

Season XXIX Volume 11 Issue 1 January-March 2014

### Information

### Spotlight

# Support the Ghost Town Project!



Evidence of Ghosts by Paul Heath

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The Road To Widtsoe

Photograph: Paul Heath



nother Language Performing Arts Company is developing it's newest project, *Ghost Town*. This work takes place completely online and is crowd sourced! We are excited to open participation to artists of all genres. This newsletter edition features the photography and text of Paul Heath:

Ghost Town; Widtsoe Junction, Utah - By Paul Heath

Donna [Pence] and I stumbled across Widtsoe while actually looking for property to purchase near Highway 12 in southern Utah. Widtsoe is located north of Bryce on Johns Valley Road which goes on to Antimony. It is near a canyon road which can take you to Escalante if the roads are passable. We had room reservations in Escalante and we were tempted to try to navigate it, but it was near sunset and the roads were snowy. We opted to be safe,

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Abandoned Stucco Home

Photograph: Paul Heath

so we turned to get back to Johns Valley Road. It was late December and the temperature was cold, but the evening light was warm and inviting. Our eyes were attracted to an abandoned stucco home (as seen in the photograph). The eerie thing about the home, is the interior walls were all exposed lathe, with very little plaster. It had arched doorways and room dividers, giving the home a mission style feel, which you can imagine was quite beautiful in its heyday. We snapped several pictures while stumbling over random piles of rusted tin and aluminum cans. With the notion of purchasing property, I couldn't help but think of this home as a massive fixer-upper. The amber evening light faded quickly and we were soon back on the road in the warmth of Donna's Forester.

Looking the town up on Wikipedia, I have learned that it was established in 1908 as Adairville, then became Winder when they got a post office in 1912 and eventually was named Widtsoe after John A. Widtsoe, then president of the University of Utah and an agricultural scientist whose expertise in dry farming had been very helpful to area farmers. It was a thriving agricultural community until stricken by drought in the 20's and 30's. At its height, there were 1,100 people living there. By 1936, it was abandoned with the government buying back property and homes from impoverished landowners under the Resettlement Act. Government workers tore down most of the buildings and only a few houses and an old community building still stand on the site. Thoughts go out to the communities in California, Nevada, Arizona and Utah who are experiencing drought conditions today.

#### About Paul Heath;

Paul Heath is a life-long Salt Lake City artist with a BFA in Drawing & Painting from the University of Utah. As well as doing local public and private art commissions, Paul also pursues careers as a television graphic designer and as a K-6 art teacher. Paul's work focuses on a sense of place which is reflected in several of his community based public art commissions.

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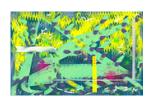
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# Do You Want to Share Your Artistic Vision in the Utah Ghost Town Project?

#### Here's How:

Ghost Town is a crowd sourced, interdisciplinary web based project, focusing on the concept that ghost towns were once bustling historic places that are now remnants of bygone eras. Change required the inhabitants to leave their dreams behind. Another Language is encouraging investigations of Utah ghost towns. Original photographs, movies, animations, visual art, music soundscapes, poetry and text compositions submitted by participating artists will be uploaded to anotherlanguage.org. Correlations between historical ghost towns and modern conceptual ghost towns are encouraged. What is your personal ghost town? What do you see, think, and feel when experiencing a place that once was thriving?

Fill out the artist registration form located at: <a href="http://anotherlanguage.org/projects/2014/ghosttown/gt\_register.html">http://anotherlanguage.org/projects/2014/ghosttown/gt\_register.html</a>. All work submitted must be original, created by the registered artist. The artist grants Another Language the right to publish any and all submitted content. Another Language maintains the right to curate all submitted content. A Ghost Town site, containing artist content, biography and artist statement will be created for each location, and made publicly available in 2015 for Another Language Performing Arts Company's 30th Anniversary. Further information will be provided upon participation approval.

#### **Media Formats:**

**Text** - [Poetry, Short Story, Interdisciplinary] Send text entries via email. The text can be sent either as plain text in the body of the email or as an attached Microsoft Word document [.doc(x)]. Please include one photo (JPEG, 720 x 480 horizontal,  $400 \times 600$  vertical,  $72 \times 600$  dpi.) of the ghost town that you have visited.

**Video** - [Audio/Music, Dance, Film/Video, Multimedia, Performance Art, Theatre, Interdisciplinary]Encode files as QuickTime H.264 (720 x 423 [16:9]), maximum 20-minute time limit, hinted for streaming download. Adobe Flash format animations or video not accepted.

**Audio** - [Audio/Music, Interdisciplinary] Encode files as MPEG3 (.mp3), maximum 20-minute time limit. Please include one photo (JPEG, 720 x 480 horizontal, 400 x 600 vertical, 72 dpi.) of the ghost town that you have visited.

**Image** - [Visual Art/Photography, Sculpture, Interdisciplinary] JPEG, 720 x 480 – horizontal, 400x600 vertical, 72 dpi. Visual Art – Paintings, drawings, prints, sculpture, etc. are to be photographed or scanned as digital images. Photographic coverage, include 8 - 12 images of selected site.

If you have further questions about participation please email info@anotherlanguage.org or call (801) 707-9930. We look forward to hearing from you!

Elizabeth and Jimmy Miklavcic – Founding Co-Directors ALPAC











