

THE ART OF FIRE

Fire can be mysterious, sometimes dangerous and destructive, but also **beautiful and restorative**. It often plays an important role in the maturation of ecosystems. Given its power and complexity, fire is an understandable artistic muse.

Artwork in both the professional exhibit and the community art show is meant to include **ecological, cultural and environmental** issues related to fire, as well as fire **management** aspects.



Artist Ree Nancarrow sketches Labrador Tea during the Denali National Park field trip. (Photo by Sean Proctor)

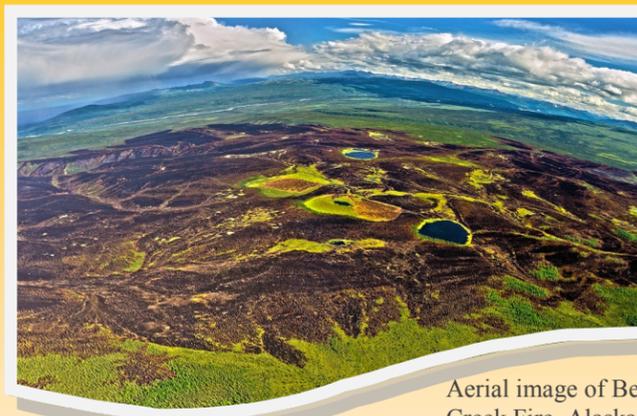
“Most of us go through our lives and only see things superficially. This experience can open our eyes to surrounding habitats and help us become more observant. Creating art is intimately linked to observation.” - curator Karin Franzen

FIELD TRIPS

- ◇ Fire Simulation, Chena Lakes
- ◇ BLM-Alaska Fire Service facility tour
- ◇ Denali National Park & Preserve
- ◇ BNZ LTER Rosie Creek Fire Study Area



Cargo drop, Chena Lakes. (Photo by Amanda Ellis)



Aerial image of Bear Creek Fire, Alaska 2012. (Photo by Ryan Skorecki)

“Fire is not all about destruction. It is a natural part of our ecosystem, with diverse and valuable effects. Fire management is about maximizing those benefits and minimizing the risks.” -Mary Beth Leigh, BNZ LTER.

Members of the **fire management community and the public** contributed art pieces based on their own experience and expertise **for the community art show** hosted by the Alaska Public Lands Information Center (APLIC) in the Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center.

Professional Art Show

Bear Gallery
noon-8 p.m. daily

Community Art Show

APLIC
8a.m.-9 p.m. daily

Lecture Series: 7 p.m. Aug. 8, 15, 22
Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center

Studio Tour: Phil Marshall's Polhavn Woodfabrik studio
Noon-4 p.m., Aug. 4, 1300 Skyline Drive



www.lter.uaf.edu



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Additional support from:



UAF is an AA/EO employer and educational institution.

Special thanks to:

- ◇ Denali National Park
- ◇ National Park Service-Alaska
- ◇ BLM-Alaska Fire Service
- ◇ Alaska Division of Forestry
- ◇ APLIC
- ◇ Karin Franzen

IN A TIME OF CHANGE: THE ART OF FIRE



Untitled, Erinn Kathryn (Rosie Creek Fire, 1983)

AUGUST 3- SEPTEMBER 3, 2012

PROFESSIONAL ART EXHIBIT

Bear Gallery, Centennial Center for the Arts, Pioneer Park

COMMUNITY ART EXHIBIT

Alaska Public Lands Information Center, Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitor Center

www.frames.gov/afsc/artoffire

IN A TIME OF CHANGE: THE ART OF FIRE

In a Time of Change: The Art of Fire is a visual art project that uses art to **engage** the public in conversations about the science behind fire management practices.

Nine local artists were invited to embrace the inspiration of wildfire, fire science and management to create a unique and educational art exhibit. “In a Time of Change: The Art of Fire” is funded by the Joint Fire Science Program and was developed by the **Alaska Fire Science Consortium (AFSC)** and the **Bonanza Creek Long Term Ecological Research Station (BNZ LTER)**.

The work facilitates a sense of place, and helps to understand the functionality of fire in the ecosystems of Interior Alaska. Understanding that role is an important part of effective land management.



“Spruce Smoke,” Ree Nancarrow

Fairbanks artist **Karin Franzen** curated the show. Franzen’s work appeared in previous “In a Time of Change” events, and her background in engineering and biology provided exceptional perspective and vision for the exhibit.

“It’s also important for society to make informed decisions about the landscape and manage it responsibly.” - Mary Beth Leigh, BNZ LTER

ARTISTS

Photos by Jim Barker



JESSIE HEDDEN
Mixed media and painting



AMANDA ELLIS
Photography and sculpture



REE NANCARROW
Fiber

ERINN KATHRYN
Mixed media and painting



Photo submitted by E. Kathryn



SARAH DEGENNARO
Painting and drawing

JENNIFER MOSS
Painting



YASUNARI IZAKI
Wood and metal sculpture

PHIL MARSHALL
Wood sculpture



HANNA STEVENSON
Metal and fiberglass sculpture

“Scientists truly love their subjects and you can’t help but be affected by that. When I accompany a scientist out into the forest, my imagination becomes engaged.” -curator Karin Franzen

BNZ LTER and AFSC coordinated with fire science and management groups in the area to offer four field trips, giving artists a behind-the-scenes look at what happens when a fire occurs, how scientific information is used in management decisions, and the many facets behind long-term ecological disturbance studies.

The field trip element was structured for two-way exchange, allowing people to become immersed in the environment. “We wanted to offer information on the proactive fire management side and pair that with fire science, how fire affects vegetation, and allow that to be fodder for creative output.”-*In a Time of Change* program director Mary Beth Leigh.



(Above) Artists learn about flora and fauna, and their relationship to fire during the field trip to Denali National Park. (Photo by Sean Proctor).

(Left) Artist Phil Marshall (left) helps Jamie Hollingsworth, BNZ LTER site manager, extract a permafrost core, which can offer fire history information, during the field trip to BNZ LTER Rosie Creek Fire study area. (Photo by Glenn Juday)