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Local Artist Draws Inspiration From Math and Science

Long Island artist and longtime Roslyn Heights resident, Xiomáro (pronounced *see-oh-MAH-ro*), presents his new photo art series, *FractalScapes*, at The Cup Coffeehouse, in Wantagh, for the month of July.

Cutting edge scientific and mathematical theories, especially fractal geometry, have inspired Xiomáro to develop an aesthetic for the elegance of small, abstract, iterative patterns appearing in landscapes and urbanscapes.

FractalScapes, a 12 photo series, highlights the natural and manmade patterns appearing in water, sand, trees and architecture. Tight frames exclude the sky and other reference points, which force the eye toward details that reveal the hidden beauty of repetitive shapes, colors and motion.

Composing the images in this fragmented manner resulted in using Photoshop only to adjust for contrast. In some images, selective blurring was created in the lens itself. In others, they were rotated to further abstract the subject.

After overcoming cancer, Xiomáro was drawn to the solitary peace of photography. A desire to make sense of the world also drew him to Benoît Mandelbrot's mathematical theories in *The Fractal Geometry of Nature*. The "Mandelbrot Set" explains the shapes repeated at every scale – from clouds, coastlines and mountains down to

trees, plants and soil – in a way that the traditional points, lines and angles of Euclidian geometry cannot. Other theories from which Xiomáro drew inspiration includes the growing field of nanotechnology as first suggested by physicist Richard Feynman in his lecture, *There's Plenty of Room at the Bottom*, and later expanded in K. Eric Drexler's book, *The Coming Era of Nanotechnology*. String theory, which attempts to bridge Einstein's general relativity with the subatomic behavior of quantum mechanics is another source, especially as presented in Brian Greene's book, *The Elegant Universe*.

"I'm not a scientist, so I certainly don't claim to fully understand these theories," explains Xiomáro. "But there is an elegance and artistic sense to them. And I understood enough to connect with that, which has informed the way I see things now. As a result, my photographs try to capture nuances in everyday vistas that are easily overlooked." Xiomáro moved to Roslyn Heights in the late 1970s where he developed a career in the arts. In addition to photography, he is also a musician and practices law in the unique field of entertainment law where he has represented celebrities as diverse as Village People to Fox News' Greg Gutfeld.

To view the entire series or to purchase Xiomáro's *FractalScapes* portfolio, visit

www.xiomaro.com. Parties interested in exhibiting his photos, can contact him via his website.



Xiomáro



Beach Sand Anglesea, New Jersey.

Photos on next page



New York City, View from Governors Island.



Fountain Vanderbilt Mansion, Hyde Park, New York.