

Mónica Reyes Gallery

Dawna Mueller

unforgotten – my journey home

Capture Photography Festival

Selected Exhibition



List of Works

April 1 – April 30, 2023

Capture

Capture Photography Festival

Selected

unforgotten – my journey home

Curator: Marianne Otterstrom

Apr 1 – Apr 30, 2023

Gallery Hours

M–Tu: 11 am–2 pm; Sa: 12 pm–4 pm By appointment: (604) 339-2096

unforgotten – my journey home explores the power of images in relation to memory, history, and ancestry. This visual story traces history back to Dawna Mueller’s ancestral roots in rural Manitoba. A child of the “Sixties Scoop,” Mueller was taken from her Métis/Anishinaabe mother at birth and placed in a Ukrainian family. It was only as an adult that Mueller discovered her Indigenous roots, and she has spent the last few years on a personal reclamation journey into her Indigeneity.

The Sixties Scoop refers to a series of government policies from the 1950s and ’60s whereby tens of thousands of Indigenous babies and children were taken from their birth mothers and adopted out or sold to non-Indigenous families across Canada and the United States. The Sixties Scoop, along with the residential school system, were part of the Federal Government’s attempt at the annihilation of Canada’s Indigenous peoples. The 2015 *Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report* brought this topic to the forefront of social, political, and legal discussion in Canada, and *unforgotten – my journey home* is a personal narrative contextualizing a component of this abhorrent segment in Canadian history.

unforgotten – my journey home is a solo exhibition composed of large-format, analogue, multiple-exposure, black-and-white photographs combining memory, history, and place. Mueller relies on the Indigenous tradition of oral history and storytelling to connect with her ancestry, creating a post-conceptual visual narrative that expresses the liminal space of bridging two cultures and finding her way back home.

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Dawna Mueller, *My Journey Home*, 2022
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure Negative Print. 40 x 50 cm

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Dawna Mueller, *Fish Camp, Thicket, Portage, 2022*
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure Negative
Print. 40 x 50 cm

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Dawna Mueller, *Reunited*, 2022
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure Negative Print.
40 x 50 cm

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Dawna Mueller, *Uncle Ernie on Landing Lake, 2022*
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure Negative
Print. 40 x 50 cm

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Dawna Mueller, *Uncle Harold and Aunt Isabella's Wedding 1956 (unknown photographer)*, 2022
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure Negative Print.
40 x 50 cm

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Dawna Mueller, *Ancestral Burial Land Camperville, Manitoba, 2022*
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure Negative Print
40 x 50 cm

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Dawna Mueller, *The Homestead in Thicket Portage II*, 2022
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure Negative Print
40 x 50 cm.

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Dawna Mueller, *The Journey Home*, 2022
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure Negative Print.
40 x 50 cm

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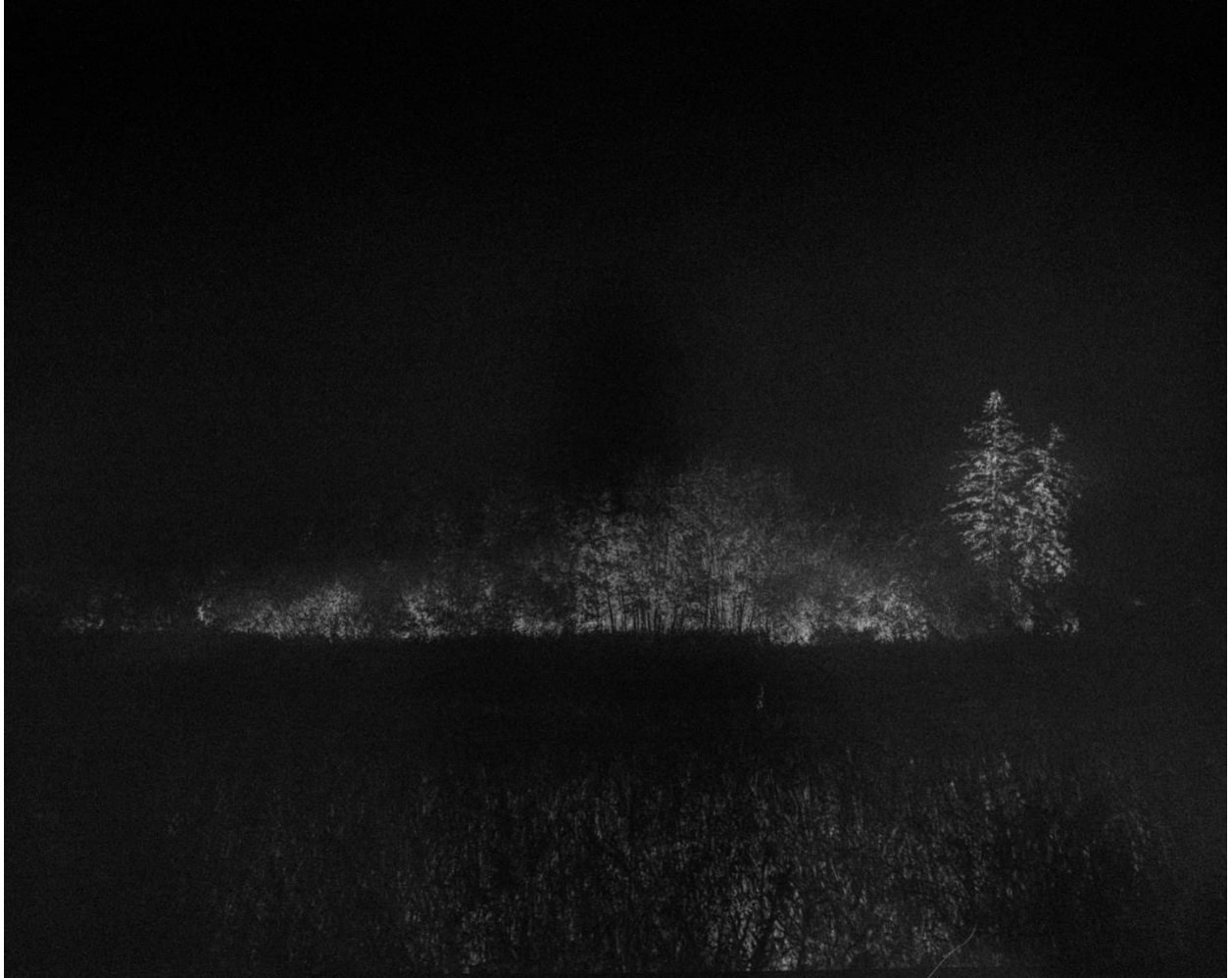
Dawna Mueller, *Back Yard*, 2022
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure Negative Print
40 x 50 cm

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Dawna Mueller, *Family Homestead, Wintering Lake, 2022*
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure Negative Print.
40 x 50 cm.

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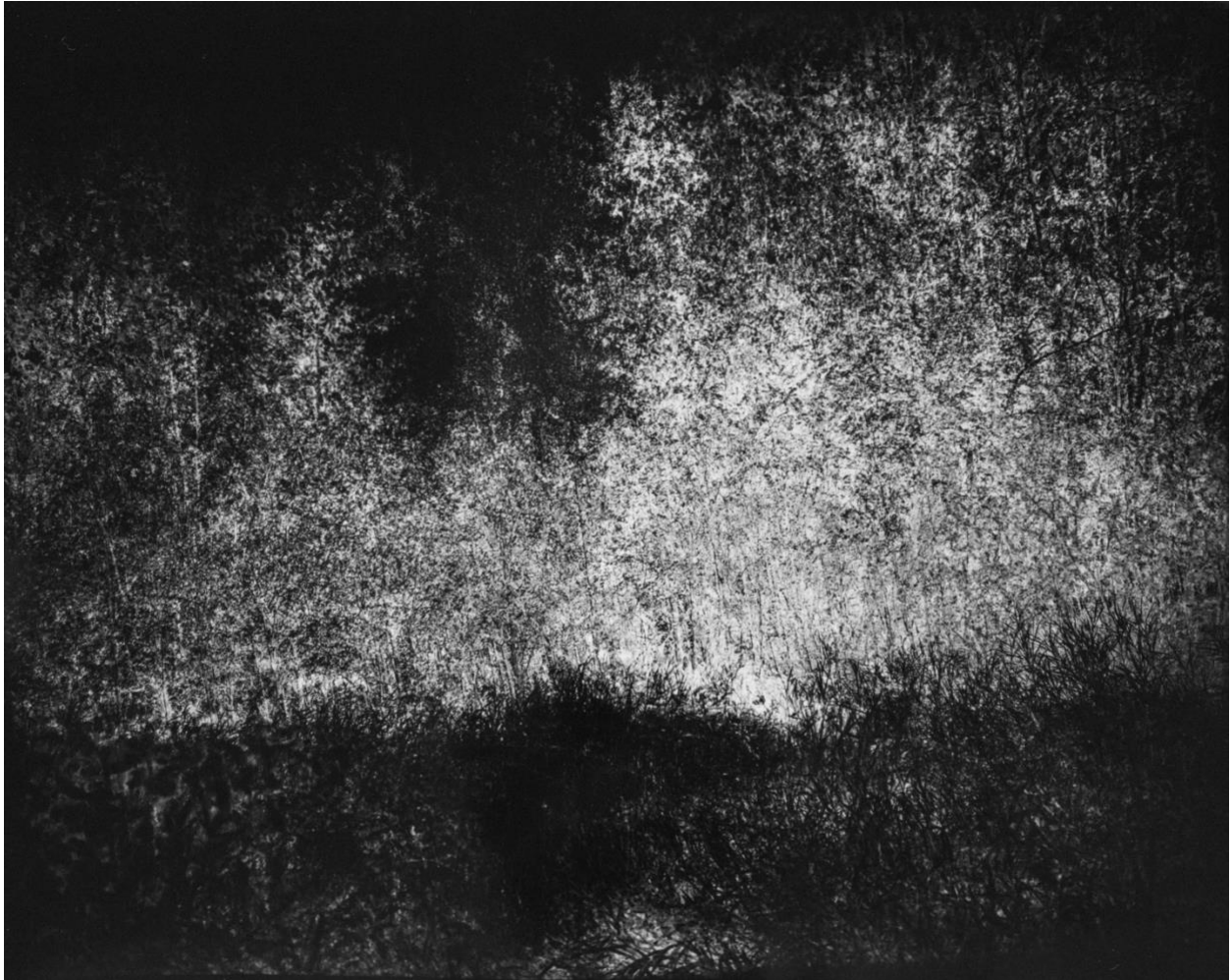
Dawna Mueller, *Ancestral Land*, 2022
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure Negative Print.
40 x 50 cm

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Dawna Mueller, *Roots*, 2022
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure Negative Print
40 x 50 cm

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Dawna Mueller, *Footprints*, 2022
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure Negative Print
40 x 50 cm

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Dawna Mueller, *St. Irenaeus, Thicket Portage, 2022*
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure Negative
Print. 40 x 50 cm

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Dawna Mueller, *Generations*, 2022
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure Negative Print.
40 x 50 cm

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Dawna Mueller, *The Homestead in Thicket Portage I*, 2022
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure
Negative Print
40 x 50 cm

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Dawna Mueller, *Family Cemetery, Thicket Portage, 2022*
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure Negative
Print. 40 x 50 cm.

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Dawna Mueller, Scan Camperville Landscape, 2022
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure Negative Print.
40 x 50 cm

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Dawna Mueller, *Our Lady of Seven Sorrows Catholic Church, Camperville, Manitoba, 2022*
Silver Gelatin Print Multiple Exposure Negative Print.
40 x 50 cm