From Athens to Milan, Italy: More than just a film

By Terry Smith
Athens NEWS Editor

From Canaan Township, Athens County, to Milan, Italy, is 4,426 miles. Culturally, the distance could be even farther. But the two places have something in common now that Athens-based international artist/filmmakers Lizzie Fitch and Ryan Trecartin’s major exhibition has opened at the prestigious Fondazione Prada in Milan. The centerpiece of a large-scale multi-media installation, dubbed “Whether Line,” is a film that was shot at the mainly outdoor set on South Canaan Road, east of Athens, this past year.

The exhibition opened with a press review on Friday, April 5, and will remain up until Aug. 5. According to a news release on the arts foundation’s website, “Commissioned by Fondazione Prada, (Fitch and Trecartin’s) large-scale multimedia installation represents the first output of a creative process begun in late 2016, aimed at realizing a new movie that investigates the perpetual promise of ‘new’ terrain and the inherent instability of territory.”

The release contains more abstract gymnastics along those lines (after all, we’re talking about the international art world here)…

“Taking the idealized rurality endemic to back-to-the-land ideologies as a conceptual starting point, the project blurs the boundaries between different forms of storytelling and...”

Continued on page 10