CARE - Concerned Artists Resisting Extinction exhibition presents

ARE PLANNED BURNS KEEPING US SAFE?

Fire behaviour scientist Dr. Philip Zylstra will present compelling new evidence about planned burns

Photographic artist and flying fox advocate Lisa Roberts will share her work on local threatened species

4pm-6pm Saturday 11 SEPTEMBER 2021
Orbost Exhibition Centre
10-12 Clarke St. Orbost

Reservations essential
info@omeodance.com
0447 269 930

CARE Concerned Artists Resisting Extinction
Emergency - Species Loss
Orbost Exhibition Centre

OMEO DANCE
www.omeodance.com

Australian Government
RISE Fund

This event is a partnership between CARE, Orbost Exhibition Centre, East Gippsland Art Gallery and the Studio for Dance Research Orbost, supported by Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund – an Australian Government initiative.

Saturday 11th September 2021, 4pm

ORBOST EXHIBITION CENTRE - 8 Clarke St. Orbost 3888

ARE PLANNED BURNS KEEPING US SAFE?

Leading fire behaviour scientist, Dr. Phil Zylstra, will present compelling new evidence that planned burns are increasing fire risk to the community, and flying fox advocate, Lisa Roberts, will speak to her photographic artwork on local ecosystems impacted by planned burns.

FREE EVENT in conjunction with Concerned Artists Resisting Extinction (CARE) exhibition 24 July - 11 September 2021

RSVP essential: info@omeodance.com / 044 726 9930

Phil Zylstra

Are planned burns keeping us safe?

Prescribed burning is the main tool used by land management agencies to reduce the risk and impact of wildfires, but the evidence for its effectiveness is weak at best. The theory behind it is that burning forest removes the plants and dead leaves, bark & twigs that fuel bushfires, and that risk increases again as plants are restored and bare soils are again covered by mulch. While this is true, fire also has the effect of initiating dense regrowth, which will self-thin after some decades. Burning therefore reduces fire risk for a few years by clearing the understorey and creating bare ground, but then greatly increases the risk for decades after this. I will look at what this means for fire risk, what the other side-effects of burning are, and why the research on the subject seems confusing and contradictory.

Lisa Roberts

Lisa shares her urgency with photographing flying foxes and documenting the forests they visit locally. Called the canaries in the coalmine of climate change, extreme heat events kill flying foxes in epic proportions and heat events and destruction of habitat are inextricably linked. Flying foxes are a portent reminder, in more ways than one, of the man-made crisis playing out in our remaining forests.

Phil Zylstra is a fire behaviour scientist and Adjunct Associate Professor at Curtin University. With a background in fire management and remote area firefighting, Phil's work has focused on measuring empirical trends in bushfire likelihood across Australia, and in modelling the drivers of fire and its effects. To this end, he has developed FRaME (Fire Research and Management Environment), which is the only peer-reviewed fire behaviour model that covers forests in eastern Australia. FRaME is the first model globally to fully model fire behaviour from plant traits, and extends this work to model the effects of fire such as soil heating and damage to plants.

Dr. Philip Zylstra
Adjunct Associate Professor | Curtin University | School of Molecular and Life Sciences
Honorary Fellow | University of Wollongong

Lisa Roberts is a flying fox advocate and photographer who chases bats, blossom and disappearing trees. She lives and works in Gippsland on unceded Gunnai Kurnai Country. Her recent exhibition was Flying Foxes and Disappearing Trees at East Gippsland Art Gallery. Her latest project, The Future is a Big Sky is a photographic survey of forests scheduled for logging and burning.