



**The Show Must Go On
ART from the ashes
Exhibition to benefit the Lost Pines Region Continues
June 11 – 30
Bastrop, Texas**

(May 30, 2012) – ART from the ashes, in proud partnership with **Bastrop Association for the Arts, Bastrop Fine Arts Guild and Main Street Program**, will continue fundraising for the **Lost Pines Recovery Team's** restoration efforts for the Lost Pines Region of Bastrop County with a continuation of their recently completed Austin, TX Exhibition. The show, to be held at the Bastrop Performing Arts Center, will open to the public on Monday, June 11th and run thru June 30th.

This new installation of work, all created with materials reclaimed from fire sites in Bastrop, will feature pieces from the weeklong exhibition held in Austin in April 2012 in conjunction with Big Medium, as well as some new work contributed by local artists.

LPHCP Administrator, Roxanne Hernandez says, "Following a successful showing in Austin, I'm thrilled that AFTA has teamed with our local artist associations to bring the show to Bastrop. This is an opportunity for more local residents to view creative and inspirational works of art. Healing the landscape is a vital component to our overall recovery and creating beauty from destruction will help heal the human spirit. We are grateful for the continued support to generate desperately needed funds to restore the uniqueness of the Lost Pines ecosystem. These funds will be used for reseeding native grasses and wildflowers, planting loblolly pines and hardwoods, and controlling soil erosion that is threatening the community's infrastructure and private property."

Bastrop Fine Arts Guild's Karol Rice adds, "The Bastrop Fine Arts Guild is especially thrilled to be working with the Bastrop Association for the Arts and our Main Street Program to bring this very powerful and poignant exhibition to Bastrop County. Many of our local artists, some of whom lost everything in the wildfires, have created special pieces of artwork to donate to this wonderful cause, along with other artists, near and wide. We are also extraordinarily appreciative of the Art from the ashes (AFTA) organization who made the Austin Exhibition not only possible but so successful and their willingness to work with us all to "bring the exhibit home" where the residents of Bastrop County will have an opportunity to see how artists and their artwork can help heal the pain of the past and inspire new creativity, lift our spirits and renew our energy for the future."

**ART from the ashes Exhibition to benefit the Lost Pines Recovery Team
June 11 – 30 with reception on Saturday, June 16th from 5-7pm
Performing Arts Center
1401 Cedar Street
Bastrop, TX**

Exhibition hours: Mon-Wed, Fri & Sat 10a – 4:30p; Thurs 10a – 8p

For more information about ART from the ashes and to find out how to contribute to the AFTA Lost Pines Recovery fund, go to www.artfromtheashes.org

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About ART from the ashes (AFTA):

ART from the ashes (AFTA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to support communities devastated by natural disaster through the creation of art. In the spirit of "Support. Inspire. Create. Renew" artists create one-of-a-kind works of art utilizing materials reclaimed from disaster site locations, which are then exhibited in a benefit exhibition. Proceeds support the affected community to aid in their recovery process. In the wake of devastation and destruction, these works of art symbolize one's ability to renew, rebuild and persevere. AFTA's inspiration stems from the desire to help heal and reconnect communities as they face challenges and hardships in the aftermath of natural disaster. The efforts of ART from the ashes are supported by contributing artists, volunteers, sponsors and donations.

The Spring 2012 benefit to support the restoration of Bastrop County's Lost Pines Region, marked ART from the ashes' sixth benefit exhibition since its inception in 2007. <http://www.artfromtheashes.org>

About Lost Pines Recovery Team:

The LPRT is composed of local, state and federal agencies with comprehensive knowledge of the Lost Pines ecosystem. The LPRT's objectives are to, assess the condition of the area's natural resources; develop Best Management Practices (BMPs) to address resource issues; share this information with private property owners; and, assist private property owners by providing technical assistance and resources for financial assistance to implement BMPs on their property.

About the Bastrop Fine Arts Guild

Past - In the summer of 1998, several local artists came together to form the Bastrop Fine Arts Guild, with the purpose of providing "mutual aid and promotion of local artists in this community, and to encourage cultural interest in and appreciation for fine art." In October of 2000, Mary Voss offered gallery space on Main St. to the Guild and her son, Greg Warner and his wife Patty Green, have extended that generosity.

Present - Currently, Guild membership consists of approximately 85 artists. Teaching and gallery space continues to increase. Our artwork is more diverse and local artists now exhibited in the Gallery and multiple Bastrop businesses. The Guild's immediate need is for funds to maintain and expand our teaching, exhibition and retail space, and to expand our arts scholarship/grant program.

Future - 2010 is shaping up to be one of the most exciting years ever for the Guild and Bastrop's art community. The Guild hopes to unveil the possibility of a new gallery/exhibition space that promises to transform the arts not only for Bastrop, but for Bastrop County as well. It will push our arts to a whole new level and should contribute significantly to economic tourism in Bastrop. www.bastropfineartsguild.com

About Big Medium:

Big Medium is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization based in Austin, Texas, dedicated to supporting visual arts and artists in Texas by exhibiting innovative artists in the Big Medium gallery and project space; offering affordable studio spaces; and organizing programs such as the annual East Austin Studio Tour, the Texas Biennial, and now the West Austin Studio Tour. www.bigmedium.org

About Jon Langford, our exhibition logo artist:

Jon Langford is a founding member of legendary British rock band the Mekons. A native of South Wales, Langford now lives in Chicago. He continues to play and record with the Mekons, as well as The Pine Valley Cosmonauts, Skull Orchard & the Waco Brothers, to name a few. His multi-layered paintings take imagery from old country music publicity photos and sheet music and envelope them in a haze of ironic nostalgia. He describes his painting technique thusly: "Long process of layering, scraping, minute attention to detail. Basically, I create a very unstable surface with acrylics and pastel on top of each other and work on top of that with Sharpies, felt pens, white out, gunk, snot and whatever comes to hand."

<http://www.yarddog.com>

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