The Borrowed World: Landscapes in Poems and Photos

At the Anthony Miceli Gallery at the Two Bird Cafe

Artist's Statement: Barbara Swift Brauer

The impetus for a poem is usually spontaneous, and many of the poems in "The Borrowed World: Landscapes in Poems and Photos" were written out of a surprise moment in a natural setting: a morning in Fish Creek Basin in the Sierra; the summons of ripe blackberries on an evening walk in San Geronimo; the sight of hikers traversing the dry bottom of Nicasio Reservoir; or a stand of black spruce at Wonder Lake Campground below Denali:

I look for clues, omens whenever I meet what's larger than myself.

The natural world, with its seasons and weathers, is indeed larger — an unending source of solace and reward, rendering frazzled parts whole again, restorative to body, mind and spirit.

To live in San Geronimo is to live surrounded by the natural world, its creeks and rocks, trees and ridges. To visit Pt. Reyes National Seashore, Yosemite, Ansel Adams Wilderness, and Sequoia Kings Canyon, or to witness the wild sunrise of a New Hampshire autumn morning, is to bring ourselves into this larger presence again and again. It remains a mystery and power I never tire of celebrating.



Artist's Statement: Laurence Brauer

I hope to capture a particular moment that encapsulates the essence of a time and place in the natural world. There is a tangible sense to that moment, not merely a feeling, but something deeper and more complex. I seek the interconnection of each particular aspect to the grander scene, finding the combination of form, color, and light that evokes that essence.

Photo Information

Nearly all photos are taken with a Leica M7 camera, a Summicron 35mm aspherical or Elmarit M 90mm lens, and Fuji Provia 100 film. Transparencies are scanned with a Tango drum scanner and printed on Fuji Super Gloss paper by West Coast Imaging, Oakhurst, California.