

Ilse Schreiber-Noll

*Nature Defiled*



A large, vertical piece of text or a wall-mounted artwork, possibly a list or a collection of small text fragments, displayed on the brick wall near the window.



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Cover: installation view, Mills Gallery, Pella, Iowa, 2015

*Nature Defiled*  
Ilse Schreiber-Noll  
A Selection  
2015 - 2016





## **Artist's Statement**

The series *Defiled* shows the destruction of the environment juxtaposed to its beauty with emphasis on the abolition of life in our soil, the earth's living cover, the biosphere or the skin of the earth. Soil erosion has become a most serious environmental concern. Soil, the oceans, rivers and skies are the foundation of our lives and we know we cannot exist in their absence. I grew up in a small town in Germany. Farms and woods surrounded my home. Everybody tended a garden and I played and strolled through fields of mixed crops scattered with blue and red wildflowers. Nature at it's best, beautiful and mysteriously frightening at the same time. When I visited decades later the paradise of my youth was gone. The fields were turned into tennis courts; many wooded areas had been cleared to build housing developments. Technology had taken over and was on its way to destroy the beauty, pollute air and water and impoverish the once fertile soil.

This selection of works were first shown in March 24, 2015 in one of three Solo exhibitions under the Title: *Dear Mother Nature*, Mills Gallery, Lubbers Center for Visual Arts, Central College, Pella, Iowa where the artist was *Allison. B. Allen* Visiting Artist.



Installation: *Offerings to Nature*, mixed media, 12' x 8', Mills Gallery, Pella, Iowa, Solo Exhibition, 2015  
Below: Detail, Papermache bowls : mixed media and collage. Each bowl represents a present conflict



*“Offerings to Nature”*

This interactive installation is an invitation to the viewer to participate in the celebration of Nature and thanking her by offering her a biodegradable gift put into the small Papier-mâché bowls by gallery visitors. The gathered gifts will be burned in a short ceremony and with this will become part of the Earth.

The event was inspired by a Peruvian custom where similar gifts are burned to thank and celebrate Nature every year











The gathering and then burning of the gifts for the Earth  
Ceremony by Gallery director *Mathew Kelly* and *Ilse Schreiber-Noll*.  
Mills Gallery, Pella, Iowa, 2015







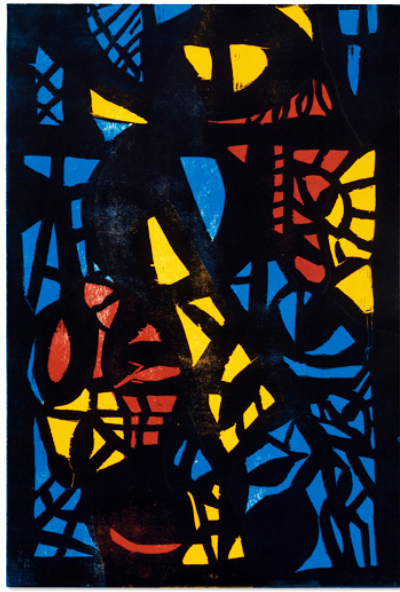
*Top: Salzige Erde/Salty Soil IV, mixed media on canvas, 40"x 30", 2015.*

*Left Top: Salzige Erde/Salty Soil II, mixed media on canvas, 40"x 30", 2015.*

*Left Bottom: Unique Book: Salzige Erde / Salty Soil, mixed media on canvas, 9 1/4" x 13", 10 pages, 2015*



GIVE ME THE SPLENDID, SILENT SUN, WITH  
ALL HIS BEAMS FULL-DARLING; GIVE ME JUICY AUTUMNAL  
FRUIT, RIPE AND RED FROM THE ORCHARD; GIVE ME A  
FIELD WHERE THE UNMOWD GRASS GROWS; GIVE ME  
AN ARBOR, GIVE ME THE TRELLED GRAPE, GIVE ME  
FRESH CORN AND WHEAT - GIVE ME SERENE  
MOVING ANIMALS, TEACHING CONTENT;  
GIVE ME NIGHTS PERFECTLY QUIET, AS  
ON HIGH PLATEAUS WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI  
AND LOOKING UP ON UP AT THE STARS;  
GIVE ME ODD ROUS AT SUNRISE A GARDEN  
OF BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS, WHERE I  
CAN WALK UNDISTURBED; GIVE ME FOR  
MARRIAGE A SWEET-BREATH'D  
WOMAN OF WHOM I SHOULD NEVER TIRE  
GIVE ME A PERFECT CHILD - GIVE ME AWAY  
ASIDE FROM THE NOISE OF THE WORLD, A  
RURAL, DOMESTIC LIFE; GIVE ME THE  
WARBLE SPONTANEOUS SONGS, RELIEV'D  
REGL'WISSE BY MYSELF, FOR MY OWN EARS  
ONLY; GIVE ME SOLITUDE - GIVE ME NATURE -  
GIVE ME AGAIN NATURE, YOUR PRIMAL SANI-  
TIES! - THESE DEMANDING TO HAVE, TIR'D  
WITH CEASELESS EXCITEMENT AND RACK'D BY  
THE WAR-STRIFE, KEEP YOUR SPLENDID SUN







**Top: *Autumn*** With excerpts from Walt Whitman's prose: Autumn Side-Bits (1892). Ten color woodcuts on paper and gauze. Edition of 10 copies, 12 x 8.75", 2013.

Left Top: A Tribute to Nature: "***Give Me the Splendid, Silent Sun***" (Excerpts from Walt Whitman) woodcuts, 117" x 26". 2015

**Left Bottom: *Give me the splendid, silent sun***, woodcuts cast in hydrostone, paper mache bowls painted with text by Walt Whitman. H 12 1/2 x W 4 1/2 x D 3 1/2", 2015







Top and Bottom: *Durstige Blumen / Thirsty Flowers*,  
Unique Artist Book: mixed media on canvas,  
22" x 15", 2015 /2016

Left Top: *Durstige Blumen / Thirsty Flowers II*,  
mixed media on canvas, 24" x 46", 2015

Left Bottom: *Durstige Blumen / Thirsty Flowers I*, mixed  
media on canvas, 24" x 46", 2015











Top: *The Erosion of Villages and Fields*, Unique Book, mixed media and sand on paper, 11" x 15"

Left Top: *Salzige Erde / Salty Soil III*, mixed media on canvas, 24" x 48". 2015",

Left Bottom: *Lamenting Forest*, mixed media on canvas, wood, cloth and sand, 27 "x 42", 2015



## *Oil Spill*

Earth and Sea

**Oil** also nicknamed “Black Gold” has influenced almost every aspect of past and present and its power has infiltrated into governments, politics and the economy of society. As the most thought after energy source it has now for more then a century ruled our world and is a cause as well as a tool that triggered wars in the past and present. Oil brought massive change and destruction to the environment, has changed our natural landscapes and dramatically altered ways of human life.



*Oil Spill Book III: Elegy to Nigeria*, Unique Book, mixed media on paper,  
19 1/4" x 14" book closed, 24 pages, page1+2 and 4+5 right





The emphasis of Oil Spill Book III is on the Oil Tragedy of Nigeria.

Oil, also nicknamed “Black Gold” has lead this potential model nation to become a dangerous country were people have succumbed to corruption, sabotage and cruelty to get a fix of the wealth. Yet, half a century of Oil Spills, acid rain from gas flares, and the stripping away of mangroves for pipelines have killed off fish, the livelihood of many villagers. This has made the life of the people of Nigeria not better but dropped them into extreme poverty.

The very thing that gave it promise has destroyed Nigeria: OIL



*Oil Spill: Elegy to the Sea*, mixed media, sand and objects on canvas, 36"x 60"





*Oil Spill: Elegy to the Marshes*, mixed media and plants on canvas, 60"x36"





*Oil Spill Book II: Elegy to the Marshes*, Unique Book, mixed media on paper,  
19 1/4" x 14" book closed, 24 pages,  
Top: cover Right: pages 4+5



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*Ilse Schreiber-Noll* has been shown in many national and international exhibitions, among others:

rk - Galerie für zeitgenössische Kunst im Ratskeller, Berlin, Germany, 2017  
Akin Museum, Pawling, NY, 2016  
Hammond Museum, North Salem, NY, USA, 2016  
Schreibersches Haus, Museum Bad Arolsen, Germany, 2016  
Gallery Wetterney, Berlin, 2015  
The AC Institute, Chelsea, NY, NY, 2013  
The Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, New Paltz, NY, 2012  
The Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington DC 2011  
Galerie Stadtspeicher, Jena, Germany 2011  
Goethe Institute, Washington DC, 2011  
The Whitney Biennial 2006 Whitney Museum of American Art, NY., 2006  
Brecht Haus/Literaturforum, Berlin, Germany, 2006  
Gallery Brecht-Weigel-Haus, Buckow, Germany, 2005  
The Grolier Club, New York, NY 2005

The artist presently lives and works in Croton on Hudson, N.Y, USA  
and in Berlin, Germany.

ARTISTS FOR THE PEOPLE  
PRESS  
Founded 2002  
Croton on Hudson, New York