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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Radical Landscapes* offers a fresh look at the natural world; opens Feb. 6 at di Rosa**

NAPA, Calif., Jan. 12, 2016—di Rosa presents *Radical Landscapes*, a new exhibition exploring the natural environment through a contemporary lens. Featuring work by Bay Area-based artists Amy Balkin et al., Amanda Eicher, Pablo Guardiola, Cybele Lyle, Robert Minervini, Trevor Paglen, and Elizabeth Sims, the exhibition opens with a complimentary public reception on Saturday, Feb. 6, from 4–6 p.m., and will be on view through April 3, 2016.

Taking a romantic approach to landscape as a point of departure, *Radical Landscapes* looks to nature as a critical tool to examine one's place in an ever-evolving world. Through a range of media, the seven artists reflect on social, political, and environmental issues using the surrounding environment as both medium and muse.

"Nature can no longer be understood as a distinct realm apart from human activity and inquiry," Curator Amy Owen said. "The artists in this exhibition challenge us to invoke new ways of seeing these issues through their own interpretations and investigations of landscape."



Some of the artists look to the surrounding environment to address complex circumstances through tangible means:

- **Amy Balkin et al.**'s ongoing project *A People's Archive of Sinking and Melting* collects mementos from places in threat of disappearing due to climate change, from Cape Verde to Antarctica.
- **Amanda Eicher**'s socially based practice engages audiences' palates to explore how climate change might impact local agricultural practices and the taste of food and wine.
- **Trevor Paglen**'s large-scale photographs and videos give visual form to the invisible landscape of mass surveillance to question governmental use of technology and its impact on daily life.

Others invent new environments to consider possible outcomes:

- **Pablo Guardiola** manipulates vintage postcards of tropical locales and cityscapes, such as San Juan and Mexico City, to investigate the effects of modernization.
- **Cybele Lyle** transforms her surroundings through installation and photography to create environments that reflect personal narrative and explore queer space.
- **Robert Minervini**'s large-scale, multi-layered acrylic paintings of dystopian cityscapes and landscapes examine the ecological impact of humanity on the land.

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- **Elizabeth Sims'** meticulous graphite drawings of abstract organic forms explore the porous boundaries between man and nature and propose alternative perspectives.

As a whole, the exhibition prompts an appreciation of nature beyond aesthetics alone.

"Despite the often challenging content of the work," Owen said, "these artists demonstrate that there is a capacity for beauty within such complex, contentious landscapes of the world and the self."

Radical Landscapes is on view Feb. 6–April 3, 2016, at di Rosa (5200 Sonoma Hwy, Napa). Hours: Wed-Sun, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$5 suggested donation.

Image: Robert Minervini, *Contemplating the Moon*, 2015. Acrylic on canvas, 52 x 72 in. Courtesy of the artist.

RELATED EVENTS:

Saturday, Feb. 6, 2016, 4–6 p.m.

Opening Reception

Featuring a wine and cheese reception. Free and open to the public.

Saturday, April 2, 2016, 4–6 p.m.

Closing Reception

Featuring a shared sensory experience with food organized by artist Amanda Eicher to invite dialogue about climate change and our local environment. \$10 general / \$5 members.

ALSO ON VIEW AT DI ROSA:

Collection in Focus: Ned Kahn (Feb. 3–April 10, 2016)

Inspired by atmospheric physics, geology, astronomy, and fluid motion, Ned Kahn seeks to enable viewers to observe and interact with natural processes. Flowing water, fog, sand, and light feature prominently throughout the artist's work to create complex and ever-changing systems. This presentation highlights Kahn's works from the di Rosa collection, including two key sculptures that have not been exhibited in over 10 years.

This exhibition is underwritten by Silverpoint Cellars. *Collection in Focus* is an ongoing series of exhibitions that highlight important and often understudied objects from di Rosa's permanent collection that would otherwise remain in storage.

ABOUT DI ROSA: di Rosa is a catalyst for transformative experiences with contemporary art of Northern California. The museum offers a variety of exhibitions and educational programs for all ages and houses the foremost collection of Bay Area art in the world, with nearly 2,000 works by 800 regional artists. A wide range of styles, media, and subject matter provides an overview of the creative energy and freedom to experiment that characterize this region of California. Located on over 200 acres in the Carneros region of Napa Valley, the property includes three separate galleries, a sculpture park, a 35-acre lake, and a wildlife preserve. For more information, visit dirosaart.org.

CONTACT: For press inquiries, including image and interview requests, contact Stephanie King, Public Relations Manager, stephanie@dirosaart.org or (707) 226-5991 x34

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