



STRANGE VISION... Images from Oberholzer's new book, *Diesel and Dust*.

Lensman-philosopher comes back to town

STAFF REPORTER

Obie Oberholzer will be in town soon to launch his new book, *Diesel & Dust*. The world-renowned photographer who lived in Grahamstown for 30 years will be giving a slideshow presentation on his latest collection of photographs and

commentary, published by Jacana, at The Highlander on Tuesday 15 November.

The online publicity material for the book – Oberholzer's 10th since his 1988 *Ariesfontein to Zuurfontein: A Pictorial Journey* – describes it as visually stimulating images of Africa, offering a multifaceted view of the

continent – “a recollection that is at once a history, a meditation, a travel memoir, and a tribute”.

Oberholzer himself says the following of the book: “*Diesel and Dust* is a philosophy.

The smell of diesel and dust early in the morning give me a feeling that I'm far

away, and this book is about that – interesting people and places; about wonderings and passings through.”

The eccentric former Rhodes fine arts department photography lecturer's popular coffee-table books document his travels through Africa in a way that his fans find challenging and utterly

fascinating.

Also in the online publicity material, the *Financial Mail's* Sean O'Toole is quoted as follows: “Few SA artists can productively be called raconteurs, as in a skilful teller of anecdotes. Most are simply too glum – solemn, too – when spinning yarns around their work. If only

more artists, in particular photographers, could be like Obie Oberholzer.”

Oberholzer lives with his wife in Nature's Valley.

The launch is at 5.30pm for 6pm at The Highlander, at 10 Worcester Street.

For more information call matthew@jacana.co.za or call 011 628 3200.