

APRIL 2017

HOME WINDS

EXHIBITION DATES:

APRIL 28–JUNE 20, 2017

EXHIBITION RECEPTION:

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 2017 6–8PM



PLANTHOUSE'S LATEST PUBLICATION, *Home Winds*, unites the photography of Benjamin Swett with the soulful music of singer and songwriter Heather Woods Broderick in an elegant call to environmental awareness. The publication, which includes a foreword by Elleree Erdos, was born of a desire to support environmental causes. In that spirit, proceeds from the release of the song *Home Winds* will benefit institutions devoted to fighting climate change.

Inspiration for the *Home Winds* project comes from the land itself: HomeWinds Farm in Gladstone, New Jersey. Planthouse founder Katie Michel conceived of the idea for the book when her mother, Betsy Michel, decided to leave the family farm and preserved a significant portion of the land for agricultural use under the New Jersey Farmland Preservation Program. Over the course of a year, photographer Benjamin Swett sensitively captured the essence of Home Winds Farm through a series of portraits of the maples, beeches, lindens and black cherry trees that have populated the land for decades, many originally planted by the Michels. Erdos's foreword begins, "If a photograph captures a distinct moment, then the tree is its foil; it endures the prolonged passage of time with dignity and poise."

In her text, Erdos meditates on the historical significance of these arboreal subjects and the capability of photography to capture the simultaneous monumentality and vulnerability they endure across generations. Broderick's tribute song is a haunting ballad inspired by memories from her own upbringing on forested land in the Northeast. Broderick composed and recorded an additional song, entitled *Shoreline*, to complete the B-side of the vinyl record that is bundled with the book.

Home Winds combines Planthouse's mission to showcase the work of emerging and established artists with Michel and her family's philanthropic commitment to land preservation and environmental causes. It joins previous endeavors from Planthouse's fine art book publishing arm, including the hilariously rendered *43 Monsters* and the Susan Orlean/Philip Taaffe essay and print collaboration, *The Floral Ghost*.

The exhibition at Planthouse will feature Swett's photographs from the book and Broderick's vinyl recording. Visitors will be able to listen to the songs on a record player in the gallery. The show *Home Winds* will be on view April 28 through June 20, 2017.

HEATHER WOODS BRODERICK is an American musician and composer. She has released two solo records under her own name: *From the Ground* (Preservation, 2009), and *Glider* (Western Vinyl, 2015). She has also worked in collaboration with many musicians over the last decade. She currently lives in Portland, Oregon.

BENJAMIN SWETT is a photographer and writer. His previous books include *New York City of Trees* (winner of the 2013 New York City Book Award for Photography), *The Hudson Valley: A Cultural Guide* (2009), *Route 22* (2007) and *Great Trees of New York City: A Guide* (2000). He lives in New York City with his wife and sons.

ELLEREE ERDOS is a freelance writer based in New York. She holds master's degrees from Columbia University and the Sorbonne, and a B.A. in art history from Williams College.

YEBO MUSIC will oversee the worldwide digital distribution of Broderick's songs. Jeffrey Rowles directed the video for *Home Winds*.

Planthouse

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