



**Dave Roman explores the use (or abuse) of
Canada's natural resources through photography**

Provocative imagery has always been Dave Roman's preference. On the surface his latest work "Not Quite Clear Cut" is about the use (or abuse) of the natural environment. He's drawn to the precision of the shapes formed by clear-cuts while feeling a sadness at the loss of a forest. Dave's finely detailed black and white prints acknowledge ecology as today's cause celebre and at the same time, large industries' reliance on natural resources to provide valuable materials and revenue.

However, what really fascinates Dave is the way people's points of view are so polarized. While one person may see ecological devastation, another may see selective harvesting and billions of dollars in annual income. What's worse is that we've become so extreme in our views that a middle ground where compromise, or at least the search for an agreeable solution, often seems improbable.

Dave's intention with "Not Quite Clear Cut" is to represent both sides of the argument and provide a jumping off point for discussion. Whether it's forestry, mining, aquaculture, petroleum or any other sensitive topic-of-the-day, it is his view that our culture of polarized opinion is our greatest obstacle. Would a print from "Not Quite Clear Cut" find a home in the offices of the West Fraser Timber Company as equally as the headquarters of ForestEthics? He'd like to think so. At least that way they'd have one thing in common and that would be a start.

Dave Roman is one of the compelling local artists involved in Artists In Our Midst. Now in its nineteenth year, Artists in Our Midst kicks off with The Roundhouse Exhibit, a dynamic two-day group exhibit and sale at the Roundhouse Community Centre featuring over 60 artists. This is followed by Open Studios, a weekend of touring studios and artist-created galleries throughout Vancouver's west side. The first of such groups in Vancouver, this exciting and dynamic community event is a great opportunity to engage with artists and patrons alike.

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