



Phosphor Tailings Pond #4 Near Lakeland, Florida, USA, 2012

ABOUT

EDWARD BURTYNSKY

Edward Burtynsky is known as one of Canada's most respected photographers. His remarkable photographic depictions of global industrial landscapes are included in the collections of over fifty major museums around the world, including the National Gallery of Canada, the Museum of Modern Art and the Guggenheim Museum in New York, the Reina Sofia Museum, Madrid, and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art in California.



Lithium Mines #2 Salt Flats, Atacama Desert, Chile, 2017

"Nature transformed through industry is a predominant theme in my work. I set course to intersect with a contemporary view of the great ages of man; from stone, to minerals, oil, transportation, silicon, and so on. To make these ideas visible I search for subjects that are rich in detail and scale yet open in their meaning. Recycling yards, mine tailings, quarries and refineries are all places that are outside of our normal experience, yet we partake of their output on a daily basis. These images are meant as metaphors to the dilemma of our modern existence; they search for a dialogue between attraction and repulsion, seduction and fear. We are drawn by desire - a chance at good living, yet we are consciously or unconsciously aware that the world is suffering for our success. Our dependence on nature to provide the materials for our consumption and our concern for the health of our planet sets us into an uneasy contradiction. For me, these images function as reflecting pools of our times." Edward Burtynsky



Coal Mine #1 North Rhine, Westphalia, Germany, 2015



Log Booms #1 Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada, 2016

Burtynsky was born in 1955 of Ukrainian heritage in St. Catharines, Ontario. He received his BAA in Photography/ Media Studies from Ryerson University in 1982. He links his early exposure to the sites and images of the General Motors plant in his hometown to the development of his photographic work. His imagery explores the intricate link between industry and nature, combining the raw elements of mining, quarrying, manufacturing, shipping, oil production and recycling into eloquent, highly expressive visions that find beauty and humanity in the most unlikely of places. In 1985, Burtynsky also founded Toronto Image Works, a darkroom rental facility, custom photo laboratory, digital imaging and new media computer training centre catering to all levels of Toronto's art community.

Exhibitions include Anthropocene, shown simultaneously at the Art Gallery of Ontario and the National Gallery of Canada (2018-2019), Houston Fotofest Biennial 2016, Water at Phoenix Art Museum 2016, the New Orleans Museum of Art & Contemporary Art Center, New Orleans 2013, Water (2013), Louisiana (international touring exhibition), Oil (2009) at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington D.C. (five-year international touring show), Manufactured Landscapes at the National Gallery of Canada (touring from 2003-2005), Before the Flood (2003), and China (toured 2005-2008).

Edward Burtynsky is author of over ten books. "Anthropocene", "Salt Pans", "Water", "Oil", "China", "Quarries"

were published by Steidl Verlag. "Essential Elements" was published by Thames & Hudson.

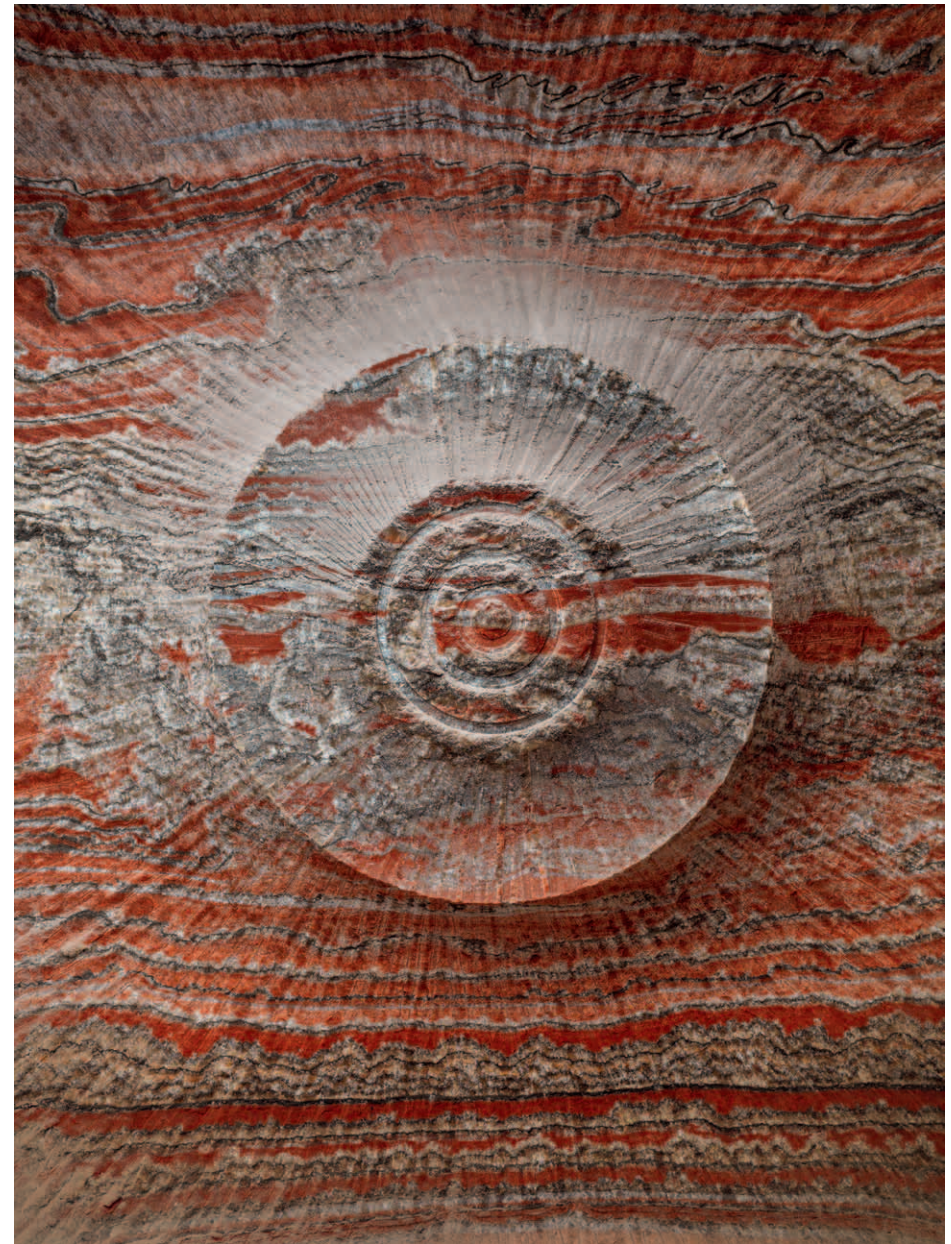
Mr. Burtynsky's distinctions include the TED Prize, The Outreach award at the Rencontres d'Arles, The Flying Elephant Fellowship, Applied Arts Magazine book award(s), and the Roloff Beny Book award. In 2006 he was awarded the title of Officer of the Order of Canada and holds four honorary doctorate degrees, with a fifth to be awarded in 2013.

The Anthropocene Project - "Humankind reached an unprecedented moment in planetary history. Humans now affect the Earth and its processes more than all other natural forces combined. The Anthropocene Project is a multidisciplinary body of work combining fine art photography, film, virtual reality, augmented reality, and scientific research to investigate human influence on the state, dynamic, and future of the Earth." Edward Burtynsky

The entire body of work is shown simultaneously at the Art Gallery of Ontario and the National Gallery of Canada 2018/2019. The documentary film "Anthropocene: The Human Epoch" by Jennifer Baichwal, Nicholas de Pencier and Edward Burtynsky is released 2019.

The book "Anthropocene" has been published by Steidl in Göttingen in November 2018.

Detailed information about the entire project is available at <https://theanthropocene.org>



Uralkali Potash Mine #3 Berezniki, Russia, 2017