

LINDA KUEHNE
DEAD TREES GIVE NO SHELTER

October 6 - 26th, 2011

Opening Reception: Thursday, October 6th, 2011 from 4:30 - 7:00 pm.

Nancy Dryfoos Gallery



Above: Linda Kuehne, *For Those Gone, Salt River Indian Community, Scottsdale AZ, 2011*, Pigment Print

Artist's Statement

The title of my most recent series, **DEAD TREES GIVE NO SHELTER**, is taken from T. S. Eliot's "The Waste Land." The accelerating decline of urban and suburban neighborhoods has long been an interest of mine. I find it, unfortunately, easier and easier to find subject matter wherever I go. The Great Recession has magnified the problems by challenging not only the economics of homebuilding but also the essence of the suburban dream. Because there is an oversupply of single-family houses in this country, we as a nation need to ask ourselves, what do we do with the oversupply, with the millions of houses now in foreclosure, many deteriorating or abandoned? The same question holds for cities: what do we do with abandoned warehouses and factories that are no longer in use? We are at a pivotal moment when thousands of neighborhoods across the country will need to adapt in order to accommodate current realities. Will we leave these buildings to rot, thus affecting everyone else who lives around them to suffer? Or will we evolve, rethinking use, to create a new, vital environment?

Linda Kuehne