

Lecture Thursday

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From: Michael Plyler <michael.plyler@zionpark.org>

To: WCHS Distribution List <distribution@wchsutah.org>

Sent: Friday, November 1, 2019, 01:34:18 PM MDT

Subject: Re: Lecture Thursday

ZION NATIONAL PARK FOREVER PROJECT PRESENTS
FREE LECTURE IN SPRINGDALE AT CANYON COMMUNITY CENTER

Zion National Park Forever Project presents “As Grand and Unusual Sights as The Heart Could Desire.” John Wesley Powell’s Photographers by Dr. James Swensen on Thursday, November 7, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. The lecture will be held at the Canyon Community Center (126 Lion Blvd) in Springdale. This lecture is free and open to the public.

As Zion National Park celebrates its Centennial, and as we recognize the 150th anniversary of Powell’s first expedition of the Colorado River, having a lecture about the photographers who accompanied Powell’s second expedition is the perfect complement to our Centennial Celebration of Art event which will be held November 6 – 10. There will be activities surrounding the Centennial Art Event occurring in both Springdale and Zion National Park. Please click on this link for a full schedule of events. <https://zionpark.org/2019/centennial-celebration-of-art-schedule-announced/>

In 1871 John Wesley Powell returned to the Colorado Plateau two years after his first expedition. When he returned he came with a different purpose. The region was no longer the great unknown, but its sublime landscapes demanded extensive study and representation. A crucial tool in this endeavor was photography. Powell employed three photographers throughout his explorations of the Southwest. E.O. Beaman, James Fennemore, and lastly, the oar-man turned photographer, John Hillers, who became one of the most important photographers of the American West. This presentation explores the work and careers of Powell’s photographers. It will also investigate their activities within the complicated dynamics of the expedition, as well as the ways they attempted to capture and comprehend one of the most dramatic places on earth.

James R. Swensen is an associate professor of art history and the history of photography at Brigham Young University. His research interests include the art and photography of the American West. He is the author of several articles and two books including *In a Rugged Land: Ansel Adams, Dorothea Lange, and the Three Mormon Towns Collaboration* (University of Utah Press). He is the recipient of the Butler Young Scholar Award from the Charles Redd Center for Western American Studies and the LeRoy Axland Best Utah History Article Award.

The Zion National Park Forever Project’s Fern and J. L. Crawford Lecture Series is a collaborative presentation of the Forever Project and the Division of Resource Management in Zion National Park. For more information please call 435-772-3264. Lectures are free and open to the public.

The Zion National Park Forever Project is the official non-profit partner of Zion National Park.