

Santa Fe Art Institute

For immediate release

June 6, 2003

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SANTA FE ART INSTITUTE presents Meridel Rubenstein "Land at Risk"

**Public Lecture: Monday, July 14, 2003
Workshop: July 14 – 18, 2003**

On Monday, July 14, 2003, the Santa Fe Art Institute will offer "Land at Risk," a lecture by photographer and mixed-media artist Meridel Rubenstein that addresses the landscape as a threatened site. "Land at Risk" is organized in conjunction with PhotoArts Santa Fe, a 10-day biennial celebration of the photographic arts in Santa Fe. The lecture is open to the public and will take place at 6 p.m. in Tipton Hall on the College of Santa Fe campus.

The lecture and workshop (July 14 – 18) will investigate the paradox of the simultaneous abundance in and loss of personal, natural, and social landscapes. The workshop is geared toward intermediate and advanced artists who wish to include land issues and imagery in their art. Strategies for personal, documentary, conceptual, and metaphorical artmaking in any medium will be addressed. Northern New Mexico will become the workshop's laboratory for an examination of earth, air, fire, and water as artmaking sources. Field trips will include visits to rock art sites, pueblo plazas, abandoned mines, the Rio Grande River, Cochiti Dam, and the Cerro Grande fire remains near Los Alamos. The gravity of environmental and nuclear issues will be balanced with examples of renewal such as seasonal ritual dances and permaculture and reclamation projects.

Meridel Rubenstein originally trained as photographer with Minor White, Beaumont Newhall, and Van Deren Coke. She now combines disparate materials such as palladium prints and steel mounts, video imagery projected onto cast glass, and digital still imagery on floating vellum and handcoated tree-bark papers. Rubenstein has been an active arts educator for over 25 years at institutions that include the College of Santa Fe, San Francisco State University, and the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe. In 2002, she was the Harnish Visiting Artist at Smith College. She has received numerous awards including those from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Guggenheim Foundation, and the Pollack Krasner Foundation. Her work has been the subject of exhibitions in the U.S. and Europe. Recent projects include *A Millennial Forest (US/Vietnam)*, work that was shown at LewAllen Contemporary in Santa Fe, and Brian Gross Fine Arts in San Francisco, and *Joan's Arc: Vietnam*, a mixed-media installation that traces the trajectories of uprooting and replanting in relation to the Vietnam War.

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Lecture tickets are \$5 and are available at the door. Workshop fees are \$500 per week. Sliding scale fees are available. During workshops, residency space may be available for participants at the Santa Fe Art Institute's facility, a spectacular 17,000 square-foot complex designed by Mexican architect Ricardo Legoretta.

Showing concurrently at SFAI is *Reverse*, a photography exhibit of work by five emerging New Mexico photographers and their mentors. *Reverse* runs July 12 – 25, with an opening reception July 12, 4 – 6 pm. It is curated by SFAI and organized in conjunction with PhotoArts Santa Fe.

The lecture, workshop, and exhibition are elements of the Santa Fe Art Institute's 2003 *Uncommon Ground: Manmade* series. For more information on the series, or for workshop application, please visit SFAI's website at www.sfaai.org or call 505-424-5050. The Santa Fe Art Institute is located at 1600 St. Michael's Drive, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505. *Uncommon Ground: Manmade* is funded in part with support from The Burnett Foundation, Lannan Foundation, and The McCune Charitable Foundation.