Environment & Society Portal

Multimedia Library Collection: Periodicals

"Refining *Uranium:* Bob Wiseman's Ecomusicological Puppetry"

Mark, Andrew

Mark, Andrew. "Refining *Uranium*: Bob Wiseman's Ecomusicological Puppetry." *Environmental Humanities* 4, no. 1 (2014): 69-93. doi:10.1215/22011919-3614935.

This paper describes Bob Wiseman's allegorical piece, *Uranium*, arguing that it accesses emotion to alter the consciousness of percipients. Audiences respond with unusual intensity to *Uranium's* tragic environmental narrative. By using puppet theatre, film, comedy, and song to win their trust, Wiseman is able to shock his spectators. With interviews and consideration of the semiotic content of *Uranium*, I explore possibilities for activation of ecological consciousness through performing arts. Building on the shared ideas of Heinrich von Kleist, Gregory Bateson, and Thomas Turino, I argue that Wiseman offers one particularly useful mechanism to advance environmental concerns and learning through the arts. This paper seeks to bridge environmental and (ethno)musicological thought, and has specific relevance to the growing field of ecomusicology, presenting a musical ethnographic case-study in singer-song-writer activism. (Text from author's abstract)

© Andrew Mark 2014. *Environmental Humanities* is available online only and is published under a Creative Commons license (CC BY-NC-ND 3.0).

Download:
Journal article by Andrew Mark
https://www.environmentandsociety.org/sites/default/files/key_docs/environmental_humanities-2014-mark-69-93.pdf

Related links:

- *Environmental Humanities* website
  http://environmentalhumanities.org/
- *Environmental Humanities* Vol. 4
  http://environmentalhumanities.dukejournals.org/content/4/1.toc

Periodicals Collection, Multimedia Library, Environment & Society Portal
"Refining *Uranium:* Bob Wiseman's Ecomusicological Puppetry"
Source URL: http://www.environmentandsociety.org/node/8036
Print date: 24 November 2026 13:58:08