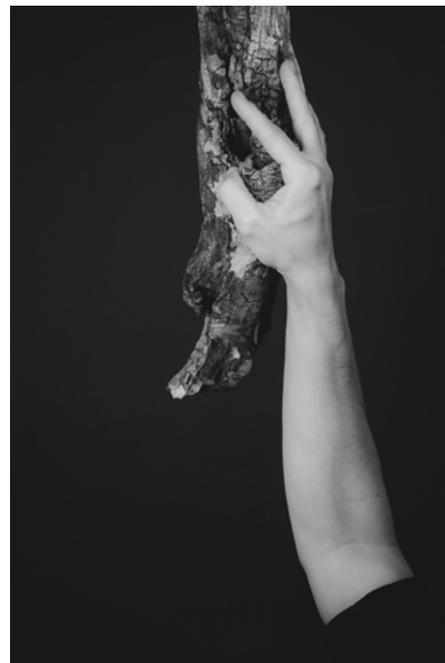


«What Holds Us.»

Roots. -
An art project by Priska Leutenegger



The project «What Holds Us.» explores rootedness as a physical, biographical and landscape-based experience in a time of profound transformation. The starting point is the artist's engagement with origin, family and her own sense of place, as well as her ongoing fascination with the invisible: root networks, layers of earth, hidden connections.

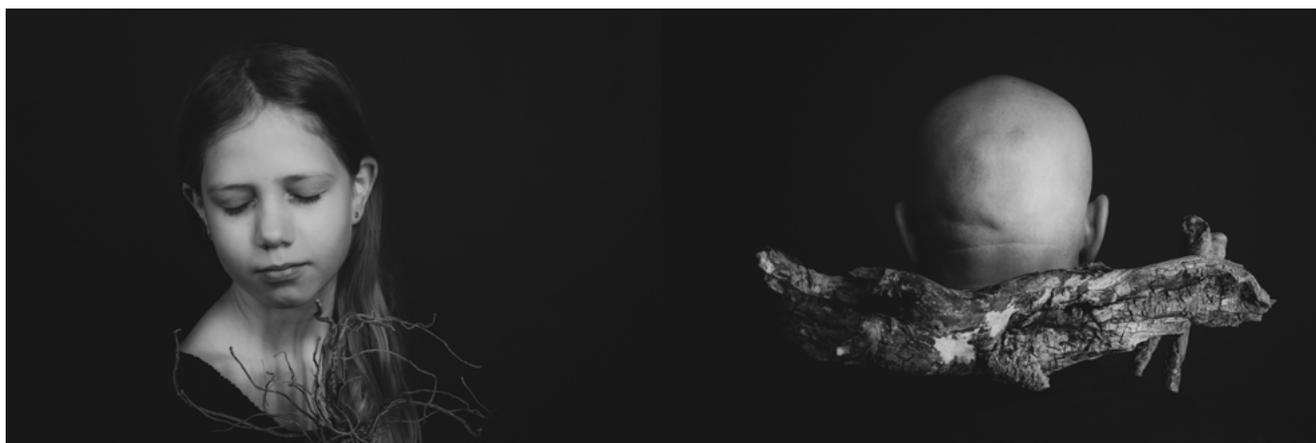
The work responds to a present marked by acceleration, upheaval and constant reorientation. Social, ecological and personal changes reach deep into existing bonds and can give rise to experiences of instability and uprootedness. In this context, rootedness no longer appears as a given, but as a fragile relationship that must be continually renegotiated.



The artist invites people of different ages, origins, cultures and religions to participate in this project.

Each encounter begins with an individual conversation with every participant. Everyone is asked the same questions on the topic of «rootedness». The answers are recorded and form a polyphonic archive of individual experiences of belonging, origin, loss and repositioning.

This is followed by the creation of the photographic portraits. Each participant holds a root in their hands. The root does not function as a symbol, but as a real fragment of what lies underground, a carrier of endurance, resistance and adaptation. The portraits are taken in black and white against a black background. The focus lies on body fragments, face, posture, hands, gestures, proximity and distance. During the photographic process, participants are invited to physically express their own answers from the conversation. In this way, the images reflect the individual experience of rootedness in direct connection with thoughts, memories and reflections.



A selection of the portraits and recorded answers ultimately finds its way into an exhibition and forms the conclusion of the project.

In the exhibition, image and voice enter into a relationship of tension. The silent portraits are accompanied by the recorded answers, which are audible in the space. The visible and the invisible, body and language, present and origin overlap. In addition, objects or materials may be used to make rootedness tangible as a state between holding on and letting go.

Do you feel addressed and would you like to be part of this project? Then please get in touch at art@priskaleutenegger.ch or +41 79 915 00 57. I will be happy to present the conditions and discuss the next steps.