ALCHEMY + ANGST @ 82 with Jerry Uelsmann at SUMA
Written by Lola Taylor

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: The Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA) is proud to announce that photographer Jerry Uelsmann’s exhibit ALCHEMY + ANGST @ 82 will be on display from November 3 to November 30. SUU’s Art & Design Department is hosting an Art Insights featuring an artist talk by Uelsmann on November 3, 2016, at 7:00 pm in the Southern Utah Museum of Art. Admission is free, and the general public is invited to attend.

Uelsmann hails from Detroit, Michigan, where his interest in photography was sparked at the age of fourteen, and received his BFA from the Rochester Institute of Technology in 1957. Continuing his education, Uelsmann received his MS and MFA at Indiana University in 1960. Uelsmann immediately began teaching photography at the University of Florida in Gainesville, where he became a graduate research professor of art in 1974.

He has received numerous awards and recognition for his spectacular prints, including the Guggenheim Fellowship in 1967 and a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in 1972. Uelsmann’s photographs are in museum permanent collections around the world. Some of these museums are the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the National Gallery of Australia, the Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography, and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.

Uelsmann is known for his almost magical ability of creating visually stunning prints in a darkroom. At the age of 82, even after many years of practicing his craft, Uelsmann continues working in the darkroom to explore the options and possibilities of developing prints from film negatives. He creates his composites from analog images, using photo manipulation to create his masterpieces. Despite technological advances in digital photography, Uelsmann is still committed to working in a darkroom and loves watching his prints appear in the developer.

When asked about his artistic work, Uelsmann said, “Ultimately, my hope is to amaze myself.”

Samuel Davis, Assistant Professor of Photography at SUU, said, “I met Jerry around seventeen years ago when I took the opportunity to be his studio assistant. During that time, and the years since, I've come to know his work on a deeply personal level and the great importance it has...”
played in the lives of so many photographers and artists. There are few artists working with analog photography that have had such a profound impact on the landscape medium in the way that Jerry Uelsmann has.”

When asked about the prints that were chosen for Uelsmann’s exhibit, Davis said, “Keeping in mind the educational mission of SUMA, I chose work that demonstrates Jerry’s technical prowess and conceptual process in order to create a dialog with our students. I have a personal connection to many pieces, having worked in the studio during their creation or re-printing.”

The title of Uelsmann’s artist talk is *ALCHEMY + ANGST @ 82*. This title tips its hat to text message formatting and is also the title of Uelsmann’s current body of work and exhibitions. During his presentation, Uelsmann will talk about art and photography and his personal visual quest over his last 60 years as an artist.

Art Insights is hosted during the fall and spring semesters by SUU’s Art & Design faculty. Students and community members meet to experience presentations and discussions by visiting artists and art educators from around the nation who share their work and insights.

**About the College of Performing and Visual Arts**

The Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts is comprised of nationally accredited departments of Art and Design, Music, and Dance. The College also offers programs in Theatre Arts, graduate programs in Arts Administration and Music, as well as a Center for Shakespeare Studies. The College offers 16 different degree areas, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees; professional Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre degrees; and Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration, Master of Arts in Arts Administration, Master of Music Education and Master of Music in Music Technology graduate degrees. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring nearly 600 majors in the College. Over 1,100 students enroll each year in over 195 arts classes on the SUU campus. The College presents over 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year. The College’s affiliate organizations include the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA), Utah Shakespeare Festival and SUU’s Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, visit [www.suu.edu/pva](http://www.suu.edu/pva).

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Who: Art Insights, Southern Utah University, Department of Art & Design

When: Thursday, November 3, 2016

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Southern Utah Museum of Art, 13 S 300 W, Cedar City, Utah

Tickets: Free admission, General Public invited to attend

Info: Visit www.suu.edu/pva for more information.

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