

Special Event

Art and Science Tea

“A Journey To Wilderness”

by Debra Bloomfield (Photographer) and Lauren Oakes (Ecologist)

October 14, 2014 3:00-5:00pm

Join us for afternoon tea (or coffee) and a conversation about the art and science of wilderness. Debra Bloomfield will present photographs and soundscapes from her book *Wilderness* (with essay by Terry Tempest Williams) published this year by UNM Press. Bloomfield will offer insight on developing this body of artistic work, finding inspiration from leaders in the conservation movement, and understanding the importance of continued preservation of wild places. Oakes, who contributed an essay on the Wilderness Act to the book, will discuss the foundation of Wilderness policy and the challenges to these protected areas today in a changing climate. You may purchase the book *Wilderness* at the Museum store NatureWorks. There will be a pre-event book-signing in NatureWorks from 2-3pm. Those who attend the tea/discussion may purchase books then or bring already purchased books to be signed after the tea by both Bloomfield and Oakes.

Presented in association with the National Wilderness Conference, *Celebrating 50 Years of American Wilderness*, held in Albuquerque, Oct. 15 - Oct. 19. Ms. Bloomfield is an invited panelist for the Conference session: “Creativity and Vision to Understand Wilderness”

Ms. Bloomfield’s *Wilderness* exhibit will be at the Richard Levy Gallery in Albuquerque from September 27 to October 24, 2014. The public is invited to an Artist/Reception for Debra Bloomfield at the Richard Levy Gallery from 6:00-8:00 pm on Saturday, September 27, 2014.

Debra Bloomfield has worked in the landscape for 35 years. Her large-scale color photographs focus on the relationship between interiority and the external world, and question how we use and misuse our land. In 2007, she began incorporating field recordings into her working methodology. Bloomfield’s work is represented in museum collections including the Phoenix Art Museum; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the Honolulu Museum of Art; the New Mexico Museum of Art, Santa Fe; the Center for Creative Photography, Tucson; University of California, Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive; and the Victoria and Albert

Museum, London. She currently teaches at the San Francisco Art Institute. She received the San Francisco Foundation's James D. Phelan Art Award in 1992 and the Western Heritage Literary Award in Photography in 2005.

Lauren E. Oakes is an ecologist, land change scientist, and documentarian. As a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow, she is currently completing her doctorate degree at Stanford University in the Emmett Interdisciplinary Program in Environment and Resources. She studies the social and ecological responses to yellow-cedar decline, a tree species dieback associated with climate change in Southeast Alaska. Lauren is the 2011 recipient of the Wilderness Society's Gloria Barron Scholarship and the George W. Wright Climate Change Fellowship for her research on remote Wilderness lands and protected areas. She has written and photographed for the *New York Times* Green blog.

This Art and Science Tea is dedicated to Margaret (Mardy) Murie, 1902–2003.

Adventurer, ecologist, mother of the conservation movement, activist, author, naturalist, wife to arctic biologist Olaus Murie, instrumental in the passage of the Wilderness Act and in creating the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, recipient of the John Muir Award and the Presidential Medal of Freedom (who always structured her time to come together with friends and those who care about our wild spaces for a cup of tea and conversation.

Event held at the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, 1801 Mountain Rd NW, Albuquerque NM 87104

\$15 (10% discount for museum members and volunteers).

Pre-registration preferred. To guarantee your place, register online, go to www.NMnaturalhistory.org

Questions: August Wainwright email: programs.NMMNHS@state.nm.us call (505) 841-2861