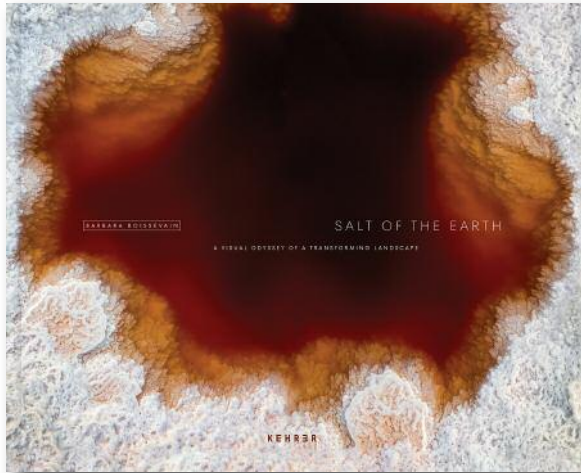


NEW RELEASE 2023



Barbara Boissevain

Salt of the Earth

A Visual Odyssey of a Transforming Landscape

Texts by John Hart, Michael Honegger, Laura Noble, Elliott White Jr.

Designed by Bob Aufuldish, Aufuldish & Warinner
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English

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The surreal nature of transforming landscapes in Silicon Valley

Salt of the Earth is a striking monograph which skillfully captures humanity's impact on the environment. From ground-level perspectives to aerial shots, Barbara Boissevain's unique compositions of industrial salt ponds, accentuate the surreal qualities of landscapes altered by human activity. The artist's intention extends beyond crafting captivating visuals; her work seeks to raise awareness of pressing environmental concerns and inspire engagement in conservation-related activism. Boissevain's photographs of otherworldly landscapes compel us to reflect on the delicate balance between creation and devastation. Her powerful imagery challenges viewers to reassess their role in shaping Earth's future, ultimately urging us to confront the consequences of our actions and actively participate in preserving the environment for generations to come.

From the text *In Conversation with the Artist* by **Michael Honegger**: *When one delves into the photographic projects that Barbara Boissevain creates, it is apparent that her commitment to the issues of climate change and the environment are paramount. Yet even when she explores the darker and more sinister causes of these issues, she is an artist in search of a photograph to paint. (...) One soars above these salted wetlands and wonders whether those colors and those patterns could possibly be real. Is this a trompe l'oeil or the honest beauty of earth and sky? These images capture the imagination in their abstraction. A strong sense evokes an ability to overcome odds in restoring natural habitats and perhaps even making a dent in the more dramatic fact of our changing climate and world. Ms. Boissevain provides an optimism in her imagery that offers a more hopeful outlook on problems that can sometimes overwhelm us. (...)*

From the text *Manifesting the Peripheral* by **Laura Noble**:

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In 2010, Boissevain began recording images from a helicopter over the San Francisco Bay exploring the vivid changes of the largest wetland restoration program in the United States. This program is responsible for transforming the salt ponds—once devoid of life—into a thriving ecosystem. Signs are already evident that nature is being allowed to reclaim the land. Notwithstanding its complexity, this delicate environmental project brings with it a striking visual phenomenon beautifully rendered through Boissevain's lens. (...) The surreal nature of Boissevain's photographs on the ground conjure ideas of distant planets more than life on earth as color, light, and unfamiliar nature oscillate. (...) Ultimately, it is Boissevain's innate understanding and love of this variegated landscape which translates the emotional connection and beauty of the salt ponds.

Barbara Boissevain is a contemporary visual artist and photographer, based in Palm Springs, California, whose work focuses on the impact of human activity on the environment. Nature's ability to regenerate and reclaim human altered landscapes is a central theme in her work.

Boissevain was born in Cleveland, Ohio and raised in Silicon Valley. She studied painting at Parsons School of Design in New York before immersing herself in photography, earning a BFA from the San Francisco Art Institute and an MFA from San Jose State University. Her work has been exhibited throughout the United States and Europe, including Mémoire De L'Avenir, Paris; the Institute of Contemporary Art, San Jose, CA; Galerie Numero Cinq, Arles, France; the Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow, Poland; and the David Brower Institute in Berkeley, CA. Boissevain's photographs are in public and private collections, including the Google Corporate Art Collection, Sunnyvale, CA, De Pietri Artphilein Foundation, Lugano, Switzerland, and Galerie

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Press images



01_Ravenswood VI, 2020
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02_Ruins of Historical Salt Production Site I, 2023
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03_Alien Saltscape III, 2022
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04_Ravenswood III, 2022
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05_From Sky to Salt Aerial XII, 2015
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06_Macro/Micro Diptych I, 2021
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07_Ravenswood Ponds Looking Towards Meta & Tricycle, 2020
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08_Tidal Salt Marsh (Aerial), 2015
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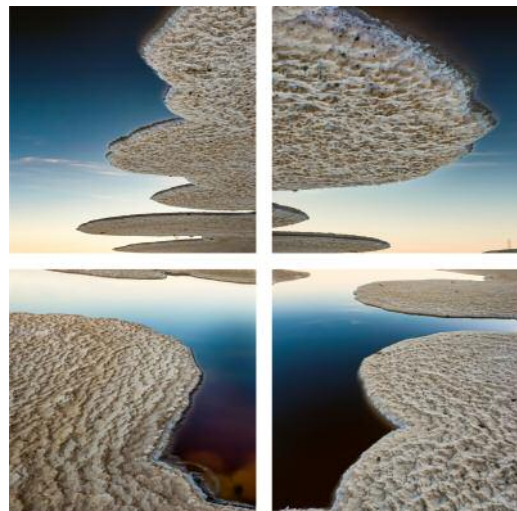
09_Alien Saltscapes IX, 2022
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