

# OWINGS-DEWEY FINE ART

A GALLERY FOR 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN ART  
CONSULTATION | SALES | APPRAISAL

## For Immediate Release

**Contact:**

Kelly Lyon  
(505)986-9088

**Fax:**

(505)983-4215

**E-mail:**

odfa@uswest.net

**Owings-Dewey Fine Art Presents  
An Exhibition of Photographs by Peter Woytuk  
“Los Alamos - August, 2000 (A Sculptor’s Perspective)”**

**Who: Peter Woytuk**

In 1993 *The International Herald* declared Peter Woytuk “the greatest animal sculptor of the Western world in the closing years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.” Indeed, Peter is best known and loved for his whimsical sculptures of animals - particularly his birds. Photography, however, is Peter’s first love. He built a dark-room in his house when he was just 17 and went on to study photography at Kenyon College in Ohio. While he eventually pursued a career in sculpture, Peter has never abandoned his love for photography.

**What: An exhibition of photographs taken in the aftermath of the Cerro Grande Fire**

A group of 20-30 photographs depicting objects transformed by the fires in Los Alamos. All silver gelatin prints measure 7 by 7 inches, are limited editions of 15, and are each priced at \$500 (unframed). A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Los Alamos Historical Museum.

**When: Friday, December 15, 2000**

Opening reception on December 15 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM  
Exhibition will continue through Saturday, January 13, 2001

**Where: Owings-Dewey Fine Art Sculpture Gallery**

Downstairs at 74 East San Francisco Street  
Santa Fe, NM 87501  
(505)986-9088

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**Why:** In the summer of 2000, while fires raged in the hills surrounding Los Alamos, Peter Woytuk was preparing for an exhibition of his sculpture at Owings-Dewey Fine Art. As the rest of the world watched the devastating images on their television sets, so did Peter. When he arrived in New Mexico for his opening, he was understandably drawn to the city of Los Alamos - partly out of curiosity but also out of sincere sympathy for the many families who lost everything.

While driving through the affected neighborhoods, Peter was awestruck by how much the fire had altered the landscape and had consequently transformed various possessions left behind by fleeing residents. He witnessed crews quickly cleaning up the debris and realized that before too long there would be little evidence left to tell the terrible story of these families. Peter therefore set about taking photographs of the devastating aftermath of the Cerro Grande Fire.

As a sculptor, Peter saw a strange beauty in the charred, ghostly landscape and in objects burned and melted, often beyond recognition. However, his goal was to capture the essence of personal tragedy in Los Alamos. His photographs do not tell the story of a particular individual. They attempt to illustrate the tragedy of universal loss - of objects once treasured, now destroyed - of families displaced from their homes and forced to start over.

With this exhibition, both Peter and Owings-Dewey Fine Art wanted to include the community of Los Alamos. Therefore, a portion of the proceeds will benefit the Los Alamos Historical Museum. Photographs will be donated not only for their archives but also for their May, 2001 show featuring objects transformed by the fire. We are very honored to be collaborating with LAHM and look forward to their very special exhibition. For further information regarding LAHM and their exhibition in May, please contact Hedy Dunn at (505)662-6272.

**\* Transparencies Available Upon Request \***