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

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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)

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