

Dear All,

Every person who is reading these words has been an essential part of the success of The Galisteo Basin Photography Project.

On behalf of the Project, I particularly want to thank the Landowners who contacted me. To most of you, I remain a complete stranger. Yet, back in the spring of last year after I sent out a letter asking for permission for the founding photographers to go onto your land, many of you said "Please come."

Because of all of you who gave your permission to us, we have been able to show and share the Galisteo Basin of Santa Fe County, New Mexico with others here, and around the world-- its beauty, its life, its uniqueness: Often from the portal of a home or an old homesteader's cabin; or from a spot very special and sacred for the landowner who shared that precious place for the photographer's camera to try and capture the essence of; or in the summer lushness of a vegetable garden surrounded by ancient crops still cultivated and eaten today; or from riding down wild, dusty and sometimes mud-hole-filled roads with friends who offered motorcycle and sidecar tours onto lands never seen just from the scenic pullouts along the Turquoise Trail; or the sacred offering of being allowed on Santo Domingo tribal lands to see where the Galisteo River merges into the Rio Grande.

Laughter, and tears, were shared among new friends.

Today, the Project officially ends, although for many of the photographers, there is a wealth of images still to process and bring to our community.

Rixon Reed, Director of photo-eye Gallery, and Mary Anne Redding, Curator of the Photographic Archives at the Palace of the Governors, New Mexico History Museum, have spent many hours, have juried and then curated the Exhibition that is opening today at 5pm, and debuting online at: www.GalisteoBasinPhotoProject.com.

The photographers, Rixon, Mary Anne, photo-eye staff, and Steve Zeifman, master printer of Rush Creek Editions are bringing our community a wonderful variety of art to purchase at the gallery at different price ranges if you feel inclined. 50% of sales from all of the Special Edition 11x14" prints & portfolio goes to Drilling Santa Fe, New Mexico Environmental Law Center, and the Oil and Gas Accountability Project. We also have for sale 24 lovely fine art posters printed by Rush Creek. Our Governor, whose State moratorium buttressed the efforts of County and residents in a crucial time last year, has been given a poster and is having it framed.

Rush Creek is also assembling three Boxed Set Edition portfolios of the Special Edition 11x14" prints provided by each Exhibition Photographer of their curated images. Each photographer has chosen his or her favorite image for inclusion in the Boxed Set Edition. There are 27 archival prints in the portfolio, of mixed mediums with archival slip sheets over each print. The Boxed Set Edition also contains Title, Statement Page, and

Credits/Thank-you. The portfolio will come in a custom-made linen clamshell portfolio box with an inset graphic.

The Governor has given another special gift to us. He signed the Title Pages of the first three Box Sets. It has been our intention all along to earmark the #1 Box Set Edition to go to the Photographic Archives at the Palace of the Governors. Governor Richardson's signature makes this particularly meaningful and of historic importance.

We are looking for a donor(s) to purchase the #1 Boxed Set portfolio, and donate it to the Palace of the Governors, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Whoever this donor(s) may be, your donation will ensure that these beautiful photographs are maintained for posterity and available for future research in a public archive. The other two Boxed Sets are available for any private collector or museum anywhere in the world.

For further information about purchase of a portfolio, please contact Rixon Reed, Director of photo-eye Gallery, at +505.988.5152 x 111 or rixon@photoeye.com. For further information about donation, please contact Mary Anne Redding, Curator of Photography at +505.476.5026 or maryanne.redding@state.nm.us.

Your donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law for donations of art work to museums.

This grassroots email that comes from my desk into your homes reaches both coasts of the United States, into Canada, Europe, Mexico and India. Drilling Santa Fe sends these words onward to 43 countries around our planet. The American West is beloved by the world. It has been immortalized by artists and writers from all walks of time, from the Ancient Ones' beautiful hand-engravings that tell us a story to modern names that everybody recognizes: Ansel Adams, Georgia O'Keefe, DH Lawrence, Edward Curtis.

There is this need to preserve these lands.

I would like to invite each and every one of you to come and feast your heart and eyes on the photographs and celebrate with our community all that you have helped to create and protect.

Most sincerely yours,

Your neighbor from across the fields,

Linda

PS: One Galisteo Basin resident grandmother wrote to me last year that she wanted only to be known as a "friend of the Basin." You ALL are thanked thusly as Friends of the Basin in our Credits, including the editor and staff of The New Mexican's Pasatiempo who gave front page coverage to the Project today; and in special thanks to journalist Frank Clifford for his beautiful, lyrical article. Frank, your writing captures the spirit of the place.

More contact information for Mary Anne Redding:

Mary Anne Redding

Curator of Photography

Photo Archives/Palace of the Governors

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click on the Photo Archives

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