



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, Oct 4, 2013

DOCUMENTARY FILM *ROOTED LANDS* AT THE HARWOOD OCT 20

Taos, N.M.— The Harwood Museum of Art in Taos will host a screening of “Rooted Lands - Tierras Arraigadas,” a documentary film about potential oil and gas development in New Mexico’s Mora and San Miguel Counties Sunday, October 20, 2 p.m. in the Arthur Bell Auditorium. The screening will be followed by a panel discussion about the current state of affairs in the oil and gas industry with Bruce Frederick, an attorney with the New Mexico Environmental Law Center, John Olivas, Chairman of the Mora Commission Board and the filmmakers.

At the heart of “Rooted Lands - Tierras Arraigadas,” the film is the relationship between the people and their land and water. Mora County has recently gained national media attention as being the first county in the nation to ban fracking.

Producers Nancy Dickenson and Renea Roberts interview residents in these counties who speak about their very real fears around how the oil and gas industry will negatively effect their land, culture and health. Of primary concern is the quality and quantity of water, the lifeblood of this special place. The film also explores how the industry has already impacted the San Juan Basin/Four Corners area, where New Mexico, Colorado, Utah and Arizona meet.

“This story of a rural area in New Mexico is one that’s playing out across the United States,” says Roberts. “From the Marcellus Shale in the Northeastern states to the high pristine watersheds in the Rocky Mountain West (where fracking is on the rise); from the populated areas in Ohio (where hazardous waste is injected into underground wells) to the southern coast in Oregon (where industry hopes to locate international export centers for natural gas), people are becoming more knowledgeable about the wide-ranging risks and impacts inherent with industrialized natural gas production.”

“This is exactly why we are witnessing a variety of interventions being enacted by communities across the country,” adds Roberts. “It seems the overall message is clear. The risks to our most precious resources of air and water, and the many sacrifices unjustly borne by the local people, far outweigh any economic carrot.”

<http://rootedlands.com/>

The event is part of the Global Frackdown (www.globalfrackdown.org).

Where: The Harwood Museum of Art of UNM, 238 Ledoux Street, Taos, NM

Info: 575-758-9826

INTERVIEWS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

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