



BETWEEN CULTURES

WATARU
SUGIYAMA
&
BECA BLAKE



WATARU SUGIYAMA

Wataru Sugiyama originally came from Japan to study in Southern Oregon to fulfill his dream of teaching English. By chance, he took a class in ceramics to fulfill a course requirement. It changed his life. He found that he could bring his personal vision and form to what had been a rigid Japanese esthetic. He could combine the traditional and the contemporary in new and exciting ways -- ways that he would not have been able to do in the structured artistic world of Japan.





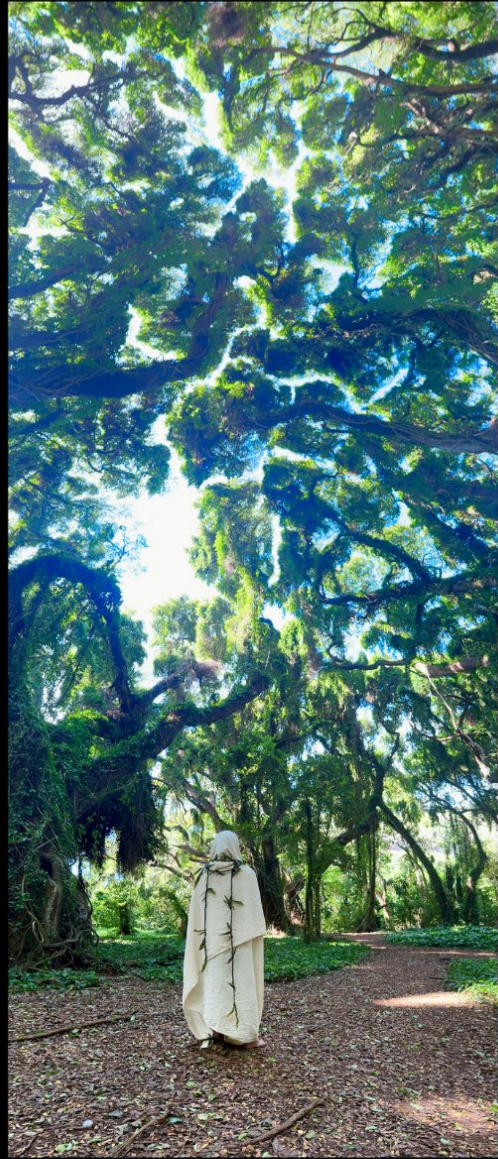






Interdisciplinary **Beca Blake**

“My process explores documenting my life through interdisciplinary visual expressions while bridging self, community, and universal natures.” ~ Beca Blake



Beca Blake's current work, *Living Between Cultures*, explores and documents one family's struggle to save ancestral land from development in Hawaii.





Blakes exploration of this theme is on-going for *Between Cultures*. She would be exhibiting large scale photographs on fabric, videography and other performance art pieces in this theme.

Additional recent work, *Milk Visions*, premiered in 2024 at the central Art Gallery in Medford, Oregon with a solo exhibition of performative and multimedia works on the theme of women's empowerment and liberation.



Layne Redmond, Gerurilla Girls
(Blake's mentor)



Milk Visions 2024



Milk Visions 2024

A preceding series of documented performance work, entitled *Road Food*, premiered at the Oregon Fringe Festival in the Spring of 2023; a complete exhibition followed at Catalyst Ashland, Recovery Cafe Medford, Crooked Mile Gallery in Phoenix, and The Cafe Medford Food Co-op in Medford, Oregon and the Gallery@AIFF in Ashland, Oregon.



Road Food

2023





Qualia 2022-2024