



## EDWARD BURTYNSKY Australian Minescapes

Specifically commissioned by FotoFreo, with the support of BHP Billiton Iron Ore and the FotoFreo Angels, Australian Minescapes is a new body of work by internationally renowned Canadian photographer Edward Burtynsky. Taken in the eastern goldfields of Western Australia and in the Pilbara, these large scale photographs continue Burtynsky's examination of natural landscapes modified by mankind in the pursuit of the raw materials required for our modern society.

Currently one of the world's leading contemporary landscape photographers, Burtynsky's work focuses not on the natural landscape, but on man-made or 'manufactured landscapes'. His photographic work has examined quarries, mine sites, industrial landscapes, oilfields and industrial landscapes in the third world. Regardless of viewer's opinions on the subject matter, the photographs remain insightful, non-judgemental and exquisitely beautiful.

Describing his practice, Burtynsky elaborates, "nature transformed through industry is a predominant theme in my work. I set course to intersect with a contemporary view of the great ages of man; from stone, to minerals, oil, transportation, silicon, and so on. To make these ideas visible I search for subjects that are rich in detail and scale yet open in their meaning. Recycling yards, mine tailings, quarries and refineries are all places that are outside of our normal experience, yet we partake of their output on a daily basis."

Edward Burtynsky's remarkable photographic depictions of global industrial landscapes are in the collections of several major museums around the world, including Museum of Modern Art and Guggenheim Museums in New York, Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris, and the National Gallery of Canada. His distinctions include the TED Prize, The Outreach award at the Rencontres d'Arles, The Flying Elephant Fellowship, Applied Arts Magazine book awards, and the Roloff Beny Book award. In 2007 he was awarded the title Officer of the Order of Canada.

#### Recommended Reading:

*Burtynsky-Quarries* (Steidl, 2007)

*Burtynsky-China* (Steidl, 2006)

*Manufactured Landscapes: The Photographs of Edward Burtynsky* (Yale University Press, 2003)

#### Film:

*Manufactured Landscapes* (Jennifer Baichwal 2006)

See [www.edwardburtynsky.com](http://www.edwardburtynsky.com)

