Lakeside

Steven Tabor

2020 (a)



Lakeside

I have had the good fortune to spend many summers in Bouzigues, a small fishing village in the Languedoc region of the South of France. Bouzigues is on the Étang de Thau, or the Bassin de Thau, which is the largest of a string of lagoons (étangs) that stretch along the French coast from the Rhône River to the foothills of the Pyrenees and the border to Spain in the Languedoc-Roussillon. It is a large lake, about 21 km long and 8 km wide. The south bank is formed by the coastal strip from Sète to Cap d'Agde while the northern side has fishing villages dedicated to the production of oysters and mussels. There are harbours in the towns of Marseillan, Mèze and Bouzigues, with small shellfish ports and pleasure harbors on the northern shore.

The Étang de Thau has its own unique lifestyle. Life moves at a gentle pace, as the sea breathes life into its precious mussels and oysters. From the first rays of the morning sun to the orange glow of the setting sun, the light reflecting off of the Étang covers all in the magical warmth of the water's shadow.

This series pays tribute to the Étang de Thau. The images included in this series were taken in Bouzigues over the past twenty years. But the Etang is more than a mere lake. In my imagination, such a mythic body of water is populated by water nymphs, sirens, and mermaids. Accordingly, images of models portraying magical creatures are sprinkled liberally around the lakeside.



























































































































































