

Artist, author consider how Hanford inspires creativity

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By Melissa O'Neil Perdue, WSU Tri-Cities



LoPresti



PASCO – "Afterglow: The Influence of Hanford on the Creative Process" will be the topic of a free discussion by a Pulitzer Prize-winning author and an artist at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 8, at the Columbia Basin College theater. Co-sponsored by WSU Tri-Cities, the event will be preceded by a \$15 reception 4–6 p.m. at Bookwalter Winery, 894 Tulip Lane, Richland.



Rhodes

At the discussion, author Richard Rhodes will speak about his new book, "The Twilight of the Bomb: Recent Challenges, New Dangers and the Prospects for a World Without Nuclear Weapons," published in August by Random House. He'll also discuss the role Hanford played in the Cold War and his interest in aesthetics.

Artist Eric LoPresti, based in Brooklyn, N.Y., will speak about his working process, subject matter and how his experience growing up in Richland influences his artwork.

The discussion is in conjunction with a dual-venue and multi-event exhibit coordinated by LoPresti. Titled "Afterglow," the exhibit features 25 pieces of art on display at WSU Tri-Cities and the Richland Public Library, plus five additional events.

Rhodes is the author of 23 books. He won the 1988 Pulitzer Prize in nonfiction for "The Making of the Atomic Bomb." Another book, "Dark Sun: The Making of the Hydrogen Bomb," was a finalist for a Pulitzer Prize in history.

Rhodes is an affiliate with the Stanford University Center for International Security and Cooperation at Stanford University. He lives near San Francisco.

LoPresti has been recognized with a Faber Birren Foundation Award and the prestigious Miami Young Painters Award. Recent exhibitions include Fade (2009, Like the Spice Gallery), Test Sites (2008, New York Public Library) and New Thought New Work (2006, Miami University). His next New York solo show will be with Like the Spice Gallery in spring 2011.

"I am continually drawn to the beauty of the desert environment, the historic significance of Hanford, and the fascinating relationship of science, environment, history and geography embodied by Richland and the region," he said.

The reception will include light appetizers, wine, live music and a drawing for a \$500 gift basket that includes a book signed by Rhodes and a print signed by LoPresti. Tickets are available at www.bookwalterwines.com, in the Richland and Woodinville Bookwalter tasting rooms, or at the door.

Proceeds go toward the Afterglow art exhibit shipping costs.

The Oct. 8 discussion is co-sponsored by the Herbert M. Parker Foundation, Mid-Columbia Literary Festival, Richland Public Library Foundation and Columbia Basin College.

Other "Afterglow" events free to the public include:

- Opening reception for the art exhibit, 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 7, in the WSU Tri-Cities Consolidated Information Center Art Center. The exhibit will run through Nov. 3 as part of the Fall 2010 Liberal Arts Season of Events.
- Panel discussion: Science & Aesthetics Beyond Hanford, at the LIGO Hanford Observatory, 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 9. For details and directions, visit www.ligo-wa.caltech.edu or contact LIGO at outreach@lig-wa.caltech.edu or 509-372-8181.

Shipping artwork across the country has proven expensive for LoPresti, who is accepting donations to offset the cost. Individuals who donate \$100 or more will receive a limited edition drawing of Rattlesnake Mountain, signed by the artist. Donations should be made payable to "Washington State University Foundation, attn: WSU Tri-Cities." More information can be found at www.ericlopresti.com/afterglow2010.

