

The Mount St. Helens Foray: Geographies of Destruction and Renewal

In the summer of 2005, 20 creative writers, scientists, philosophers and others gathered together on Mount St. Helens for four days of camping, hiking, learning, and sharing insights about the meaning of cataclysms and the sources of renewal. The foray harnessed the power of this compelling place to explore ideas of destruction and rebirth in geological, ecological, and human terms. The Foray asked the question: What can this radically altered landscape tell us about how to understand nature and how to live our lives? Here are some responses that have been published in the online journal Terrain.org

- Buntin, Simmons. Fall/Winter 2010. The Literal Landscape: Dirty Words on Mount St. Helens. Editorial/essay. Terrain.org. Issue 26. Report from his experience in the 2010 Mount St. Helens pulse of a dozen writers and 110 scientists in August 2010. (Available online: <http://terrain.org/columns/26/buntin.htm>)
- Colasurdo, Christine. Winter 2013. One Poem by Christine Colasurdo (“The Paradox of Enrichment” with audio). Terrain.org. Issue 31. (Available online: <http://terrain.org/2013/poetry/one-poem-by-christine-colasurdo/>)
- Daniel, John. Winter 2013. Two Poems by John Daniel (“Cinders and Flowers” with audio; “The Barn” with audio). Terrain.org. Issue 31. (Available online: <http://terrain.org/2013/poetry/two-poems-by-john-daniel/>)
- Fish, Cheryl. Winter 2013. Two Poems by Cheryl J. Fish (“Blind Spot” with audio; “Volcanic/Panic” with audio). Terrain.org. Issue 31. (Available online: <http://terrain.org/2013/poetry/two-poems-by-cheryl-j-fish/>)
- Goodrich, Charles. Winter 2013. Stretching Attention: Long-Term Science and Creative Writing. . terrain.org. Issue 31. (Available online: <http://terrain.org/2013/nonfiction/stretching-attention-long-term-science-and-creative-writing/>)
- Kates, Jolie. Winter 2013. Drawing from the Blast Zone by Jolie Kaytes, with image gallery. terrain.org. Issue 31. (Available online: <http://terrain.org/2013/nonfiction/drawing-from-blast-zone/>)
- Moore, Kathleen Dean. Fall/Winter 2010. To Re-imagine the Place of Humans in the Natural World. Guest editorial. Terrain.org. Issue 26. Reference to Mount St. Helens and HJ Andrews Forest work. (Available online: <http://terrain.org/columns/26/guest.htm>)
- Sheffield, Derek. Winter 2013. Two poems by Derek Sheffield (“The One We’re Spiraling Into” and “Nest Site” with audio). Terrain.org. Issue 31. (Available online: <http://terrain.org/2013/poetry/two-poems-by-derek-sheffield/>)
- Swanson, Fred. Fall 2014. Ecological Reflections: Interview with earth scientist Fred Swanson by Andrew C. Gottlieb. Terrain.org. Issue 34. Interview concerning a career of work at Mount St. Helens and Andrews Experimental Forest – some of the science, connections with forest management and policy, collaboration with humanities and arts. (Available online: <http://terrain.org/2013/interviews/fred-swanson/>)