

Gathering No Moss: Big Year Ahead For Xiomaro

BY JOE SCOTCHIE
jscotchie@antonmediagroup.com

Xiomaro, the Roslyn Heights-based artist is quickly solidifying his claim as one of America's premier historical photographers.

Last year, Xiomaro had an exhibit of fine art photographic prints of George Washington's Headquarters displayed at the Morristown (NJ) National Historical Park museum. When the exhibit ended on Dec. 28, 2018, the city of Morristown and the Morris Township Library acquired the papers for their North Jersey History and Genealogy Center. The National Park Service commissioned New York artist Xiomaro to create the collection. In all, the photographs examined the 12-room Georgian Revival Ford Mansion, which served as Washington's headquarters during the harsh winter of 1779 to 1780, where Washington, his wife, Martha and Alexander Hamilton, among other dignitaries and brave souls endured a winter that one soldier claimed was "cold enough to cut a man in two."

A photographic print by Xiomaro of Washington's headquarters is now available to the public for purchase.

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS
NOW TO DECEMBER 28, 2018 • RECEPTION/TALK • MAY 19, 2018 • 2:00 PM



PHOTOGRAPHS BY XIOMARO

CURATED BY JUDE M. PFISTER, D.LITT. • CHIEF OF CULTURAL RESOURCES
MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK • MUSEUM • NEW JERSEY

Poster of the successful Washington Headquarters exhibit

"We may be having a mild winter but, in 1779-80, George Washington and his troops endured 20 snowstorms in Morristown. Although it was a hot summer day when I photographed Washington's headquarters for the National Park Service, I tried to imagine myself as a cold visitor waiting for the General in the gloom of the entrance hall," Xiomaro said, describing the print. "So I exposed the scene to have the bright sunshine go completely white to convey a sense of snow. This image was also



Xiomaro

exhibited at Women's Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Falls, as part of their three-year Suffrage Centennial celebration."

"The domestic aspects are easily lost in the presence

of Washington, but Xio has managed to capture the mansion's essence as a home," said curator Jude M. Pfister at Morristown National Historical Park.

One of Xiomaro's most ambitious projects has been artwork on the Alden Weir Farm National Historic Site, Connecticut's first national park unit. Weir (1852-1919) was a prolific artist who is considered the father of American impressionism. Xiomaro took no less than 150 photographs of the farm, which now will be available in book

form courtesy of Arcadia Publishing, the firm that specializes in producing hundreds of historical picture books. The title and publishing date of the book has yet to be announced (watch this space), but its timing is fortuitous. In 2020, the park will be engraved as part of the U.S. Mints "America the Beautiful" series.

"It's about the classic American story of transformation," Xiomaro said in an interview with a Connecticut newspaper. "Weir hated impressionism, then championed it. His property was threatened by development, then got preserved as a national park...The best thing is that the book will celebrate the park in time for the striking of the special Weir Farm quarter."

The artist added that the front cover of the book has been finalized by Arcadia and that the sales and marketing departments are planning the publication date. When published, the celebration of Weir's life and work will include Xiomaro's photographs, plus vintage snapshots of the grounds and 11,000 words of caption. The print of Washington's headquarters can be purchased at the website, www.Xiomaro.com.

Weir Farm National Historic Site



A new book by
Xiomaro

for a forthcoming release by
Arcadia Publishing

Announcing the upcoming book



Inside the Weir House
Photos credit: Xiomaro