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a contemporary art space

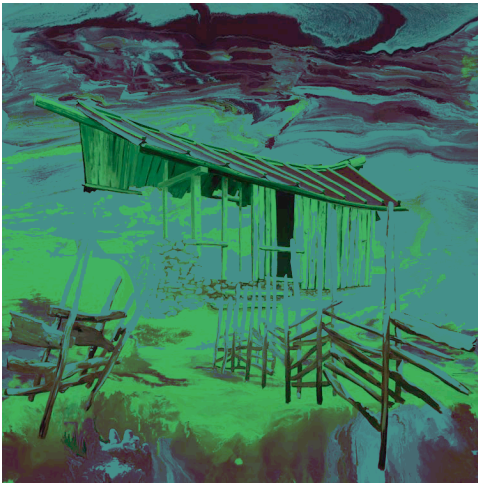
tenth anniversary 1995-2005

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SITE SANTA FE PRESENTS STEPHEN BUSH: GELDERLAND

February 10 – May 13, 2007
Public Opening: Friday, February 9, 5-7 pm



Santa Fe, NM—SITE Santa Fe is pleased to present ***Stephen Bush: Gelderland*** from February 10-May 1, 2007, in only his second museum exhibition in the United States. There will be a media preview of the exhibition with the artist on **Thursday, February 8, from 11 am-12 noon**. The free Public Opening is **Friday, February 9, from 5-7 pm**.

Stephen Bush, *Southeast in the Summer*, 2006
Oil and enamel on linen, 72 x 72 inches
Courtesy of Sutton Gallery, Melbourne, Australia
Collection of Ken & Lisa Fehily, Melbourne, Australia

For his exhibition at SITE Santa Fe he has titled *Gelderland* from one of the paintings in the show Australian painter Stephen Bush will present a significant body of new works made since 2000 along with a selection of earlier works. Merging representation and abstraction, his canvases explore serial imagery in an apocalyptic palette. Often appearing to have an intrinsic dichotomy created by constant juxtapositions (old and new; man-made and organic), Bush creates a visual argument within his work in an exploration of Australia's post-colonial identity. He often pairs hermetic figures or structures with heroic landscapes in vibrant, clashing colors that seem at odds with the silent, introverted activities they depict. This exhibition will feature

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works from several series, including *Beekeepers*, *The Lure of Paris*, and his most recent *Cabin* paintings.

Enjoying a well-established reputation in Australia, painter Stephen Bush has become renowned for his intriguing landscapes that depict an array of disparate subjects, including potatoes, elephants, farm machinery, and rubbish bins, to name a few. In his recent landscape paintings (known as his *Cabin* series), the artist extends his surreal world into an exploration of the unconscious. Fascinated by images of the alpine vista and mountain locations, Bush incorporates images of these anonymous, remote locales into works that he considers to be metaphorical expressions for life's quest for personal or cultural fulfillment.

Bush's work has been exhibited in *Signs of Life: Melbourne International Biennial 1999*; *Bad Toys* and *How Say You* at the Australian Centre for the Arts. Solo shows include those at Rosamund Felsen Gallery, Los Angeles, Goff + Rosenthal Gallery, New York, and The Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, Connecticut. His exhibition at SITE is his first major museum show in the United States since 1991.

Born in 1955 in Colac, Victoria, Bush lives and works in Melbourne where he received his BFA and Graduate Diploma from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology in 1978.

The exhibition is supported in part by Sutton Gallery, Melbourne, Australia; Arts Victoria; and Goff+Rosenthal, New York.

Art & Culture

On Tuesday, February 13, at 6 pm, SITE will present a conversation with the artist and Liza Statton, SITE's 2006-2008 Thaw Curatorial Fellow, in conjunction with the Bush exhibition. This Art & Culture event is co-sponsored by TAI Gallery. Tickets: \$10 Adults; \$5 students, seniors, and SITE Members at Friend, Family and STUDIO levels. Free with advance reservation at the Supporter level and above.

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SITE Santa Fe is located at 1606 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe, New Mexico. SITE Santa Fe Hours: Wed–Sat, 10 AM–5 PM; Friday, 10 AM–7 PM; Sunday, 12 PM–5 PM. Museum admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students, teachers and seniors; members are free. Free admission is offered on Fridays, made possible by a grant from The Brown Foundation, Inc., of Houston. Tours by SITE Guides are available free of charge to the public with paid admission and are also regularly scheduled on Fridays at 6 pm, and Saturdays & Sundays at 2 pm. SITE Santa Fe gift certificates are available. Call 505.989.1199 for more information.

This project is made possible in part by New Mexico Arts, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, and the National Endowment for the Arts. This announcement is partially funded by the City of Santa Fe Arts Commission and the 1% Lodgers' Tax.

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