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Joel Sternfeld

Our Loss

Main description

In the early morning of 14 April 2018, David Buckel walked into Prospect Park in New York City and set himself alight. He was a distinguished attorney whose work to secure social justice and LGBT rights had won national acclaim. At the time of his death at the age of 60 Buckel had left the practice of law and was working on a community farm in Red Hook, Brooklyn, as the head of composting. He was married to a man with whom he, and a married lesbian couple, were co-raising a college-bound daughter.

In an email sent to the New York Times moments before his death Buckel decried the increasing pollution of the earth. He expressed the hope that his death by fossil fuels would encourage others to be better stewards and cohabitants of the earth. Joel Sternfeld happened to be in Prospect Park on that day with his nine-year-old son. Returning the next day he began to document the gradual regeneration of the site as a means to honor the hope that climate change might be reversed. *Our Loss* is the latest book by Sternfeld in his ongoing exploration of the effects of climate change, following *Oxbow Archive* (2008) and *When it Changed* (2008).

Biography

A major figure in the photography world, Joel Sternfeld was born in New York City in 1944. He has received numerous awards including two Guggenheim fellowships, a Prix de Rome and the Citibank Photography Award. Sternfeld's books published by Steidl include *American Prospects* (2003), *Sweet Earth* (2006), *Oxbow Archive* (2008), *First Pictures* (2012), and *Landscape as Longing* (2016) with Frank Gohlke.

Bibliography

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