

Roxanne Darling

I AM: Resting in the Redwoods

This photograph is part of my "I AM" series, which are nude self-portraits exploring the natural states of the female form as expressed in the midst of nature itself. As a 65 year old woman and emerging artist, I am curious about the lines between nakedness and sexuality, between self-expression and exhibitionism, between acting and resting, between body perfect and body positive.

The statement in 1s and 0s repeated on the image is the actual binary code for "I AM." In computer programming, the 1s and 0s represent a binary choice at each step of execution: on or off, yes or no. This appears at first glance to make the universe founded on black and white thinking, but in reality, the infinite combinations of 1s and 0s is what creates extraordinary diversity. This diversity is well documented in nature and is becoming ever more appreciated in humanity as well.

I AM: Resting in the Redwoods

*As I entered
the old growth forest
the wood nymphs
whispered my name.*

*I kept walking.
They kept talking.
"Here, now?" I asked.*

"Why wait?" they answered.

*Now is
as good a time as any
to be you.*

