

EDWARD BURTYNSKY: ANTHROPOCENE

**Howard Greenberg Gallery
November 14, 2018 – January 5, 2019**

**Bryce Wolkowitz Gallery
November 15, 2018 – December 29, 2018**



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

Uralkali Potash Mine #2, Berezniki, Russia, 2017

NEW YORK – Two gallery exhibitions of landmark work from photographer Edward Burtynsky's series *Anthropocene*, which maps the unprecedented impact of human intervention on Earth, will be on view at Howard Greenberg Gallery from November 14, 2018 – January 5, 2019, and at Bryce Wolkowitz Gallery from November 15 – December 29, 2018 in New York. Opening receptions will be held at Howard Greenberg Gallery on Wednesday, November 14, from 6-8 p.m. and at Bryce Wolkowitz Gallery on Thursday, November 15, from 6-8 p.m. The artist will be present at both receptions.

Burtynsky's *Anthropocene* marks the latest addition to his career-spanning investigation into impact of human activity on the environment. The project title refers to a proposal circulating in the scientific community to formally recognize the commencement of a new geological epoch – the Anthropocene – in which humans are the primary cause of permanent planetary change.

The *Anthropocene* exhibitions coincide with the release of Burtynsky's sixth Steidl monograph of the same title; a new documentary, *ANTHROPOCENE: The Human Epoch*, which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival in early September; and two museum exhibitions that

opened to the public September 28, at the Art Gallery of Ontario, and at the Canadian Photography Institute of the National Gallery of Canada, respectively, all in collaboration with award-winning filmmakers Jennifer Baichwal and Nicholas de Pencier.

For *The Anthropocene Project*, Burtynsky visited 20 countries on every continent except Antarctica, including the United States, Canada, France, Germany, Norway, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Kenya, and Nigeria. The exhibitions – with photographs dating from 2012 to 2017 – highlight the artist's visual exploration into the global consequences of coastal erosion, logging, mining, and industrial agriculture with subjects ranging from the surreal lithium evaporation ponds in the Atacama Desert in Chile to the psychedelic potash mines in Russia's Ural Mountains.

For 35 years, Burtynsky's photographic projects have led him around the world, recording the intersection of industrial growth and environmental consciousness. His previous subjects range from urban renewal centers and housing projects to recycling yards, rock quarries, and the skeletons of decommissioned shipping vessels and containers.

Currently under vigorous and passionate international debate, the acceptance of the controversial idea of the Anthropocene would represent a formal recognition and acknowledgement of what Burtynsky, Baichwal, and de Pencier call the "human signature" on the planet.

"Humans have always taken from nature," states Burtynsky. "This is normal, part of the human condition, and, indeed, a fact of life for all life forms. What is different now is the speed and scale of human taking, and the Earth has never experienced this kind of cumulative impact. If my images appear surreal at times, it must be remembered that they depict our extractive world as it is."

About Edward Burtynsky

Edward Burtynsky's works are held in the collections of over 60 major museums around the world, including The Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Guggenheim Museum in New York; the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; the Reina Sofia Museum in Madrid; and the National Gallery of Canada. Burtynsky is a recipient of the 2004 TED Prize honoring individuals who have shown they can positively impact life in a global context, as well as the ICP Infinity Award for Art (2008), the Rogers Best Documentary Film Award (2006), The Outreach Award at the Rencontres d'Arles (2004), and the Roloff Beny Book Award (2003). Most recently Burtynsky was named Photo London's 2018 Master of Photography. The National Gallery of Canada organized and toured in 2003 the first retrospective of Burtynsky's work, *Manufactured Landscapes*, which subsequently travelled to the Brooklyn Museum of Art, New York; the Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego; and the Cantor Center for Visual Arts, at Stanford University. Born in Ontario in 1955, Burtynsky lives and works in Toronto.

About Howard Greenberg Gallery

Since its inception over 35 years ago, Howard Greenberg Gallery has built a vast and ever-changing collection of some of the most important photographs in the medium. The Gallery's collection acts as a living history of photography, offering genres and styles from Pictorialism to Modernism, in addition to contemporary photography and images conceived for industry, advertising, and fashion. Howard Greenberg Gallery is located at 41 East 57th Street, Suite 1406, New York. The gallery exhibits at The ADAA Art Show, The Armory Show, The Photography Show presented by AIPAD, New York, Photo London, Art Basel, Paris Photo, and Art Basel Miami Beach. For more information, contact 212-334-0010, info@howardgreenberg.com or visit www.howardgreenberg.com.

About Bryce Wolkowitz Gallery

Since its founding in 2002, Bryce Wolkowitz Gallery has made a major commitment to representing new media artists who are exploring the intersection of art and technology. The gallery's dedication to supporting an array of innovative practices has been the catalyst for the expansion of its program to include painting and sculpture. As a member of the Association of International Photography Art Dealers (AIPAD), the gallery has a long history of dedication to exhibiting photographers with a strong socio-geographic mission. For more information, please visit brycewolkowitz.com or contact the gallery at 212-243-8830.

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Press Contact:

Nicole Straus Public Relations

Nicole Straus, 631-369-2188, 917-744-1040, nicole@nicolestraspr.com

Margery Newman, 212-475-0252, margerynewman@gmail.com