

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

Virginia Mak explores the visual possibilities of the photographic medium. Known for its soft focus and minimized light values, her work disrupts the boundary between painting and photography.

Mak's work touches on the individual's connection to the inner self.

The "Hidden Nature" series is inspired by the great German painter, Caspar David Friedrich (1774-1840). Friedrich suggests that, "the painter should paint not only what he has in front of him, but also what he sees inside himself". Moodily presented, these large-format colour photographs speak to the unexpected beauty that comes with spatial isolation and meditation.

Mak was born in Hong Kong. After graduating with a Philosophy Degree from the University of Calgary, she went on to study Photography at the Ontario College of Art. She is a recipient of project, exhibition and travel grants from the Ontario Arts Council and the Canada Council for the Arts. Her work has been written about in the Calgary Herald, the Globe and Mail, Vancouver Sun and the Toronto Star. Mak's photographs can be found in public and private collections in North America and Hong Kong.