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NEBRASKA ARTS COUNCIL

Artificial Landscapes | Reagan D. Pufall

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Exhibition dates: October 11 - December 6, 2019
Opening reception: Friday, October 11, 5 - 7pm
Public hours: Monday - Friday, 8 - 5pm
Fred Simon Gallery at the Nebraska Arts Council, 1004 Farnam St, Plaza Level, Omaha NE

(Omaha, Nebraska) – The Nebraska Arts Council will host a reception for *Artificial Landscapes*, by Reagan D. Pufall, on Friday, October 11, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Fred Simon Gallery. The exhibition will be on display from October 11 through December 6, 2019.

Artificial Landscapes | artist statement

"Man is a singular creature. He has a set of gifts which make him unique among the animals: s that, unlike them, he is not a figure in the landscape — he is a shaper of the landscape."
Jacob Bronowski

These are landscapes of places not yet formed but that exist in the imagination of the restless. They are a cross between representations of our world and of future landscapes yet to be forme or yet to be found on other worlds. As a planet is terraformed what becomes of the old landscape? If terraforming fails what becomes of the nascent life seeded there by us? Dark skies loom in these photographs, either lightened by the success of humans or further darkened by failure.

About the artist

Reagan Davis Pufall was shaped by his childhood growing up in North Dakota. Its long cold winters coupled with short and stormy summers instilled in him a permanent sense of restlessness and the drama of nature. Winter days trapped indoors by bitter cold led him to adopt a lifelong habit of reading. He reads broadly, and in his youth particularly enjoyed exploring the worlds presented in classic fiction, fantasy, science fiction, and the ancient mythology of many
cultures. Once winter lifted the warming spring weather would lead him outdoors to explore the open countryside around him; away from the worlds contained in books and into the wide open world of the northern plains. Later, his family moved south to Nebraska, which has a more moderate four seasons climate. Ironically, this shift inverted his calendar; now it was the bright and bracing – but not bitterly cold – days of winter that lured him out into the natural world of the prairies.

In high school he was introduced to photography by a teacher who encouraged both his still life and landscape work. At first his work focused primarily on landscapes, and he loved the hiking and camping that were required to capture those images. However, he eventually found that ground had already been well explored and captured by the photographers and painters who had come before him. During and after the years he spent at the San Francisco Art Institute, he returned to the studio and began creating his own landscapes, inspired to bring into tangible existence the worlds he had encountered in the real and fictional stories of his youthful reading.

Reagan D. Pufall currently lives in Omaha Nebraska where he teaches Art and Design.

Want More Info?

About the Nebraska Arts Council

The Nebraska Arts Council (NAC), a state agency, provides numerous grants, services and special initiatives that help sustain and promote the arts throughout Nebraska. NAC is supported by the Nebraska Cultural Endowment, Nebraska Legislature, and National Endowment for the Arts.

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