

Limestone Barrens Project opening June 24 at Corner Brook

The unique limestone barrens landscapes of Newfoundland, Ontario and Ireland will be displayed in a major international exhibition of visual art, music and writing at Corner Brook later this month.

The Limestone Barrens Project will open June 24 at the Sir Wilfred Grenfell College Art Gallery. The exhibition will be open to the public until Sept. 25.

An opening reception for

the exhibition will be held on July 2 to coincide with the Limestone Barrens Symposium. Several artists, writers and curators will be present at that time.

The exhibition is the culmination of a three-year project which seeks to investigate links between the limestone barrens on the Great Northern Peninsula, the Bruce Peninsula in Ontario and the Burren in County Clare, Ireland, through science, visual art and writing.

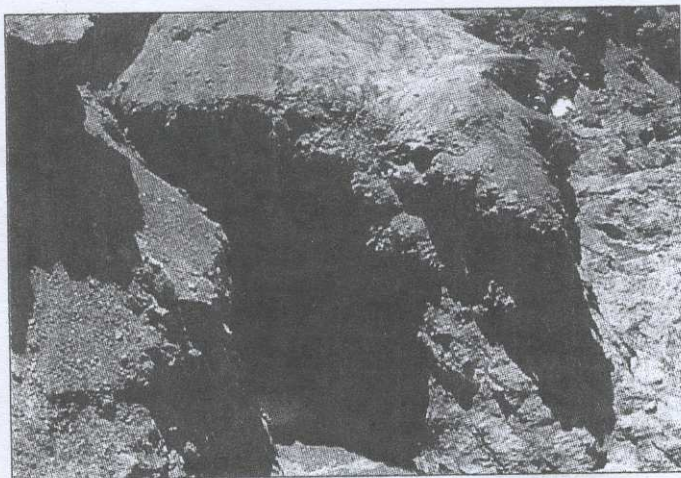
Between July and November of 2003, seven visual artists, two writers and a musician completed walks in at least one of the three regions after having been briefed by researchers connected with the limestone barrens in each region.

The fragile ecology of the limestone barrens in all areas harbour many rare and endangered plants and animals and are now in the process of becoming protected

worldwide. The limestone barrens raise issues of survival and adaptation; emigration and immigration; interdependence; conservation and tourism development.

The resulting exhibition of lens-based art emanates from these walks and includes black and white and colour photography, photographic installation, video installation and stereoscopy. The visual artists included: Marlene Creates and David Morrish of this province; Har-Prakash Khalsa, Kris Rosar and Greg Staats of Ontario; and Orla Kenny and Liam O'Callaghan of Ireland. It also includes the poetry of John Steffler and Liz Zetlin of Ontario, with original music composed by Irish composer Rob Canning.

A symposium which features speakers from Newfoundland and Labrador, Ireland and Ontario will take place July 1-5.



NORTHERN PEN PHOTO

Artists toured several areas of the Northern Peninsula last year in preparation for an exhibition that linked the limestone barrens of Newfoundland and Labrador, Ontario and Ireland. One of the places they visited was the Burnt Cape Ecological Reserve at Raleigh.

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