

GREENPEACE

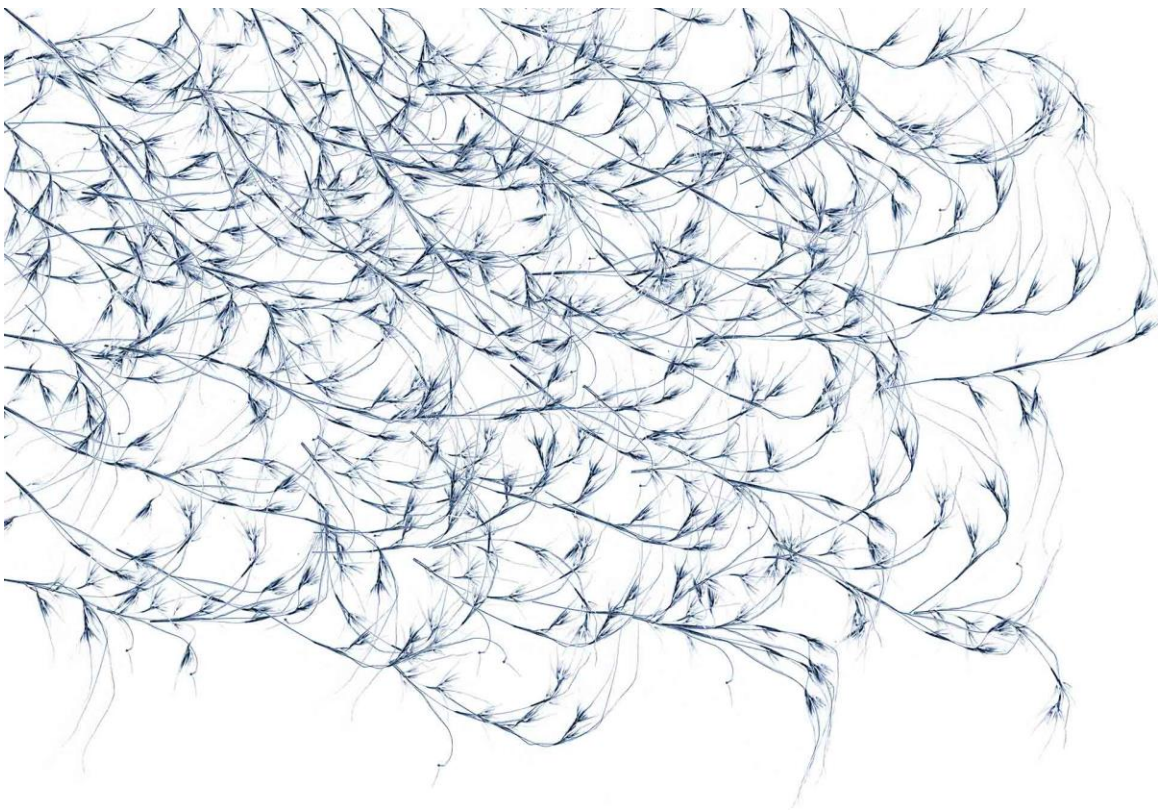
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The archiving of Edens

on 12 May 2017 , picture: Dornith Doherty

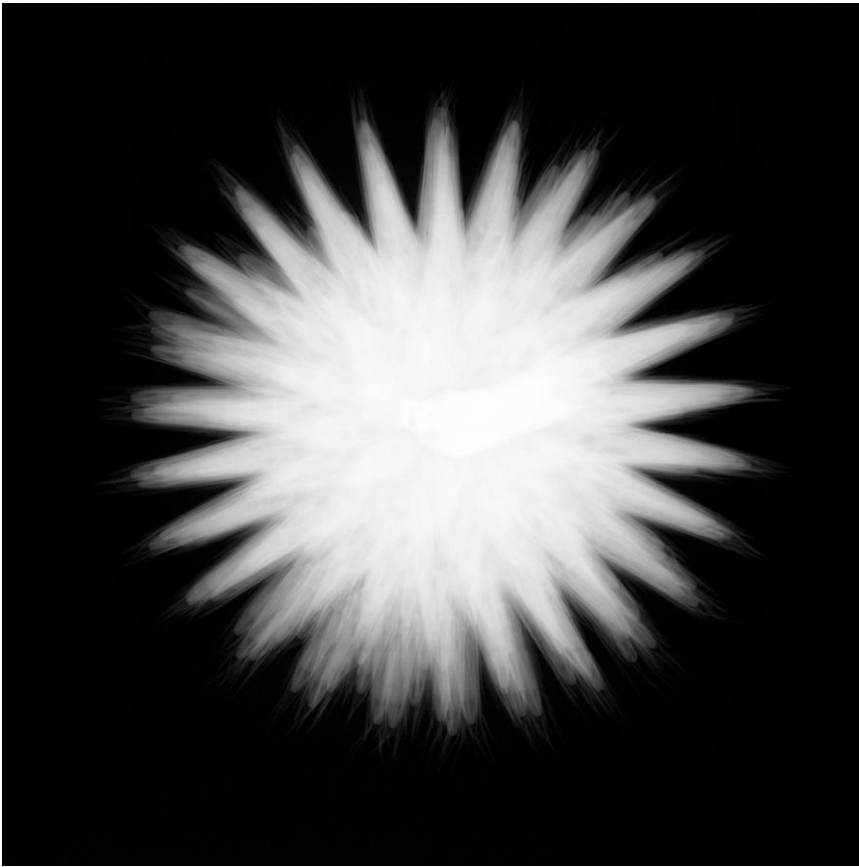
Nothing seems to exist in the arctic cold of the seed vault on Spitzbergen. And yet - frozen in the eternal ice is the cradle of our vegetable life. Archived for a future in which mankind is dependent on a botanical reboot. The photographer Dornith Doherty gives us a look into the archives of nature with her poetic photos "Archiving Eden".

Since 2008 Dornith Doherty cooperates with the most extensive seed banks around the world. This is also the case with the aforementioned seed vault on Spitzbergen , the National Center for the Conservation of Genetic Resources in Colorado and the Millennium Seed Bank of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, in England.



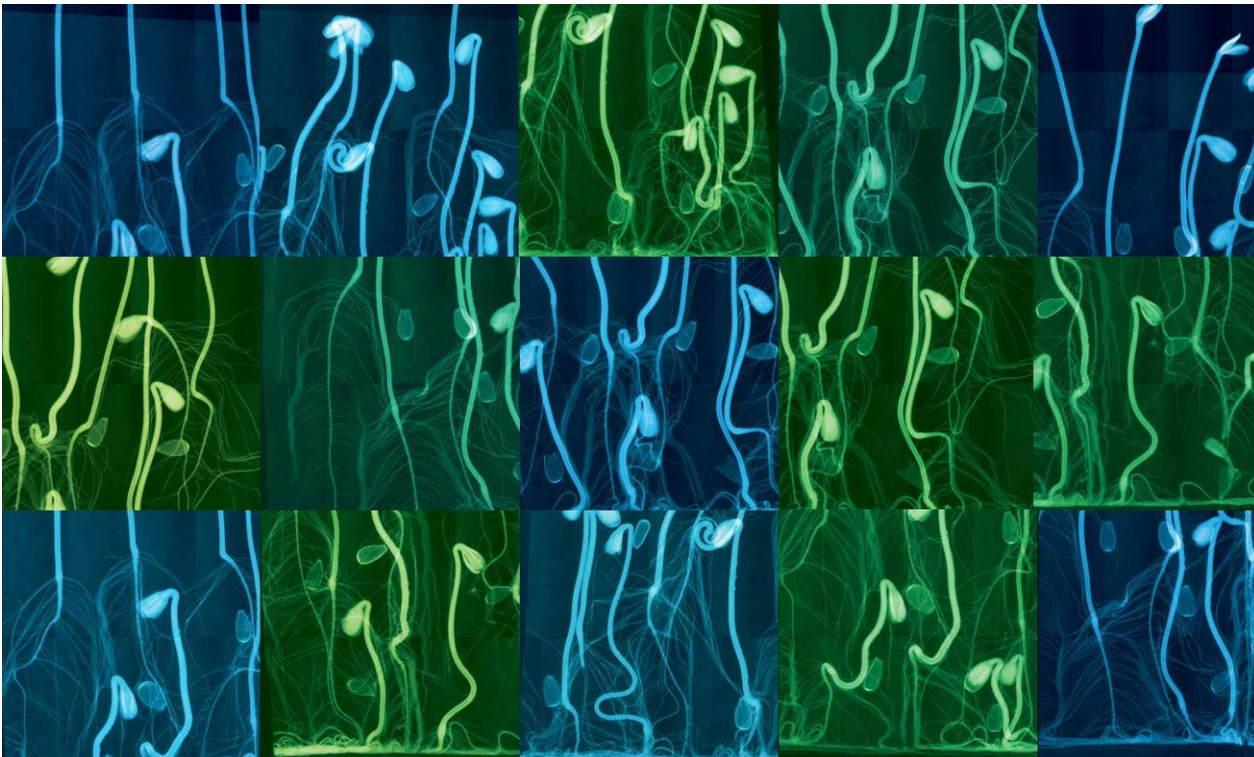
Kangaroo Grass (2014, Recorded at the Plant Bank, Australia)

In today's age of climate change and the decline of biodiversity, seed banks play an important role in the conservation of genetic plant diversity. The seed banks explore the biology of the seed, collect seeds and keep them in safe containers for possible use in the undefined future.



seed head

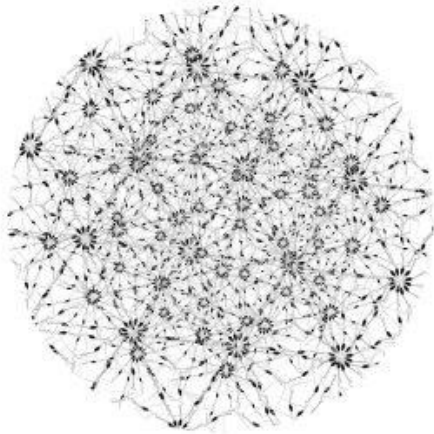
"I am impressed by the power of these tiny plantlets and seeds (often not bigger than a grain of sand!) To make life." (Doherty). Seed banks use X-ray technology to assess the viability of the seed received. With this technique, Doherty first collects individual seeds and tissue samples and then combines them into image collages. The x-ray images make things visible which otherwise remain invisible to the human eye.



Sunflowers (2009)

The seeds of the seed banks can germinate even after centuries of inactivity and become new plantlets. This is the ability of the seed banks. On the whole scale of micro - and macro - recordings, we follow the photographer in her reflections on the role of science and molecular databases.





The photographer: Dornith Doherty, born in Houston, Texas in 1957. Her photos have been exhibited world-wide, including the Amon Carter Museum of American Art, PhotoFest, Houston, Texas, the Encuentros Abiertos Photography Biennial in Buenos Aires. Their work has also been published in countless magazines. In 2012 she was a scholarship holder of the Guggenheim Foundation. Currently, she lives in Southlake and is a Distinguished Research Professor for Art at the University of North Texas. Her new book "Archiving Eden" will be published this spring at Schilt Publishers in Amsterdam.



The Greenpeace magazine is also available as an app for Android and iOS.