

LYONIA GALLERY

Lee Dunkel - FLORIDA WETLANDS

October 17, 2009 - March 21, 2010



Lee Dunkel explores the landscape in a unique and compelling way. The eloquent black and white images of these details and forms in nature show the biological cycles of growth, decay and renewal in nature to form some of the most important and compelling photographs ever made of the Florida landscape. No other photographer has so consistently and successfully create photographs that draw out the uniquely expressive and poetic possibilities of Florida's natural world.

"This landscape struggles to survive; in much the same way a person who is ill struggles to

survive. I can see now that I was trying to capture this struggle."

Lee Dunkel specializes in the Florida landscape. Her most well known series have been *Shore Patterns*, *Spruce Creek*, *Clay Walls*, *the St Johns River Portfolio*, and *Florida Etudes*. Her work is regularly featured in exhibitions throughout Florida and is held in many public and private collections, including the Southeast Museum of Photography and the Museum of Arts and Sciences, Daytona Beach. She has been the recipient of numerous artist awards and honors including the Florida Individual Artist Fellowship. Dunkel studied photography at Daytona State College and is an adjunct faculty member in the college's photography department. She lives in Ormond Beach.

Opening Day Celebration with the artist
Saturday, October 17, 2009: 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



The
Lyonia Environmental Center

"This turned out to be a more difficult artistic journey than I had expected. Not until the very end did the distinctive vision of the project to come into focus."



About Florida Wetlands

Light pervades the black-and-white images in the newest portfolio by Lee Dunkel, picking out the tiniest twig in the smallest, or "mini" image, and illuminating a rain-drenched forest or murky pond's mysterious depths in her radiant prints. "Florida Wetlands" offers a broad overview of a specific terrain, with all of its multifaceted implications and associations wide open to individual interpretation. As her eye has become infinitely more discerning, Dunkel has begun to strip away all momentary, peripheral qualities in a process that emphasizes the essential.

These nature studies are undeniably spectacular; the state's undeveloped sites and natural vistas are magnificent in their own right. Translated into a burnished black-and-white that defies color's seductive wiles even as they suggest subdued splendor, her landscapes seem to occupy a rarified space: arrested glimpses of a vanishing wilderness. They are all the more vibrant because of their restraint.

Something different emerges in "Florida Wetlands"; the view now is both darker and more sanguine, expressed in the highly articulate, technically superb vocabulary Dunkel has made her own. Here, in bold imagery and terms that are more baldly stated than in any of her previous landscapes or nature studies, the threat to natural Florida is crystallized, and made clear." Laura Stewart.

The Southeast Museum of Photography expands with a new exhibition space at the Lyonia Environmental Center in Deltona, Florida.



The LYONIA GALLERY will present exhibitions and programs related to environmental, land-use, local history and regional culture in an exhibition space in Volusia County Government's new LYONIA ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER.

The museum gallery occupies display space immediately adjacent to the environmental exhibits area of the Center. The LYONIA GALLERY will only be open to the public during the normal open hours and days of the Lyonia Environmental Center.

**The Southeast Museum of Photography is a service of Daytona State College
1200 West International Speedway Blvd., Daytona Beach, FL 32114. 386-5064475
www.smponline.org facebook/southeastmuseumofphotography Recorded info: 386-5064475**

For all information about the **LYONIA ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER** please contact Katrina Locke: (386) 736-5953 Main Office (386) 257-6000 Daytona Beach (386) 423-3300 New Smyrna Beach or email klocke@co.volusia.fl.us

The Deltona Regional Library, Lyonia Environmental Center and Deltona Amphitheater are at 2150 Eustace Ave. For more information, please visit www.volusialibrary.org, www.lyoniapreserve.org, www.deltonafl.gov, <http://lyoniapreserve.com/lec.htm>

Opening day overflow parking will be in Daytona State College's Deltona campus, adjacent to Deltona City Hall.