

**For Immediate Release**

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**New Exhibition**  
***Antarctica: Photographs by Diane Tuft***  
***Selections from Gondwana, Images of an Ancient Land***  
**October 28, 2014 – February 1, 2015**

**Bruce Museum**  
**One Museum Drive, Greenwich, CT**



*Caughley Beach, Cape Bird*  
Photograph by Diane Tuft

The Bruce Museum in Greenwich, Connecticut, travels to the southern end of the world for the new exhibition *Antarctica: Photographs by Diane Tuft* from October 28, 2014, through February 1, 2015. This show, generously underwritten by Gabelli Funds and the Charles M. and Deborah G. Royce Exhibition Fund, features large-format photographs, many more than three feet wide, by Diane Tuft, a New York-based mixed-media artist and photographer, and selected from her new book *Gondwana: Images of an Ancient Land*. The exhibition will also include a selection of invertebrate specimens on loan from Yale's Peabody Museum of Natural History, representing some of the amazing life forms recently found in the Antarctic waters.

In 2012, Tuft traveled to Antarctica after receiving a grant from the National Science Foundation's Antarctic Artists and Writers Program. Initially she intended capture the effect of infrared and ultraviolet light caused by the ozone depletion over Antarctica, but soon expanded her focus. Two images on view

represent her exploration of “invisible light” in photographs that reveal landscapes unseen to the human eye. All her images chronicle the extraordinary results of the expedition with stunning photographs that capture Antarctica’s raw, untouched splendor with colors, textures, and compositions that verge on the surreal. Surrounded by research scientists on her trip, Tuft felt compelled “to understand the science behind the reality” in her photographs and question “what caused these new images to appear so magical.”

After arriving in Antarctica, “I realized that my images would capture much more than ‘invisible light.’ I saw a landscape formed by unusual weather patterns that existed only on this continent,” she writes. “Perhaps even more than the surreal beauty of the place, I was struck by the idea that I was standing on landscape that was millions of years old.”

The selected images are highlights of Tuft's 2014 book *Gondwana: Images of an Ancient Land*, named for the megacontinent that once contained what is now Antarctica, and present her vision of the continent as a living abstract reflection of hundreds of millions of years of Earth's history.

Tuft earned a degree in mathematics at the University of Connecticut before continuing her studies in art at Pratt Institute in New York. She has long been fascinated by the mystery of what exists beyond the visible and began exploring this through photography in 1998. Tuft has had solo exhibitions at Marlborough Gallery, Ameringer-Yohe Gallery, and Pace Gallery in New York City, as well as The Kimball Art Center in Park City, Utah. Her work is in the permanent collection of The Whitney Museum of American Art and The International Center of Photography in New York City, as well as private collections and museums throughout the country.

“These powerful images highlight the Bruce Museum’s forte of bridging art and science, and give us a wonderful platform for discussing global issues related to Antarctica,” says Cynthia Ehlinger, curator of the exhibition. “Diane’s artistic eye is driven in part by a concern for the environment and critical global issues including ozone depletion and climate change.”

The Bruce Museum will host three science lectures by researchers active in the Antarctic on October 28, November 18, and December 9, 2014. The Bruce will also host a panel discussion on January 11, 2015 featuring artists, including Tuft, and scientists who have been part of Antarctic expeditions, and a Penguin Awareness Day lecture on January 20 by the Museum’s curator of science and penguin expert Daniel Ksepka. In addition, the museum’s Youth@Bruce will present a special panel discussion on explorers open exclusively to teens but live-streamed to all on the web on October 26, 2014.

**About the Bruce Museum**

The Bruce Museum, presenting art and science exhibitions and programs, is located at One Museum Drive in Greenwich, Connecticut. The Museum is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 am to 5 pm; closed Mondays and major holidays. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$6 for students up to 22 years, \$6 for seniors and free for members and children less than five years. Individual admission is free on Tuesday. Free on-site parking is available and the Museum is accessible to individuals with disabilities. For more information, call the Bruce Museum at 203-869-0376 or visit [brucemuseum.org](http://brucemuseum.org)

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