



THE
SHELDON
Arts Without Borders

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SHELDON EXHIBIT INVESTIGATES RADIOACTIVE SITES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES THROUGH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

ST. LOUIS – The Sheldon Art Galleries presents **Abbey Hepner - *Redacted Landscape***, November 5, 2021 – January 15, 2022 in the Bernoudy Gallery of Architecture. A free public opening will be held **Friday, November 5 from 5 - 7 p.m.** Gallery hours are Tuesdays – Fridays, Noon – 5 p.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and one hour prior to Sheldon performances and during intermission. Admission is free. For more information, visit TheSheldon.org or call 314-533-9900. More information about each individual exhibit available upon request. **Free Gallery Talk with Abbey Hepner: Saturday, November 20 at 11 a.m.**

The Sheldon continues to monitor the regulations and recommendations set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the City of St. Louis regarding the COVID-19 outbreak. **In accordance with City of St. Louis guidelines, we require everyone over the age of 5 wear a mask.** For an updated list health and safety guidelines for concerts and gallery exhibits please visit thesheldon.org/covid-updates/.



Redacted Landscapes investigates radioactive sites across the U.S. through aerial photographs of uranium disposal cells and uranotypes of sites that transport nuclear waste to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in New Mexico. Uranotypes are an obsolete nineteenth-century photographic process that uses uranium instead of silver to form the image. Upon moving to New Mexico from Japan, where Hepner participated in disaster relief work following the 2011 tsunami

and nuclear meltdown, she set out to understand the impact of the nuclear industry on her immediate surroundings.

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Hepner's artistic practice examines health, technology and our relationship with place through photography, performance, video and installation-based work. She frequently works at the intersection of art and science, investigating biopolitics and the use of health as a currency.

Abbey Hepner holds an M.F.A. in Photography from the University of New Mexico and undergraduate degrees in Art and Psychology from the University of Utah. She previously taught at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Society for Photographic Education and teaches at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville as an Assistant Professor of Art and Area Head of Photography.

Her work has been exhibited in venues such as the Mt. Rokko International Photography Festival in Japan, SITE Santa Fe, the Krannert Art Museum, the University of Buffalo Art Galleries, Noorderlicht Photofestival (Groningen, Netherlands), the University of Notre Dame, and the Lianzhou Foto Festival (Lianzhou, China). Her work has been recently highlighted in *Hyperallergic*, *Lenscratch*, and *Fraction Magazine*. She has been an artist in residence at the Banff Center for Arts and Creativity in Canada, has presented at numerous Society for Photographic Education conferences, and was a 2020 Yuma Art Symposium presenter. Her monograph, *The Light at the End of History*, about nuclear issues, was published by Daylight Books in 2021.

The not-for-profit Sheldon Art Galleries exhibits works by local, national and international artists in all media. Over 6,000 square feet of the galleries' spaces on the 2nd floor are permanently devoted to rotating exhibits of photography, architecture, music art and history, and children's art. A sculpture garden, seen from both the atrium lobby and the connecting glass bridge, features periodic rotations and installations, and the Nancy Spirtas Kranzberg Gallery on the lower level features art of all media. The Sheldon actively supports the work of St. Louis artists in all mediums and features a dedicated gallery with museum-quality exhibits by St. Louis artists, past and present.

Financial Assistance to the Galleries are provided by the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency and by the Regional Arts Commission and the Arts and Education Council.

For more information about the Galleries call The Sheldon at 314-533-9900 or visit TheSheldon.org.

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Image caption: Abbey Hepner, *Los Alamos National Laboratory, New Mexico. Radioactive Waste Shipped to WIPP: 2,574,261 gallons*, 2014, uranium print, 9 x 13 inches. Courtesy of the Artist.