

ART, EXHIBITION, BIEL/BIENNE

PHOTOFORUM RESIDENCY 2024: IEVA SAUDARGAITĖ DOUAIHI

During her residency in August 2024 leva was interested in exploring the place of endemic and invasive plant species in Biel, their traditional roles as well as their historical, environmental and urban implications. Photoforum invited her back to present the results of her residency in a small presentation.

"The word 'invasive' circled a lot in my head during my time in Biel. As a first-time visitor of Switzerland coming from Lebanon, a country that is currently under threat of a ground invasion, I also felt at times like a rootless seed looking for some ground to land on. Although uprooted, we felt welcomed by everyone we met. In the company of my 5-yearold, we closely observed the plants and other life forms around us. I looked for invasive species, he searched for bugs, snakes, and lizards. My motherly duties kept my attention divided, but also pervaded my creative process. He doodled on his notebook while I sketched out plants by walking, or cut their photographs out from books, or blended and dried them into paper. As I played with materials, questions began to form: how does invasiveness manifest in nature versus human society, can it be reframed to have a positive impact, what defines an invasion in a physical, mental, emotional, and cultural context, what materials and techniques can convey the tensions between the familiar and the intrusive?"

OPENING HOURS

From 15 Feb 2025 to 21 Apr 2025 Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday - Sunday

12:00 - 18:00
12:00 - 20:00
12:00 - 18:00
11:00 - 18:00



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