchin Center for the Visual Arts, visit www.tcva.org/media

***Lost on the Road to Oblivion* Opens at the Turchin Center**

Boone, NC – Appalachian State University’s Turchin Center for the Visual Arts opened a new exhibition on November 1 that sheds light on the damaging effects of coal mining on the Southern Appalachian region. Winston-Salem photographer, Carl Galie, documents the practice of mountaintop removal in his exhibition *Lost on the Road to Oblivion: The Vanishing Beauty of Coal Country* in the Mezzanine Gallery of the Turchin Center through February 8, 2014. North Carolina Poet Laureate and Appalachian English professor, Joseph Bathanti, has written a suite of poems in response to Galie’s photographs that will be displayed throughout the exhibition.

To learn more, visit <http://tcva.org/exhibitions/1134>.

About Carl Galie and Joseph Bathanti

Carl Galie and Joseph Bathanti did not know each other before they embarked on this collaboration. It wasn’t until the two were brought together because of this exhibition that they realized the numerous similarities between them. They grew up in neighboring counties in southwestern Pennsylvania in towns beholden to coal. “...the friendship born out of it has been a natural. Writing about Carl’s photographs has forced me to dig deeper into my own sensibilities about the environment – not to mention the research that has gone into the writing – and the ways in which poetry can engage in political discourse to bring to light in distinct ways, especially when teamed with images as powerful and provocative as Carl’s, very pressing dangers literally in our backyard.”

While the exhibition puts a focused eye on the coal industry’s damaging effects on the ecosystem in these areas, Galie has shifted the focus on the beauty of coal country rather than just the devastation. “I prefer to focus on what will be lost, rather than what has been lost” Galie said. “This project is not an attack on the coal industry but is only an attempt to expose the devastating mining practice of mountaintop removal that has only one purpose, maximizing profits. Coal still

plays a vital role in today's economy and will continue to be an import source of fuel until renewable forms of energy are developed.”

Related Events

ARTSpectrum Lectures at the Turchin Center

<http://tcva.org/calendar/super/id/1113>

N.C. Poet Laureate Joseph Bathanti: Poetry Reading & Artist Collaborative Discussion
November 6, 6:30pm

Carl Galie: Artist Gallery Talk
November 20, 6:30pm

About the Turchin Center for the Visual Arts

The Turchin Center for the Visual Arts presents exhibition, education and collection programs that support Appalachian State University's role as a key regional educational, cultural and economic resource.

The Turchin Center is located at 423 West King St., in Boone. Hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Tues.-Thurs. and Saturday, and Noon-8 p.m., Friday. The Center is closed Sunday and Monday, and observes all university holidays. There is no admission charge, although donations are gratefully accepted.

For additional details about the Turchin Center, becoming a donor, the upcoming exhibitions, to be added to the mailing list or to schedule a tour, please call (828) 262-3017 or visit www.tcva.org. You can also follow the Turchin Center on Facebook, Twitter @TurchinCenter and Instagram @TurchinCenter.

Sponsors

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