Treece
Dina Kantor

June 26 - July 20, 2014

Opening Reception: Thursday, June 26, 6-8pm
Artist Talk: Thursday, June 26, 6:30pm

Brooklyn, NY - June 2014

A.I.R. Gallery is pleased to present Treece, an exhibition of photographs by Dina Kantor. The exhibition will open on June 26, 2014, and will remain on view through July 20, 2014. An opening reception and artist talk will be held on the evening of June 26th from 6-8pm.

Dina Kantor has been photographing in and around Treece, KS, since 2010, observing dramatic changes in both life and landscape. Her photographs are an archive of the community, a document of its transformation, and an investigation into the environmental and economic impact of past practices on both individuals and the landscape.

Treece was incorporated in 1918 as a home for lead and zinc miners. After WWII, the industry began to drag. The area's last mines closed in the 1970s leaving behind a small community of the children and grandchildren of miners.

Treece is included in Tar Creek, the largest EPA Superfund site in the United States. Poor mining practices left the ground unstable and susceptible to sinkholes. Mountains of “chat,” the toxic remnants of the mining, surround the town. According to a 2009 EPA test, 8.8 percent of children in Treece were shown to have elevated levels of lead in their blood, compared to just 2.9 percent statewide. The residents of Treece asked the government for help. Now the town is in the final stages of a government-funded relocation program.

This exhibition has been made possible in part with the help of the Kansas Humanities Council and Blue Earth Alliance.

Dina Kantor is a photographer and educator based in Brooklyn, NY. She has an MFA in photography from the School of Visual Arts. She received the Aaron Siskind Foundation Individual Photographer's Fellowship in 2012 and was selected for a Saltonstall Foundation for the Arts Residency in 2013. Dina is a 2013-2014 A.I.R. Gallery Fellow. www.dinakantor.com