

Calling the Birds Home by Cheryle St. Onge

Calling the Birds Home by Cheryle St. Onge is an intimate and poetic work that weaves together memory, nature, and grief. Born from the experience of her mother's illness and passing, the project delicately explores the shifting roles between mother and daughter and the search for traces of continuity within the landscape they once shared.

St. Onge's photographs translate the rhythm of care and waiting into visual form, capturing light, the details of daily life, and fleeting appearances of the natural world as signs of presence. The landscape becomes a place of dialogue: a space of absence and, at the same time, of persistence — the ground on which the artist continues to look for her mother.

The book moves between fragility and resilience, between suspended time and the desire for continuity. In her writings, St. Onge recalls with intensity the experience of accompanying her mother through illness, witnessing her final moments, and navigating grief through the act of photography. The images, like windows of light and silence, stand as a testament to love, loss, and transformation.

Calling the Birds Home is published by L'Artiere and designed by Teresa Piardi (Maxwell Studio). It is a book that invites us to reflect on how photographs can preserve the bonds with those who are gone, transforming personal memory into a universal form of connection.

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Editor's notes

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Design: Teresa Piardi - Maxwell Studio

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Press inquiries

Beverley Luckings beverley@beverleyluckings.com +44 (0)7472916283

Photo selection

