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Two-Part Digital Exhibition Invites Viewers to Examine the Relationship Between Human Consumption and Earth's Finite Resources

Striking gallery adds urgency to addressing natural resource depletion and allows visitors to pledge immediate action



Evanescent Encounter by Jave Yoshimoto, © 2010, courtesy of the artist

Oakland, CA: *“Footing the Bill: Art and Our Ecological Footprint”* is a two-part exhibition addressing the urgent need to live sustainably within the Earth’s finite resources. Part I of the exhibition, which opened on Earth Overshoot Day 2015 (August 13), is an ongoing, online-only exhibit featuring the works of 28 artists selected via an open call for submissions. Part II of the exhibition launches on Earth Day 2016 (April 22), and features works from 35 artists by invitation only, including: Lori Nix, Ed Burtynsky, Chris Jordan, Alexis Rockman, Mary Mattingly, Thomas Hirschhorn, Ruben Ochoa, Guerra de la Paz and others.

Each artist in the exhibition presents a unique visual story that explores our delicate relationship with the natural world and the collective need to live within the means of one Earth. The exhibition has been created in partnership with leading environmental organizations, including Earth Day Network, Global Footprint Network and World Wildlife

Fund. These partner organizations have contributed to virtual "tours" that feature their global perspective on issues of sustainability and conservation.

Part II of the exhibition is presented in an innovative digital format that combines stunning images with unique, interactive features. The galleries create an immersive online museum experience that includes deep-zoom viewing, blog-style content, virtual tours by environmental organizations, and an integrated social media campaign that empowers individuals to take action in their own lives and share their inspiration.

The exhibition offers the opportunity for active engagement on issues of sustainability. Each artwork in the online exhibition is paired with a series of "pledges," actions that individuals can take in their own lives to reduce their environmental impact. Visitors who adopt one or more pledges will be able to share those pledges, along with an image of the artwork that inspired them, with their social networks on Facebook, Twitter, Google+ and Tumblr. The exhibition will be promoted with the hashtags, #EndOvershoot and #OneEarth.

"The ultimate objective of this exhibition is to create dialogue and inspire action. The interactivity and digital nature of this project makes it accessible to all audiences, which is vital because while this issue affects us all, we also all have equal opportunity to act," says Executive Director Randy Rosenberg.

About Art Works for Change:

Established in 2008 and incorporated in 2010, Art Works for Change strives to harness the transformative power of art to promote awareness, provoke dialogue, and inspire action. We seek to address issues of serious concern—human rights, social justice, gender equity, environmental stewardship and sustainability—in creative, inspiring, and ultimately positive ways. Our museum-quality exhibitions are amplified by local programming and global partnerships, and become a crucible where artists, museums, advocacy organizations, and local community unite as a collective force for change.

About Partnering Organizations:

World Wildlife Fund is the world's leading conservation organization, and uses its global reach and a foundation in science to conserve nature and spur action on the most pressing threats to the diversity of life on Earth.

Global Footprint Network is an international think tank that coordinates research, develops methodological standards and provides decision-makers with a menu of tools to help the human economy operate within Earth's ecological limits.

Earth Day Network works year-round with thousands of partners worldwide to broaden, diversify and mobilize the environmental movement. Earth Day Network leads environmental campaigns, promotes green economic policies, educates the public and energizes communities to secure a healthy future for themselves and their children.

For more information, please visit www.artworksforchange.org.