EVERYBODY TALKS ABOUT THE WEATHER

I get the news I need from the weather report
— Simon & Garfunkel, The Only Living Boy in New York

The following visual essay is based on an exhibition I curated for the Fondazione Prada in Venice in the spring of 2023 in the broader context of that year's Architecture Biennale. Staged inside the sumptuous interiors of the Fondazione's 18th-century Ca' Corner della Regina, the exhibition was rooted in the observation that. even though the current and ongoing climate crisis may well be the single greatest existential threat humankind has ever had to face in its 100.000ye ar history, it remains a subject, paradoxically enough, that is oddly absent from the broad sweep of mainstream art world attention; one might even make the claim that the climate crisis has yet to spawn its first great corpus of critically acclaimed masterpieces, whether in the realm of visual art, literature, or cinema. It is evidently the very enormity of this crisis that is one major cause of this misplaced paralysis and sense of powerlessness - an unwillingness,

in effect, to "talk about the climate crisis" which led me to suggest that we talk about the weather instead. Resorting to the seemingly mundane quotidian ritual of that most timeless and universal of discursive deeds. **Everybody Talks About the Weather** charts a modest history of art's meteorological imagination from the 16th century - the nadir of Europe's "little ice age" - to a present day that has become unimaginable without the endless reporting of one extreme weather event after another. Indeed, what do we really talk about when we talk about the weather? Can we ever regain the innocence with which the likes of Friedrich and Turner turned their gaze to the clouds, or do even Turner's cloudscapes already speak of a paradise forever lost to the advent and onslaught of anthropogenic climate change? The answers to these questions ("my friend") are blowing in the wind of our own making.

Dieter Roelstraete, Chicago, February 2024







Frozen Lagoon at Fondamenta Nuove 1708 (c. 1709)

Anonymous artists from the Veneto region

oil on canvas 95 × 129 cm Venice, Fondazione Querini Stampalia



jpg to01 (2022)

Thomas Ruff

inkjet, DiaSec Face, wooden frame 251 × 186 cm Ed. 01/04

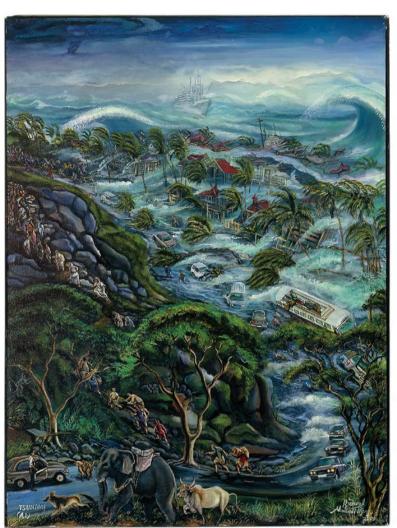
Courtesy the artist ©Thomas Ruff /VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2023 / SIAE 2023



Storm (1969)

Alix Ogé

oil on canvas 48.3 × 63.5 cm Stokes Haitian Art Photo: Glenn Stokes



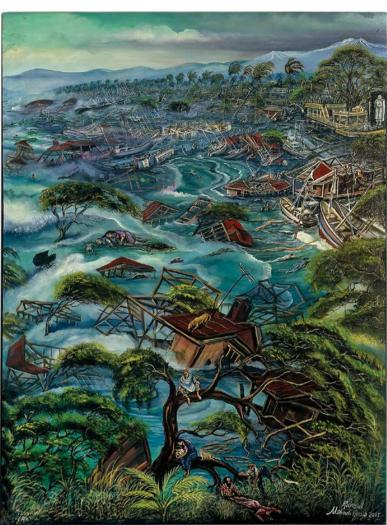


Tsunami (2005)

Richard Onyango

acrylic on canvas 160.5 × 365 cm Geneva, The Jean Pigozzi African Art Collection Courtesy The Jean Pigozzi African Art Collection Photo: Maurice Aeschimann, Geneva











Horizon II (2014)

Antony Gormley

carbon and casein on paper 19.5 × 28 cm © Antony Gormley, 2023



Time Immemorial – Other Shore (2016)

Yang Yongliang

film in lightbox, handmade wood box 20 × 20 cm (film size) Courtesy Yang Yongliang Studio



Untitled (Sky) (1975)

Vija Celmins

lithograph 42 × 52 cm Los Angeles, Cirrus Gallery & Cirrus Editions LTD Photo: Cirrus Gallery



Untitled (2018)

Chantal Peñalosa

6 diptychs from the overall artwork, inkjet prints on photographic paper 53 × 64 × 3 cm each
Courtesy Galería Proyectos Monclova & Chantal Peñalosa
Photo: Marco Cappelletti



Kinked Rain / Gold (2022)

Pae White

cotton, polyester, Lurex 250 × 390 cm Courtesy the artist and kaufmann repetto Milan / New York Photo: Andrea Rossetti



Untitled (indipendenza studio #3) (2012)

Fredrik Værslev

primer, spray paint, corrosion on cotton canvas 220 × 200 cm Private collection Photo: Marco Cappelletti







Untitled, 2023

Pieter Vermeersch

oil on marble 32 × 52 × 2 cm Courtesy the artist and P420, Bologna © Pieter Vermeersch by SIAE 2023



Troubled Air: Tribute to Sunn O))), 2023

Pieter Vermeersch

A specially commissioned site-specfiic installation Courtesy Galerie Greta Meert (Brussels), Galerie Perrotin (Paris, Hong Kong, New York, Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai, Dubai), ProjecteSD (Barcelona), and P420 (Bologna) Photos: Marco Cappelletti

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Deep Breath (2019/2022)

Raqs Media Collective

single screen digital video projection, 25'
Courtesy the artist and Frith Street Gallery, London
Deep Breath film still 2019/2022
© Raqs Media Collective, courtesy the artist and Frith Street Gallery, London



The Flood (2023)

Theaster Gates

colour video with sound 16'9" video still
Theaster Gates Studio © Theaster Gates Studio







Who Gave Us a Sponge to Erase the Horizon? (2022)

Goshka Macuga

woven tapestry 290 × 460 cm edition of 5 + 2 AP Courtesy the artist and Kate MacGarry, London © Goshka Macuga by SIAE 2023 Photo: Marco Cappelletti

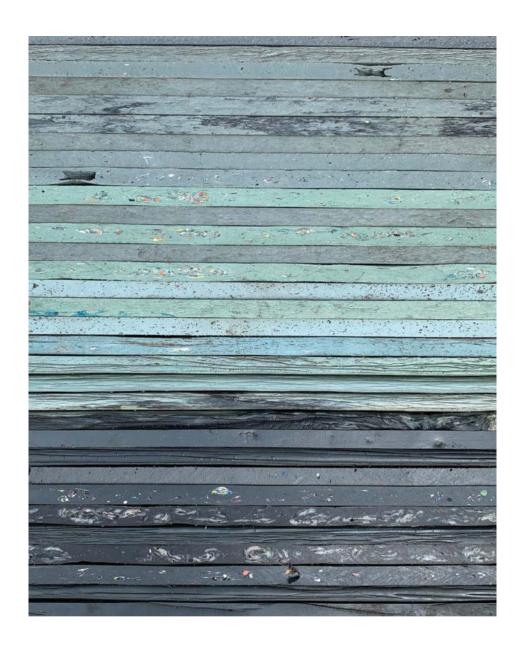


Going with Melting (2016)

Shuvinai Ashoona

coloured pencil and ink on paper 58.5 × 76.1 cm Toronto, Dorset Fine Arts

Courtesy the artist Photo: David Hannan



Plastic Horizon (w/distant weather event) (2014)

Dan Peterman

first generation post-consumer reprocessed plastics $40 \times 52 \times 6$ cm Courtesy the artist Dan Peterman, Peterman Studio, Chicago, Illinois USA Photo: Dan Peterman



How Does the World End (For Others)? (2022)

Beate Geissler & Oliver Sann

17 mounted and framed photographs, 37 mounted and framed typewritten pages

c. $1000 \times 2500 \times 50$ cm

© Beate Geissler & Oliver Sann by SIAE 2023

Photo: Marco Cappelletti



In Kashan, Iran, Pari Soltani dyed wool the color of night and wove the distance from above the weather to the earth Jason Dodge

Courtesy the artist and Galleria Franco Noero, Turin



Untitled (2023)

Vivian Suter

mixed media installation variable dimension © Vivian Suter

Courtesy the artist and Karma International, Zurich; Gaga, Mexico City; Gladstone Gallery, New York/Brussels; Proyectos Ultravioleta, Guatemala City; and Stampa, Basel

Photo: Marco Cappellitti







Interbeing Cloud 10.04 (2010)

Tsutomu Yamamoto

acrylic board, RGB, LED, glass, and MDF 91.2 × 45.7 × 11 cm Geneva, The Jean Pigozzi African Art Collection Courtesy The Jean Pigozzi African Art Collection Photo: Maurice Aeschimann, Geneva



Moody (2019)

Nina Canell

lightning rod spheres (foreground)
Courtesy the artist and kaufmann repetto Milan / NewYork
© Nina Canell by SIAE 2023
Photo: Marco Cappelletti



A Wet Finger in the Air (2021)

Tiffany Sia

single-channel video 60' in loop, infinite duration edition of 3 + 2 AP video still Courtesy the artist and FELIX GAUDLITZ, Vienna



You Don't Need a Weatherman (Version 3) (2017)

Iñigo Manglano-Ovalle

archival digital print mounted to panel Diptych: 84.5 x 110 cm each panel

Courtesy the artist Photo: Marco Cappelletti



Portrait of a Lady (c. 1640)

Carlo Francesco Nuvolone

oil on canvas 201.5 × 120 cm Bologna, Collezioni Comunali d'Arte – Musei Civici d'Arte Antica di Bologna Photo: Marco Cappelletti



Sun and Frost (1905–10)

Plinio Nomellini

oil on canvas 125 × 125 cm Novara, Galleria Giannoni, Musei Civici di Novara © Centro Documentazione Musei Civici



