

Michael & Heather Llewellyn: FOREST⇌FIRE
Collection CAE2208

Introduction/Abstract

FOREST⇌FIRE is an installation designed by Heather and Michael Llewellyn to flow thematically through past, present, and future, to tell the story of the forest ecology and its relationship with fire.

Biographical Note: Heather and Michael Llewellyn

Michael & Heather Llewellyn are a collaborative artist duo. For 22 years Michael traveled around the world as an award-winning freelance photographer in the publishing, recording and advertising industries. While on assignment in the recording industry, he met Heather who became his producing partner two years later.

Lately, the Llewellyns have expanded their interests to include designing and creating interpretive public art exhibits, working with non-profit organizations to engage the public in complicated issues facing communities. Projects include: *The Future Forest Cycle*, 2017 - Present (which encompasses FOREST⇌FIRE, *The Sagehen Forest Project Portraiture Series & the Future Forest Cultural Trail*); *Renegade Literati*, 2019 - Present; *Picture This*, 2017-2019; and *Image Nation*, 2015-2018.

Michael and Heather received the 2018 Reserve Artist Naturalist Award from the University of California - Natural Reserve System.

Scope and Content

FOREST⇌FIRE is an inter-disciplinary, multi-sensory installation connecting art, the humanities, and science that debuted in December 2021 at the Truckee Community Recreation Center. Designed by Heather and Michael Llewellyn to flow thematically through past, present, and future, it utilizes painting, textiles, beadwork, sculpture, and more, to tell the story of forest ecology and its relationship with fire. The exhibition narrative encompasses how indigenous people, using low intensity fire, created and maintained the West's pre-European, old growth forest for thousands of years, of why our forests are currently in ecological collapse, and what can be done immediately to prevent the loss of it.

The exhibition includes work by 22 artists, many of them former artists-in-residence at the UC Berkeley Sagehen Creek Field Station, where the artists engaged with the station's experimental forest management program. The artists include Christopher Baldwin, Sandow Birk, Tiffany Bozic, Sarah Coleman, Nina Elder, Jorie Emory, Todd Gilens, Jessa Rae Growing Thunder, Elizabeth Gudmann, Paula Henson, Jonathon Keats, Judith Lowry, Nancy Mintz, Indigo Moon, Erika Osborne, Tahiti Pehrson, Elyse Pignolet, Sara L. Smith, Andie Thrans, and Cedra Wood.

Materials include documents, video, digital images, and a model.

This archive is currently in process.