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Lori Nix, *Natural History*, from the series *The City*, 2005. Chromogenic archival print, 21 x 62 in. Courtesy of ClampArt. New York

International Exhibiting Photographer Lori Nix to speak at Wichita State
Kansas-born, Brooklyn-based Nix explores role of natural disasters in “Accidentally Kansas,” Oct. 10

WICHITA, KAN. Oct. 2, 2013— Displaying a world somewhere between reality and illusion, Lori Nix breaks the mold set by many photographers. She constructs elaborate dioramas then photographs them without the benefit of digital alterations. Nix will give an artist talk titled “Accidentally Kansas,” at 6 p.m. Oct. 10 in 210 McKnight West, in the School of Art and Design at Wichita State University. The talk, free and open to the public, is in concert with the Ulrich Museum exhibit [Nature’s Toolbox: Biodiversity, Art and Invention](#), in which Nix has two works from her series “The City.”

Greatly influenced by landscape painting, “I am interested in depicting danger and disaster, but I temper this with a touch of humor,” Nix explains in a statement from her website, lorinix.net. “My childhood was spent in a rural part of the United States that is known more for its natural disasters than anything else. I was born in a small town in western Kansas, and each passing season brought its own drama, from winter snowstorms, spring floods and tornados to summer insect infestations and drought. Whereas most adults viewed these seasonal disruptions with angst, for a child it was considered euphoric. Downed trees, mud, even grass fires brought excitement to daily, mundane life. As a photographer, I have recreated some of these experiences in the series “[Accidentally Kansas](#).”

Hailing from Norton, Kan., Nix lives and works in Brooklyn, N.Y. Her work can be viewed in the collections of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston and [Smithsonian American Art Museum](#), Washington, D.C. She has exhibited internationally, and has been featured in magazines such as WIRED, Photo Technique, and Harper’s.

About Nature's Toolbox

[*Nature's Toolbox: Biodiversity, Art and Invention*](#) is an exhibition of the contemporary works of more than 40 international artists in media ranging from 3D animation and video sculpture, to an installation of more than 90,000 wooden chopsticks. *Nature's Toolbox* invites visitors to explore and appreciate the life-or-death interdependence between the 10-20 million species on earth—including humans—and the quality of the environment we share. The exhibition is on view August 31–December 15, 2013 in the Amsden and Polk/Wilson galleries at the Ulrich Museum of Art.

Featuring contemporary artists including Donna Keiko Ozawa, Isabella Rossellini, Isabella Kirkland, Lori Nix, and Antonio Briceño, the works in *Nature's Toolbox* demonstrate both the challenging issues facing us all, and our need to learn from nature as we tackle these challenges now and into the future. The exhibition premiered at The Field Museum in Chicago in 2012 and was organized by the nonprofit organization [Art Works for Change](#).

Nature's Toolbox: Biodiversity, Art and Invention was organized by Art Works for Change, Inc., with generous support from The Nathan Cummings Foundation; the National Endowment for the Arts; the Adobe Foundation; and the Sprint Foundation. The Wichita presentation of this exhibition is generously supported by the S.M. and Laura H. Brown Trust; Spirit AeroSystems; Richard D. Smith and Sondra M. Langel; William T. Kemper Foundation–Commerce Bank, Trustee; Commerce Bancshares Foundation; Emprise Bank; and Lee and Ron Starkel.

All Ulrich Museum programs and exhibitions are made possible in part by Wichita State University and the City of Wichita.

For more information about *Nature's Toolbox: Biodiversity, Art and Invention*, visit:
www.ulrich.wichita.edu/naturestoolbox

About the Ulrich Museum of Art

Located on the campus of Wichita State University, the Edwin A. Ulrich Museum of Art is home to the renowned 76-piece Martin H. Bush Outdoor Sculpture Collection—rated one of the top collections of its kind by Public Art Review—and a permanent collection of more than 6,600 works of modern and contemporary art. Established in 1974, the Ulrich Museum seeks to expand human experience through encounters with the art of our time. To learn more about the programs, events and exhibitions at the Ulrich, visit www.ulrich.wichita.edu and follow the Ulrich on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). The galleries are open Tuesday through Friday 11 a.m.–5 p.m. and weekends from 1–5 p.m. Admission to the Ulrich Museum galleries is free.

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