

PRESS RELEASE

15 May 2014
Yorkshire Sculpture Park

Revisiting the Quarry: Excavation, Legacy, Return Approaches to the histories and sites of Land Art

This one-day symposium, led by artists Charles Danby and Rob Smith, in conjunction with the exhibition 'Uncommon Ground: Land Art in Britain 1966-1979' (5 April - 15 June 2014), has been organised in collaboration with the Arts Council Collection, Northumbria University and Yorkshire Sculpture Park.

The symposium explores Land Art in relation to contemporary practices and historical precedents. It investigates the quarry as an active physical site for the production of new artworks and for the re-visiting of past works. Bringing together theoretical and practical positions in relation to chalk and limestone quarries, it focuses on approaches leading to the making of works, films, documents, field recordings and archives.

In the anthropocene the quarry becomes a site of new relations, that connects historical, material, technological and social revision through changing land use and post-industrial / post-ecological occupation. The day will examine the status of these quarry sites, the removal of materials, their social and physical reparation and the negotiation of their borders and thresholds in physical, legal and artistic frameworks, through to what Robert Smithson characterised as 'an expensive non-site' in 1969, the moon, as a speculative quarry.

Speakers: Joy Sleeman, Luke Bennett, Charles Danby & Rob Smith, Mark Peter Wright, Onya McCausland, Neal White (screening), Rob La Frenais

www.thequarry.org.uk

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