

Splash

MENDONOMA EVENTS GUIDE



Fine art photographer Bia Gayotto at work in the field. Photo courtesy of the artist.

‘A glimpse into the psychic life of an otherwise unseen world’: new photographic exhibit opens at The Sea Ranch Lodge

An artist’s reception on Thursday, May 9, from 4 to 6 p.m. at The Sea Ranch Lodge, will mark the opening of an exhibit of photographs by multimedia artist Bia Gayotto. Complimentary “bubbly” will be served. The exhibit will remain on display through July 7.

“Uprooted” is a photographic series made at The Sea Ranch, paying homage to over 500 trees that fell during the bomb cyclones and atmospheric rivers in early 2023, Gayotto said. Inspired by Goethe’s color theory that there is light in darkness, she

uses the negative image as a conceptual strategy to unveil the below-the-surface world invisible to the naked eye.

“Like an X-ray, the different shades of blue emerge from light and shadows cast on the soil and on the trees’ up-ended roots, otherwise the image is not altered in any way,” Gayotto explained.

“The reversed hues allude to humans’ perception of the color spectrum and the nature of seeing. ‘Uprooted’ evokes an entropic state of being pulled from the ground, suggesting connections between macro

and micro, darkness and light, above and below.

“The massive plant’s root foundation when exposed, reveals a glimpse into the psychic life of an otherwise unseen world, beckoning the viewer to reimagine the reality of climate change and the many events that shape our movements, and the changes in our own lives.”

Gayotto earned a master’s degree in fine arts from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1996, and her work has been featured in many exhibitions nationally and internationally including the Los

Angeles County Museum of Art; the Pasadena Museum of California Art; the Orange County Museum of Art; Fellows of Contemporary Art, a Los Angeles; The Breeder Project, Athens, Greece; and the Museum of Image and Sound, São Paulo, Brazil.

Her work belongs to private and public collections at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; UCLA’s Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts; the Museum of Contemporary Art, University of São Paulo; and the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, among others.