

Arts & Culture

Arthur Tress: Water's Edge

A film documenting the life of photographer and 23-year Cambria resident Arthur Tress will premiere at the Cambria Film Festival on September 14, 2024.

“Arthur Tress: Water's Edge” will have its San Luis Obispo premiere at 7 p.m. on September 14th in the Cambria Center for the Arts.

Arthur Tress is an internationally renowned photographer who made his home in Cambria from 1993 to 2015. During that quarter century, the seascapes and hillsides of the Central Coast provided the settings and backdrops for his work.

In November 1967, the Sierra Club commissioned a New York gallery to bring greater awareness to environmental issues. Tress exhibited photographs from Appalachia at Sierra Club's October 1968 exhibition, *The Disturbed Land*, with the goal of highlighting “the effects of coal mining on the human and natural ecology of Southern Appalachia.” Noting in his review of the exhibition the resemblance of Tress's work to that of Depression era photographers, A. D. Coleman wrote: “By turns lyrical, dramatic, and shocking, the photographs are telling revelations of a lifestyle rapidly being shattered.” Most recently, he had a solo exhibition of his earlier works at the Getty Museum in Los Angeles.

In 1991, Tress decided to take a break from the urban world of New York City and fell in love with Cambria, where his work was frequently on display at The Vault Gallery. He became the



first president of the Friends of the Ranchland, working for years on the successful effort to preserve the Fiscalini Ranch.

Tress still visits the central coast. His next project will be “100 Views of Morro Rock,” inspired by Hokusai’s “100 Views of Mount Fuji,” and edited from nearly 18,000 photos of the rock he took between 2010 and 2015.

The documentary by Bay Area filmmaker Stephen Lewis takes viewers on an epic and intimate journey with this acclaimed photographer as he enters his eighth decade and continues to develop the unique eye of a pioneering and continually innovating artist.

A Q&A with the filmmaker and Mr. Tress, moderated by local filmmaker and Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility executive director David Weisman, will follow. An exhibit of Arthur’s photos will also be displayed.

Seating is limited. [Get your tickets here.](#)

The Climate Change Chronicles



In a world warming at an alarming pace, “The Climate Change Chronicles” (Bronze Bird Books) includes essays, stories and poetry to “awaken and inspire through compelling poetic voices. It depicts the stark realities facing us—from the smog in our cities to the rising tides eroding our shores.” Through each verse, including a poem by local Santa Lucia Chapter member Judith Amber, celebrated and emerging poets around the globe bear witness to the changes unfolding in their backyards, in the air, and in the sea.

Editor David Pring-Mill says that “This collection not only chronicles Earth’s distress but also challenges us to envision the future we are co-creating through today’s choices. It serves as a poignant reminder of the interconnectedness of life and the urgent need to act. “The Climate Change Chronicles” is more than a literary anthology—it’s a love letter, a warning, a dirge about our planet. It’s a meditation on our home.”

Available on [Amazon Books](#) or at www.bronzebirdbooks.com

What Shall We Do Without Us?

Published in 1984 by Sierra Club Books, "What Shall We Do Without Us? The Voice and Vision of Kenneth Patchen" is a collection of picture poems by the 20th-century artist and poet who influenced the Beat poetry movement, incorporating painting, drawing and jazz music into his work and, per his biographer, "developed in his fabulous fables, love poems, and picture poems a deep yet modern mythology that conveys a sense of compassionate wonder amidst the world's violence."

He is also a cousin, once or twice removed, of the Sierra Club Santa Lucia Chapter Coordinator, Gianna Patchen. How cool is that?

Available from used book sellers [via Amazon](#).

