



CONTEMPORARY IMAGES IN PRINT SINCE 1915

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Stalking the Wild Asparagus:
Keliy Anderson-Staley, Adrain Chesser and Timothy White Eagle,
Lucas Foglia, Taj Forer and Justine Kurland
December 16, 2010 – March 5, 2011

Thursday, December 16

Gallery Talk by the Curator and Artists: 5:30pm; Opening Reception: 5:30-7:30pm

PHILADELPHIA: The Print Center presents ***Stalking the Wild Asparagus***, a group exhibition bringing together the work of six photographers who document rural utopian communities in the United States: Keliy Anderson-Staley, Adrain Chesser and Timothy White Eagle, Lucas Foglia, Taj Forer and Justine Kurland. The exhibition, which borrows its inspiration and title from Euell Gibbons' 1962 bestselling guide to foraging, will feature works documenting groups and families who have constructed alternative societies in rural and wilderness settings, pursuing a diverse array of social, political, religious and spiritual visions.

Organized by The Print Center, the exhibition illustrates the relevance and appeal of utopian communities to contemporary artists. The photographs depict lives that are alternately lushly idyllic and austere and spare. In this exhibition we see homes built by families living off the grid in northern Maine (**Keliy Anderson-Staley**) and studies of primitive structures by practitioners of the lost skills of hunting and gathering (**Taj Forer**). Other works include naturists tending gardens (**Justine Kurland**), families living in the wild (**Lucas Foglia**) and people harvesting food and collecting water (**Adrain Chesser** and **Timothy White Eagle**). Each of the photographers in the exhibition has a personal connection to the communities they are documenting, having either grown up in similar circumstances or through their current participation in such societies. Some of the artists are children of families that embraced back-to-nature practices in the 1960s and so offer a second generation's perspective. These connections complicate and color the relationship between artists and their subjects, challenging the perception of documentary photography as being purely objective.

Stalking the Wild Asparagus will be on view at The Print Center from December 16, 2010 to March 5, 2011. On Thursday, December 16 there will be gallery talk by the artists and John Caperton, Jensen Bryan Curator, The Print Center at 5:30pm and an opening reception from 5:30-7:30pm. Free and open to the public.

The Print Center supports printmaking and photography as vital contemporary arts and encourages the appreciation of the printed image in all its forms. The Print Center presents a variety of programs for the public including exhibitions; The Print Center Gallery Store, which offers the largest and most diverse selection of contemporary prints in Philadelphia; the longest running annual international competition for prints and photographs in the country; and an extensive series of education programs and special events.

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