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BLAKE AND HANNAH SANDERS

CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO-- Friday, October 2, from 5 to 9 p.m., the Arts Council of Southeast Missouri will host a reception for printmakers Blake and Hannah Sanders.

Blake and Hannah's October exhibit will focus on environmental issues and begs the viewer to ask: "What can I do?" Through their artistic practice, the Sanders aim to objectively and brutally document the negative impact they have on the environment while also inspiring their viewers to reflect on their own personal impact.

In their statement, the Sanders further describe the motive behind their exhibit:

Environmental impact is not an abstract concept, but a concrete consequence for the actions of each and every human. For a long time the motivation behind our artwork has been rooted in issues of climate change and sustainability. Oil spills, hurricanes, hypoxic zones and other headlines of capricious weather and energy issues have dominated our conceptual inspirations; but we've worried that the work could be interpreted as preachy or hypocritical.

As a response to this self-assessment, this exhibition seeks to recognize our own complicity...While this work does not offer explicit solutions, it is our hope that a structure of free play and collage leaves one with a sense of hopeWe seek to initiate a consideration that breeds discussion, leading ideally to increased awareness and, hopefully, conscious changes.

Blake and Hannah March Sanders are artists, educators, and co-founders of <http://orangebarreindustries.com/> Blake earned his BFA from University of Northern Iowa and an MFA from Tulane University, where Hannah received her BFA. Hannah went on to the MFA program at Louisiana State University. They both teach printmaking and foundations at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau.

The Visual Arts Cooperative will also debut new works in their gallery space at the Arts Council. Window exhibitors for the month of October will be Jean Rissover and Thomas Ertman.

Join other arts patrons and supporters in welcoming Blake and Hannah Sanders, Friday, October 2nd. The Arts Council of Southeast Missouri is located at 32 North Main Street in Cape Girardeau, MO. Galleries are open Tuesday- Saturday, from 10am to 4pm.