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Wilton's Weir Farm Artist Uses Scientific Method

by Kevin Zimmerman Today



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Former Weir Farm Artist-in-Residence Xiomaro shows his photographs from Wilton's Weir Farm.

Photo Credit: *Courtesy of Xiomaro*

WILTON, Conn. – The right side of your brain controls creativity while the left side encompasses logic, but a former artist-in-residence at [Wilton's Weir Farm](#) uses both halves to create one unique style of photography.

[Xiomaro](#), pronounced see-oh-MAH-ro, incorporates scientific and mathematical theories in the field of fractal geometry to focus his camera on the small, abstract patterns that appear in natural settings as well as city landscapes.

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His show, titled FractalScapes, runs through the end of the month at [The Cup Coffeehouse](#) on Long Island. It's made up of a dozen pieces, including three photographs he made during his stay at Weir Farm National Historic Site in Wilton this past March.

"During this gift of time and solitude, I was able to appreciate the intricate beauty of the woods and the ponds even at the smallest scale. As a result, some of the photos I created at Weir Farm highlight the elegance of small, abstract, iterative patterns appearing in nature," said Xiomaro. "For me, the flow of these ephemeral shapes and tones evokes a spiritual sense of otherworldliness."

These patterns can be explained through fractal geometry and [Benoit Mandelbrot's](#) mathematical theories, said Xiomaro. Mandelbrot explains the shapes that repeat at every scale from clouds to mountains down to trees and soil in a way that traditional Euclidian geometry with its emphasis on lines and angles cannot.

"I'm not a scientist, so I certainly don't claim to fully understand these theories," said Xiomaro. "But there is an elegance and artistic sense to them. I understood enough of that that it has informed the way I see things now. My photographs try to capture nuances in everyday vistas that are easily overlooked."

As artist-in-residence at Weir Farm, Xiomaro said he used the same surroundings that inspired American Impressionist J. Alden Weir. "For an entire month, I drew inspiration from the same surroundings that not only inspired Weir, but the many painter friends that visited him – artists like John Singer Sargent, Childe Hassam and Albert Pinkham Ryder," said Xiomaro.

What do you think about combining fractal geometry and art? Leave a comment below. Follow [TheDailyWilton.com on Facebook](#).