

Annotated List
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Contemporary Environmental Artists

This list is a compellation of contemporary environmental artists as well as organizations that promote corresponding environmental causes. Environmental issues and causes are something that have always interested me and throughout the course of this class I have realized how globalization has such a profound effect on the environments of different communities all over the globe. These artists and organizations help us to consider what we can do to help bring awareness to environmental issues.

John Dahlsen is nationally regarded in Australia as a contemporary environmental artist. Dahlsen creates art to express contemporary social and environmental concerns. He hopes that presenting this art to the public will encourage viewers to think about the deeper meaning of the work, in particular environmental issues we currently face.

Blue River is one of the first of Dahlsen's works using recycled plastic bags as the primary medium. This work expresses environmental messages as well as displays brilliant colors and textures in the variations of plastics.

The Plastic Bag Recycling Organization promotes ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 463 million pounds, conserve enough energy (mainly natural gas) to heat 200,000 homes and reduce waste by 300 million pounds annually by educating on plastic bag recycling.

Bryant Holsenbeck is an environmentalist and an artist. Holsenbeck collects everyday items to make her art, which transforms the objects and its meaning. Her art intends to make viewers aware of the continual impact of our trash.

Small Brown Bird is a part of a series of wild life animals. Each animal is made of wood, wire, and recycled fabrics. The natural materials juxtaposed with the recycled materials expresses an environmental message about recycling.

The National Wildlife Federation works to inspire Americans to protect wildlife for our children's future. As the nation's largest conservation organization, NWF and its 4 million supporters are committed to sustaining the nature of America for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Kim Abeles is a contemporary artist who focuses on environmental and social issues. She crosses disciplines and media to explore and map the urban environment and chronicle broad social issues. The Smog Collector series brought her work to national and international attention in the art world.

Smog Collectors are both literal and metaphoric depictions of the current conditions of our life source. Stencil images are placed on transparent or opaque

materials, then left out to let the particulate matter in the heavy air fall upon them. When the stencil is removed, the images reveal themselves.

The Clean Air Campaign offers assistance to more than 1,600 employers to design and implement commute options programs that make business sense; protect public health; offer targeted incentives to commuters and employers; provide Smog Alert notifications; and work with elementary, middle and high schools to protect children from harmful pollution and empower children to take a positive role in reducing traffic and cleaning the air.

Barbara Roux is a contemporary artist who deals with issues of ecology. Her installation projects are influenced by conservation projects to protect habitats and record incidents in natural history.

Branching Out (2009) is an installation piece composed of native twigs ‘growing’ out of the walls of the gallery. Roux hopes to inspire an appreciation of forest environments as an important resource.

The Defenders of Wildlife Organization promotes progressive land-use strategies on federal state and private lands that safeguard key habitats such as wetlands, deserts, forests and grasslands from development and degradation.

Marjett Schille works in oils, watercolors, mixed media and ceramic sculpture. Schill works to express the life force of nature in her work and strives for her art to serve, even in a small way, as a voice for the environment.

Bigger Than All Outdoors is a colored pencil drawing meant to express the delicate beauty of our natural habitat, its creatures, and the importance of protecting them.

The National Wildlife Refuge System is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. It is the world's premier system of public lands and waters set aside to conserve America's fish, wildlife and plants.

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