Ashes to ashes: dramatic volcano sites from around the world – in pictures

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Photographer Joan Myers captures the beauty and menace of the Earth's volcanos. 'A stable earth, whatever we would like to think, is an illusion,' she says

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Tungurahua ('throat of fire') volcano in Ecuador, which began its most recent eruptive phase in 1999, after a long dormant period. It remains active. In 2006, an eruption killed at least five people and destroyed several small towns and roads nearby. All photographs: Joan Myers.



Roden Crater, an extinct cinder cone in the San Francisco volcanic field near Flagstaff, Arizona, was bought by artist James Turrell in 1977, who has since shaped it into an enormous work of art.



A seal swins surrounded by a wall of ice in Croker Bay off the southern coast of Devon Island in the eastern high Arctic.



Kilauea volcano on Hawaii has been in constant eruption for the last 30 years. Its slowly oozing lava covers more than 38 sq miles of the island.



The Seltún geothermal field near Krýsuvík, Iceland, where the temperature below the surface is 200°C. A borehole was sunk here to provide energy during the 1990s, but it exploded without warning in 1999 and the project was abandoned.



Quilotoa in Ecuador was formed by a volcanic eruption and collapse about 800 years ago. The eruption released mud flows that reached as far as the Pacific Ocean.



Sunrise over Mount Batok, inside Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park in Java, Indonesia. Inside the crater are a number of smaller, active volcanoes.



An open lava tube smokes and bubbles on Kilauea volcano, Hawaii



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