

A PRAYER FOR THE EARTH

Eco Installation

Over the past 25 years I have created images that define humanity's fundamental, yet tenuous relationship to the natural world. In opposing portfolios such as "The Death of Urban Humanity," the artwork moved from the beauty of nature, to the devastation of nature, and the barren complexity of the urban world. A Prayer for the Earth combines these two irreconcilable visions to create a political, ecological, and spiritual work uniting the beauty and tranquility of nature with the violence and carnage of humanity's destruction of nature.

The destructive legacy of pollution has proven an inevitable aspect of humanity's presence and heritage. Each day, the beauty of nature and our relationship to it is lost, as industry and sprawling cities obscure and destroy clean water sources, precious mountain ranges, and tender trees and flora. How can we live a life of peace, balance and beauty in the midst of this loss?

A Prayer for the Earth is a reminder of this crucial question with paintings and sculptures inspired by the living California landscape, and finally at its heart, symbols of a prayer for the earth.

Linda Vallejo, 2008

UN REZO PARA LA TIERRA

Durante los 25 años pasados he creado imágenes que definen la relación fundamental aún tenue entre la gente y el mundo natural. En carpetas contrarias como "La Muerte de la Humanidad Urbana," las ilustraciones se movieron de la belleza de naturaleza a la devastación de naturaleza y la complejidad estéril del mundo urbano. "Un Rezo para la Tierra" combina estas dos visiones irreconcilables para crear una obra de arte política, ecológica, y espiritual que une la belleza y tranquilidad de la naturaleza con la violencia y matanza de su destrucción.

La herencia destructiva de la contaminación se ha convertido en un aspecto inevitable de la presencia de la humanidad. Cada día, la belleza de naturaleza y nuestra relación a ella es perdida, cuando la industria y las ciudades que destruyen las fuentes limpias de agua, sierras preciosas, y arboles maravillosos. ¿Cómo podemos vivir una vida de paz, equilibrio y belleza en medio de esta pérdida?

Un Rezo para la Tierra es un recordatorio de esta pregunta crucial con pinturas y esculturas inspiradas por el paisaje vivo de California, y finalmente en su corazón, los símbolos de un rezo para la tierra.

Linda Vallejo, 2008

THE EARTH AND ITS MEANING TO MANY

Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like autumn leaves. **John Muir**

What we call Man's power over Nature turns out to be a power exercised by some men over other men with Nature as its instrument. **C.S. Lewis**

a crystal willow, a poplar of water,
a tall fountain the wind arches over,
a tree deep-rooted yet dancing still,
a course of a river that turns, moves on,
doubles back, and comes full circle,
forever arriving

Octavio Paz, Piedra de Sol

Nature is not only all that is visible to the eye, it also includes the inner pictures of the soul. **Edward Munch**

Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's need, but not every man's greed. **Mohandas K. Gandhi**

We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children. **Native American Proverb**

Only when the last tree has died, the last river has been poisoned, and the last fish been caught will we realize we cannot eat money. **Cree Indian Proverb**

Ultimately, it is the earth – which has supported us and loved us and caressed us –that we must now stand up for, for she is under the gravest danger ever in the history of man.

Chief Eddie Benton Banai, Grand Chief of the Three Fires Society

To cherish what remains of the Earth and to foster its renewal is our only legitimate hope of survival.

Wendell Berry

A human being is a part of the whole, called by us Universe, a part limited in time and space. He experiences himself, his thoughts and feelings as something separated from the rest--a kind of optical delusion of his consciousness. This delusion is a kind of prison, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest to us. Our task must be to free from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole nature in its beauty.

Albert Einstein

Like a great poet, Nature knows how to produce
the greatest effects with the most limited means. (1)
Nature is what we know - yet have not art to say -
so impotent our wisdom is to her simplicity. (2)
In fact, monotony is the law of Nature.
Look at the monotonous manner in which the sun rises! (3)
And if ignorant man marvels at the exceptional;
the wise man marvels at the common;
and the greatest wonder of all is the regularity of Nature. (4)
Yes, the poetry of earth is never dead . . .
the poetry of earth is ceasing never. (5)

(1) Heinrich Heine (2) Emily Dickinson (3) Mahatma Gandhi (4) George Dana Boardman (5) John Keats

We won't have a society if we destroy the environment. **Margaret Mead**

Man has lost the capacity to foresee and to forestall. He will end by destroying the earth. **Albert Schweitzer**

You forget that the fruits belong to all and that the land belongs to no one. **Jean-Jacques Rousseau**

There is enough for all. The earth is a generous mother; she will provide in plentiful abundance food for all her children if they will but cultivate her soil in justice and in peace. **Bourke Coekran**

How far must suffering and misery go before we see that even in the day of vast cities and powerful machines, the good earth is our mother and that if we destroy her, we destroy ourselves? **Paul Bigelow Sears**

A PRAYER FOR THE EARTH ECO INSTALLATION

Mixed Media Installation

by LINDA VALLEJO

Central Mandala

Manipulated Photographs, Stone, Natural Object

Painting

Oil on Canvas

Sculpture

Found Tree Fragment, Handmade Paper, Celine Dyes, and Mixed Media