madgnittoN Contemporary



Dear diary,

17/08/2073

This might be the last chance I am able to share my feelings with you for a long time, maybe even forever? Today, we were told that we must immediately evacuate our house because of the fires. All throughout town we would hear "Only bring essentials". Does that include you, too?

It's been half a year since the fires started, and there isn't really an end in sight. All the news has been talking about is how much they have spread and how unusual it is that the fires have lasted this long. They keep comparing it to the 'Black Summer' in Australia in 2019 when wildfires were as devastating as never before. I've stopped watching the news since it makes my anxiety feel worse.

Out of all the changes I miss going outside the most. As much as I enjoyed reading all my books and watching all the films that were available during electricity time, it just isn't the same. The smoke is still so toxic that we can't leave our houses and I feel like the atmosphere is slowly suffocating me.

I never thought I would look forward to this day, but maybe leaving home is our best option now. A few months ago, when they said the fires would never reach Nottingham city centre, I was still hopeful. All the memories I made here are just going to be eaten up by the flames as if they don't matter. That is why I decided to leave you here.

If you make it through this, there might be others who will find you and cherish you like I do. They can use you to write down their own feelings and make them infinite, just like I did. You might be the one to tell the next generation, if there even will be one...





...DON'T MAKE
THE SAME
MISTAKES WE DID



TOOMING HELL!

SHERWOOD FOREST FACES FATALITY IN STRIKING BLAZE

Grace Horton

FRIDAY 13" JANUARY 2073 · 12:30pm

A warm welcome to 2073 as a forest once full of life becomes the deadliest place in Nottinghamshire: the unforgettable forest fires that will forever change the UK.

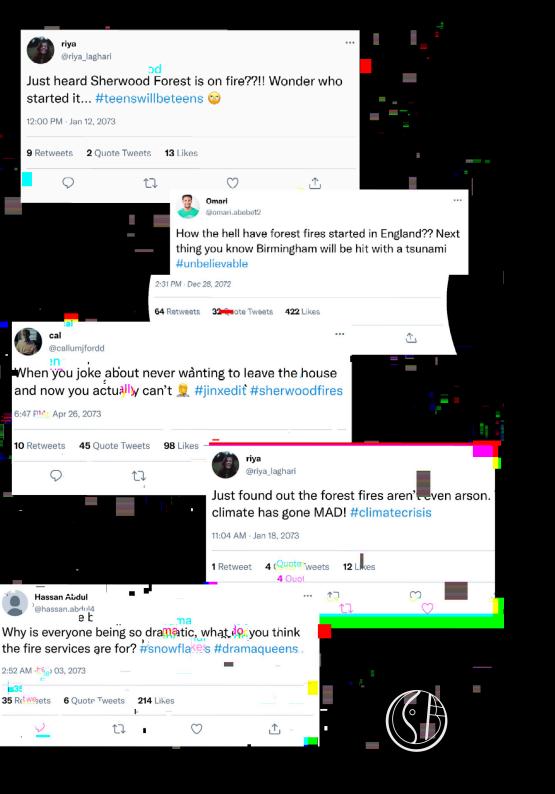
Home to hundreds of wildlife species, Sherwood now becomes one of many forests in the East Midlands to be affected by the extreme weather conditions rising rapidly across the UK. Alongside Bradgate Park in North Leicestershire. Sherwood Forest has seen over 75% of its flora

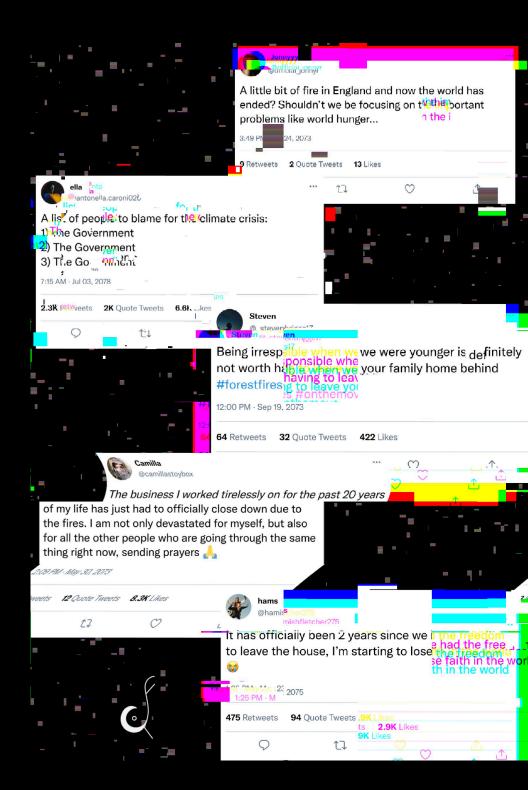
disintegrate in flames with no hope of regrowth in the near future. After many species were failing to cope under the UK's rising temperatures. one of the endangered native species living in Sherwood Forest the cardinal beetle - is now deemed extinct due to the wildfires.

On Wednesday evening, locals fled their homes in fear of the fires spreading, and many expressed that they, "feared for their future in Sherwood". One regular visitor to Sherwood Forest stated, "we need to take responsibility for this incident as our impact on global warming is getting far too out of hand — this should have been resolved decades ago!" He fears it may be too late to stop these extreme weather conditions from destroying the planet because of ongoing human irresponsibility. Scientists suggest that if carbon neutrality were to have been a key consideration in human action between 2010 and 2040, major effects on the climate would have been heavily reduced — abolishing the possibilities for these destructive forest fires.

All East Midlands citizens have been advised to stay indoors due to mounting air pollution from the fires. Deadly gasses are dispersing quickly and have forced certain areas into lockdown. With no hope of freedom within the next few weeks, residents are relying on the emergency services to provide them with necessities. However, with the spread of fires increasing, these services have spoken out to alert people to their immense struggles in doing so. It has been predicted that fires will not spread to Nottingham City Centre but may travel to northern parts of Nottinghamshire. Central Government have confirmed that measures to stop the fires entirely are underway. Nonetheless, all buildings and businesses have been compelled to temporarily close as part of extensive measures. Not only is this devastating to nature, but to the future of Nottingham's economy too.









EAST

We live in volatile times, the kind that will be laid down in history books. However, flat, static words might fall short of the rich and diverse experiences of the people. What do you think we will be remembered for by those who come after us? What legacy do you hope to leave behind?

Always explore the world around and within you. Think, talk and write about your experiences and ideas using these prompts. Share your ideas too at #response_5



LOOKING BEHIND THE CURTAIN AN INTERVIEW WITH PREMICRISH AMURTHY

BY LIANNE DAGAN, ELENA PRE-KOUADIO PART I

Prem Krishnamurthy is an artist and curator who was largely involved in the creation of Our Silver City 2094, an exhibition of art, artefacts and writing journeying through time into future worlds affected by climate change. He experiments with ways of making and displaying contemporary art. Here, Prem shares insights into his methods of curating art exhibitions, his inspirations and how climate crisis can be approached through art.



Photo: Peter Larson

Can you give us an overview of the methodology used to curate the exhibition, and were there any surprises along the way?

The exhibition has been in development for a number of years: it started in 2018 as part of a larger project that I call "Future of Futures". This represents a methodology for making exhibitions differently. Contemporary art exhibitions are often focused on individual artists and solo commissions; instead, the core idea of this project was to bring together a group of artists, designers, and a fiction writer who didn't already know each other in order to collaborate on an exhibition set in a potential future.

The methodology came out of my experience as a designer, curator, educator and consultant working with many different museums and creative people—including artists, architects, musicians, and others. It emerges out of my work over the past 20 years, yet it is also something I had never done quite this way before.

The show in Nottingham is a prototype. It's a way to test the methodology, to see how it works and understand how to improve the process. One of the things I believe is that final products don't exist in the world. There are only processes.

There was a lot that was unexpected about this exhibition

because this process had never been tested in this form before. It was much more difficult than I expected to bring people who didn't already have a working relationship together and expect them to develop a sense of trust in a short period—to be able to both express their own vision and artistic ideas, but also be open to the ideas of others.

So, I found that the first two workshops in 2019—before the pandemic began—were mostly about trying to create a sense of community, allowing everyone to get to know each other's creative practices and also becoming familiar and comfortable with each other. Of course, once the covid-19 pandemic hit, we had to do everything online, which changed the entire dynamic. I've learned a lot from this project.

What was it like curating an exhibition about Nottingham?

I had never visited Nottingham before the first workshop in 2019. It wasn't clear at the beginning that the show would specifically be about Nottingham. That decision by the team was

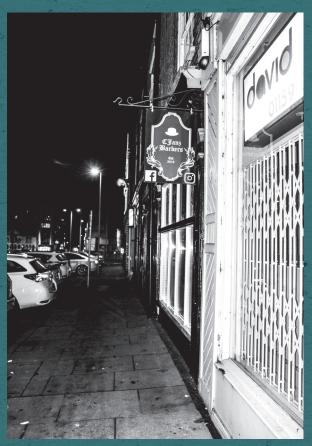


Photo: Emma Brown

a crucial one because. Even though it's a fictional show, my intention in initiating the project was for us to create something speculative that could nevertheless influence how people live and act today in the real world. I think that direct connection to Nottingham as a real city, a real place and a real set of communities gives it a more tangible, actionable feel.

Our Silver City 2094 is a hugely collaborative effort; were there particular artists or exhibitions that inspired you and informed the collaborative process and vision?

There's a long history of exhibitions as demonstration rooms for challenging social, political and artistic norms. There are also many significant 20th century exhibitions that involved groups of people coming together to collaboratively generate powerful spatial experiences. One of the most famous is the exhibition This is Tomorrow at the Whitechapel Gallery in 1956. This show featured groups of artists, designers and architects of the era coming together to

create visions for the future. Within the lineage of modernist avant-garde, you can look back at the 1920s to exhibitions such as those that El Lissitzky created. His work in the Soviet Union and Germany was highly influential on exhibition making at the time; he believed that artists could enact cultural change. His first "demonstration rooms" were made in Dresden and Hannover in the 1920s. These involved him curating other artists' work as well as prototyping interactive forms of exhibition display. The architecture changed the role of the viewer from passivity into engagement. Lissitzky used the phrase "the activated viewer" to describe how he wanted to create a sense of agency within an exhibition.



Photo: Installation by Céline Condorelli featuring works by Anna Barham, Revital Cohen and Tuur van Balen, Isa Genzken, Hannah Catherine Jones, Agnieszka Kurant, Delphine Reist, Ben Rivers, Cauleen Smith and specimens from Nottingham City Museums. Our Silver City, 2094 installation views at Nottingham Contemporary, 2021–22. Courtesy Nottingham Contemporary. Photo: Stuart Whipps.

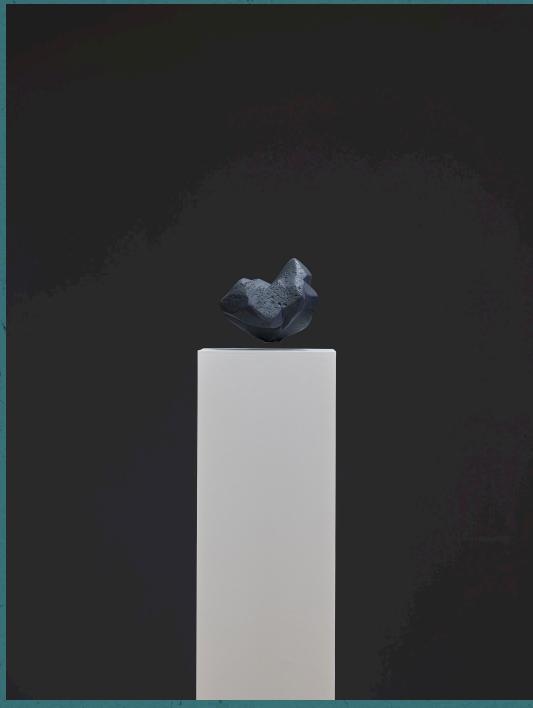


Photo: Installation by Céline Condorelli featuring works by Anna Barham, Revital Cohen and Tuur van Balen, Isa Genzken, Hannah Catherine Jones, Agnieszka Kurant, Delphine Reist, Ben Rivers, Cauleen Smith and specimens from Nottingham City Museums. Our Silver City, 2094 installation views at Nottingham Contemporary, 2021–22. Courtesy Nottingham Contemporary. Photo: Stuart Whipps.



Photo: Installation by Céline Condorelli featuring works by Anna Barham, Revital Cohen and Tuur van Balen, Isa Genzken, Hannah Catherine Jones, Agnieszka Kurant, Delphine Reist, Ben Rivers, Cauleen Smith and specimens from Nottingham City Museums. Our Silver City, 2094 installation views at Nottingham Contemporary, 2021–22. Courtesy Nottingham Contemporary. Photo: Stuart Whipps.

Can you describe the process of collaboration with Liz Jensen and how the role of the novella informs the exhibition themes?

In our early group workshops, Liz already suggested the idea that there would be a pandemic sometime in the near future. I remember our collective response was disbelief; it seemed so out there in the context of 2019! Liz eventually convinced us, and so we ended up having an initial fictional scenario in which Nottingham Contemporary had once been a quarantine house. Remember, this was in January 2020. We thought it was a far-away future.

Our scenario was set in the 2090s, when Nottingham Contemporary was now becoming a cultural institution again. Then, in reality, the pandemic hit, and we realized, oh my lord, our fictional scenario was almost too close to real life!

Liz has a lot of experience in worldbuilding from her novels, so she started by asking the team to describe details of specific things that they wanted to stand as facts in that future. Then she began to weave those together into a science-fiction scenario. One of the things we often talked about was that the fictional world had to be built

not from the top down, not from a single fact or overarching premise, but it had to be built from the bottom up and from many different positions. Anything in the world—any technology, any political situation—is created through many complex factors. Some of them would seem contradictory on paper, but you have to embrace that complexity and contradiction. If you make a fictional world too simple, then it is really just one-dimensional. In the end, this exhibition is a work in progress.

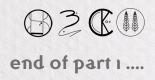
What does community mean to you?

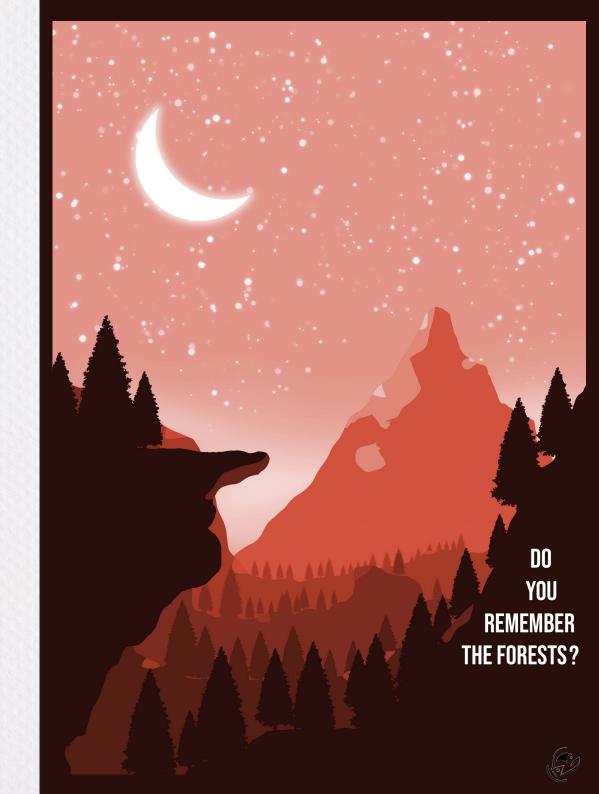
I think art is intrinsically connected to community. Particularly since the onset of the pandemic, I realised that the earliest examples of what we consider to be human art—for example, ancient cave paintings—were essentially about communing with different kinds of people or animals or spirits. Art in that first conception is a thing that brings together community is almost

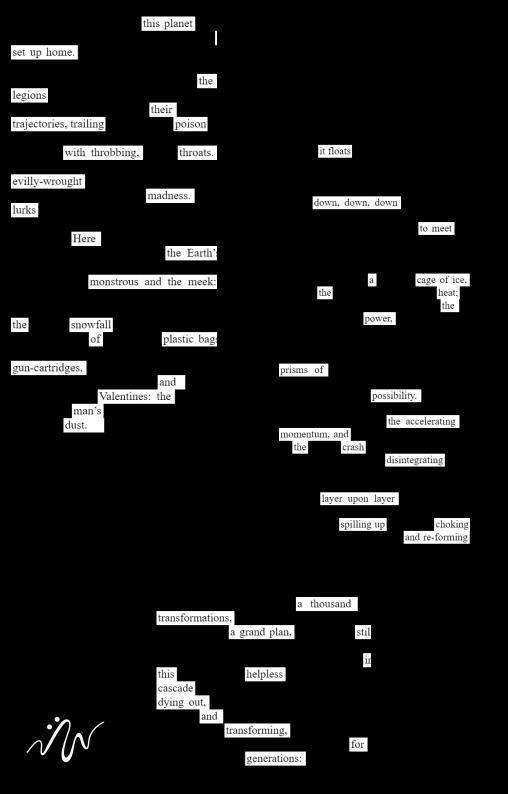
never singular. It's always plural: communities. I think more and more about how I and probably any person belongs not to one community but to many different ones that intersect. They represent different vectors that link us to others, whether to family, peers, professional connections or the people we see on the street and live with in our neighbourhoods.

Over the last several years, I've realised that art is fundamentally about building links between different kinds of individuals, creating those communities that might not already exist but are only implicit within a set of people.

I THINK ART IS INTRINSICALLY CONNECTED TO COMMUNITY.









In times of great joy and great pain, we rely on our own rituals and seek material and psychological sanctuaries.

Spaces where we feel understood and welcome to explore, make us devoted subjects. Where and when do you feel most safe? Envision your ideal sanctuary of comfort and understanding; how would you create it?

Always explore the world around and within you. Think, talk and write about your experiences and ideas using these prompts. Share your ideas too at #response_5



LOOKING BEHIND THE CURTAIN AN INTERVIEW WITH

PREM KRISHNAMURTHY

BY LIANNE DAGAN, ELENA PRE-KOUADIO PART II



Photo: Installation by Céline Condorelli featuring works by Anna Barham, Revital Cohen and Tuur van Balen, Isa Genzken, Hannah Catherine Jones, Agnieszka Kurant, Delphine Reist, Ben Rivers, Cauleen Smith and specimens from Nottingham City Museums. Our Silver City, 2094 installation views at Nottingham Contemporary, 2021–22. Courtesy Nottingham Contemporary. Photo: Stuart Whipps.

How did you feel seeing the exhibition installed after the long process of planning? How did it compare to your expectations?

When I arrived for the final week of installation, many things were already prepared and in process. I have to say: it was thrilling! One of the things about an exhibition installation is that it represents the moment when many different people come together with different objects and ideas into a single space. This is when you negotiate how to inhabit that space and what will happen through this intersection. There are moments

when you have all these artists in the same gallery together with all these artworks; things are moving around and changing meaning depending on their configuration. You're trying to discover what makes the most sense. That is a great moment. It made me realize that this is really why I do exhibition-making. It's for the process of making an exhibition with other people.

So, in every way, the exhibition exceeded my expectations, although I also tried to separate myself from a sense of fixed expectations of any kind. There were many points during the process that were really challenging; there were

moments where I thought, why are we doing this? Is this project worth it? Is it going to come off OK? What if the exhibition is a total failure? What if this group of people can't work together well? What if everybody hates it? These are the kinds of questions that went through my brain during the two-or three -year process.

One of the most amazing moments during the opening days was when a class of school children who had worked with artist Femke Herregraven came into the gallery. They were coming to see her installation,

and they were just ecstatic and overjoyed. They experienced being part of the exhibition and contributing to Femke's work. And I think to myself: maybe in 2094, in 72 years, one of those small children will be in their 70s or even 80s, they'll remember something from this exhibition they saw in 2021. They will be reminded of it in their current world and may recall having been part of an exhibitionmaking process. In that way, they may think about their futures and the futures of others differently. There's no way for me to know whether that will happen or not, but it's my profoundest wish.



Photo: Wet Spells, 2021 Installation by Femke Herregraven. Our Silver City, 2094. Installation shot at Nottingham Contemporary, 2021. Photo: Stuart Whipps.

THE MOST MEANINGFUL ART CREATES NEW WAYS OF LIVING AND OF INTERACTING WITH THE WORLD. WHEN I SAY ART, I MEAN THIS IN AN EXPANSIVE WAY—TO INCLUDE DESIGN, LITERATURE, FILM, MUSIC, AND OTHER FORMS. ALL OF THESE THINGS OFFER UP NEW POSSIBILITIES BEYOND WHAT WE THINK OF AS BEING IN THE PRESENT, AND THAT THAT'S THE KIND OF THINKING NEEDED RIGHT NOW.

The current cultural climate crisis informs the novella, so why curate a fictional work to convey the non-fiction of the climate crisis?

One of the things that fiction—particularly science-fiction or speculative fiction—can offer is enough distance to remove ourselves from a current scenario. It helps us to reflect on the present differently than being confronted by facts or arguments.

It's true, we could have made an exhibition focused on the climate crisis, presenting what is happening already, but having this removal in terms of the time frame and future projection allowed us—and hopefully viewers-to experience a different perspective on it. When we came together for the workshops, there was a real sense of being overwhelmed. I think that sometimes it is not easy to envision other possibilities because you're so trapped in the moment. The climate crisis is all over Liz's novella, but it's seen as something that people learn to adapt to and hopefully also try to change. It offers an opening for action rather than just prompting feelings of guilt, or turning around in circles, which I think is what often happens when people are confronted with the facts of climate crisis today.

THE IDEA THAT THIS PROCESS MIGHT SPARK SOMETHING THAT CAN ALTER THE WORLD IS MEANINGFUL TO ME BECAUSE I THINK THAT, IN A WAY, ALL ART IS SCIENCE FICTION.

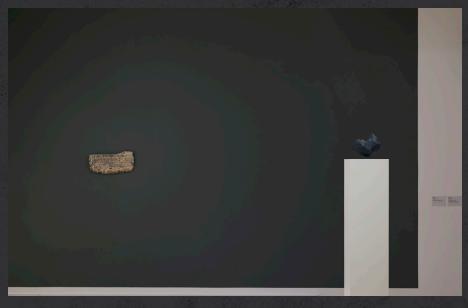


Photo: Installation by Céline Condorelli featuring works by Anna Barham, Revital Cohen and Tuur van Balen, Isa Genzken, Hannah Catherine Jones, Agnieszka Kurant, Delphine Reist, Ben Rivers, Cauleen Smith and specimens from Nottingham City Museums. Our Silver City, 2094 installation views at Nottingham Contemporary, 2021–22. Courtesy Nottingham Contemporary. Photo: Stuart Whipps.

What will be the most significant change in the role of art in 2094 if community becomes an increasingly impersonal and digital experience?

My hope is that the world doesn't become an increasingly digital and impersonal experience. The world that we projected for 2094 is one in which the role of digital media is reduced quite strongly from its present-day role. Who knows whether that will be the case? I would like to see art as playing

an even more integral role in life. Rather than thinking of art as something that happens only in a museum or only in a specific context, it is a way of looking at the world with possibility, curiosity, and the ability to bring unusual approaches to a situation while also being responsive. I hope that, rather than being about finished products or pretty surfaces, art could represent a more fundamental way of viewing and being part of the world.



Photo: Installation by Céline Condorelli featuring works by Anna Barham, Revital Cohen and Tuur van Balen, Isa Genzken, Hannah Catherine Jones, Agnieszka Kurant, Delphine Reist, Ben Rivers, Cauleen Smith and specimens from Nottingham City Museums. Our Silver City, 2094 installation views at Nottingham Contemporary, 2021–22. Courtesy Nottingham Contemporary. Photo: Stuart Whipps.

OUR CONTEMPORARY WORLD TENDS TO DISSUADE US FROM THINKING ABOUT HOW THINGS ARE MADE. WE ARE NOT ENCOURAGED TO CONSIDER THE PROCESS. ONCE WE START TO THINK ABOUT THE LABOUR INVOLVED IN IT, WHO PRODUCED IT, AND UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS, IT BECOMES MUCH MORE COMPLEX AND CHALLENGING. FOR ME, THAT MOMENT OF SELF-REFFLEXIVITY IS A REALLY IMPORTANT FIRST STEP TOWARDS MAKING AN **EXHIBITION THAT I HOPE** INSPIRES PEOPLE TO THINK ABOUT WHO MADE IT, HOW, AND WITH WHAT INTENTION.

When did you first become interested in climate change? And is it important to know how effective it is to raise awareness of the climate crisis through art?

Climate change has been part of my consciousness for a long time. Yet I have to say that probably 10 years ago, it would have seemed very abstract to me. I had read books, seen it in the media, but I didn't have a sense of how I as an individual could influence its course. I think in the last decade it has become far more palpable and present for me personally. There are big, complex systems driving

climate change. How can any individual have an impact on them? For me, it was around 2015 that I realised that the part of the problem that I could address and think about is the interpersonal part of it. I believe that one of the things that's really important to understand about climate change and the situation we have beenin over the past several centuries is a rise of the idea of the pure individual'.

It's an idea of individualism, that is highly problematic.
Increasingly, the social, political, economic, and consumerist systems that we exist in try to atomize us and make each person feel like their own little unit. There are many other

cultures, older cultures and those that still exist today, which are more community-oriented, that emphasize the connections and interdependencies between people. I grew up in the United States of America, which, I think, represents the absolute pinnacle of the false idea of the autonomous individual. I started to feel like the thing that I could contribute to the discourse was to practice different ways of working together and also, new ways to bring people who are different from one another into a shared context. That's the way I felt most able to address climate change.

CLIMATE

Climate change is causing a refugee crisis.

Around 50% of all carbon emissions are emitted by richest 10% of the world's population, yet global warming is making climate change refugees of the world's climate change Island is a threat to poorest. Garbage Island is a threat to marine life, which faces irreparable damage from the millions of tonnes of plastic waste that end up in the oceans every year.

Stacey Budd, Ecotricity.co.uk

- Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Group

Nottinghamshire

has lost 97% of

its flower-rich meadows since

the 1930s, and 90% of its

heathland since

the 1920s.

More than 1 million species are at risk of extinction by climate change. Climate change is shifting the seasons and the world has been aware of climate change at least since the IPCC (UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) was formed in 1988.
Earthday.org, 2021

By 2015 we had produced 6 billion tonnes of plastic waste, yet only 9% has ever been recycled. 79% of that waste has ended up in landfill or our environment, and the remaining 12% has been incinerated.

Geyer, R., Jambeck, J.R. and Kara, L.L., 2017. Production, use, and fate of all plastics ever made. Science Advances, 3 (7), e1700782.

FACT FILE

TWO-THIRDS OF GLOBAL POPULATIONS
OF MAMMALS, BIRDS, AMPHIBIANS,
REPTILES AND FISH HAVE BEEN LOST
ON AVERAGE SINCE 1970.

WWF (2020) LIVING PLANET REPORT
2020







THE WORLD'S
LARGEST FLEET OF
BIO-GAS BUSES.



The Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets have decreased in mass. Data from NASA's Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment show Greenland lost an average of 279 billion tonnes of ice per year between 1993 and 2019, while Antarctica lost about 148 billion tonnes of ice per year.

Climate.nasa.gov

2016 AND 2020 ARE TIED FOR THE WARMEST YEARS ON RECORD.

THE YEARS

CLIMATE.NASA.GOV



I find myself gravitating to those capable of standing tall. Those who still spread messages of hope and survival and aren't afraid of being heard. They want to climb right up and live again. Beneath my own stillness, I know there is something like that in me. As each day passes, I am becoming more aware of it — a spark trying to burn bright. For now, it smolders quietly, but I can feel it wants to riot and claw itself out of me. To join with the voices of the ones who don't want to give up, who want to salvage our lives from the destruction.

The fog is here, the ash and dust of everything. I miss the fiery red. I want to see it again.

GALLERY

VISITORS'

INTERVIEW/S

What were you expecting from your visit today?

'I was just expecting to see some art I guess.'

'I was definitely expecting some kinda dystopian analysis relating to current day situations, but I wasn't expecting what I have seen today, it kinda blew me away a bit.'

'I feel like you shouldn't expect anything from art.'

'We didn't know that there was gonna be anything on, but I just knew that I wanted to come here. We were just exploring around and knew that we were gonna come for a drink and were surprised completely that there was something to walk into.'

'We are photography students, and our teacher always tells us whenever there's a new exhibit we should just come by and have a see. We were just having a look about.'

'No idea what I was walking into.'

What did you enjoy most?

'I liked the semi-immersive element of the weather room, where you can kind of pick up a stone and put it down. That sort of inclusivity of the audience or people viewing the space.'

'The Zen place (North Gallery), that's where I felt something.'

'With a lot of films, it makes it very inclusive for different types of learners as well. So having things as films instead, sticks so much better for me. I think that's why I've enjoyed it so much. I love that.'

'It felt really explorative. It was innate to be curious about it and it just seemed natural to explore the art and the room.'

'I liked the weather exhibit because it was interactive, it was different, and it appealed to lots of different senses. Sight and sound and touch. And I loved the fossils in there, they were lovely.'

'I think the interactive stuff because you get really drawn into things. That one in there (South Gallery) you really get absorbed with the sounds that are coming in. You get lost in it, it's really cool.'



Wet Spells, 2021 Installation by Femke Herregraven. Our Silver City, 2094. Installation shot at Nottingham Contemporary, 2021. Photo: Stuart Whipps



Installation by Céline Condorelli featuring works by Anna Barham, Revital Cohen and Tuur van Balen, Isa Genzken, Hannah Catherine Jones, Agnieszka Kurant, Delphine Reist, Ben Rivers, Cauleen Smith and specimens from Nottingham City Museums. Our Silver City, 2094 installation views at Nottingham Contemporary, 2021-2022. Courtesy Nottingham Contemporary. Photo: Stuart Whipps

'I loved how the whole thing was just super immersive. The second room, the noise in there just made me feel like I was almost out of it, in a different world. I was completely separated from everything because I was so immersed in what was going on in there.'

'I think we all really like this room (West Gallery) obviously we all like what was in it, but how it was curated as well. There was a really nice carpet and then you could sit down and look around. They have the little paper pamphlet instead of

having the little signs all around, so the whole room was just dedicated to art. Which was really nice.'

What was your first response to the exhibition?

'I was walking around there, and my first reaction was wow! It's nothing like I have ever seen before, it was amazing and so different. It kind of intrigued me to a point where I wanted to find out more.' 'It was comfortable, I was willing to stay here for a long time.'

'It was just wow, a kinda glaring space and very minimalist, but also very cluttered at the same time so that you just walk through the spaces wanting to learn more.'

'It was kind of obvious what they were going for, I suppose, which is not a bad thing. It's about climate change and nature and the involvement of nature in our world.'

'I would say that at first, we didn't really know what was happening. But as we went on, everything kinda pieced together so you work it out as you go along.'

'Just coming in the front door and walking through those rooms and the secret room – obviously going through the curtain; it has felt like we passed through a few worlds to get to the café, but then it wasn't open. But that's what happens on an unexpected journey isn't it?'

'Woah this is so cool.'

'It's quite different to what I was expecting.'

'I was really impressed; I watched

a couple of the short videos first and they were really interesting. I didn't know what I was watching.'

'The floating rock is incredible; I've never seen anything like it in my life.'

Are you taking anything new with you?

'I just want to do something about all of this, actively wanting to write a story that makes people think and reflect on a time that has been difficult and is only getting more difficult.'

'All these people are trying so hard to change things. And the changes that we're kind of looking for aren't necessarily happening and they need to happen. It's interesting to have an exhibition where instead of it being an alternate timeline where this is what could have happened maybe in 1990, for example, instead of that they're going NO! we're going to completely make this up. And we're going to base it on currently tangible things.'

'Seeing the videos in the first gallery and how it was taking place in 2008, you hear it like that and think 'Oh my goodness!' that could have been in the history books, what if it is one day? It's always the necessary instigation of fear in the

audience member that makes them want to do something.'

'I think the exhibition achieves pretty well what it's trying to do. In terms of the conversation that it's trying to simulate about climate change and the possibility of what could've been if we didn't destroy our planet. I do get the future aspect, but I think it's too optimistic to be true. I don't necessarily agree with it, but I get the conversation it's trying to have. I just don't know if it's necessarily what's going to happen.'

'I think it opened up different conversations about things.'

'Art always makes me think. Even

stuff I don't particularly like, it makes me reflect. If anything, it makes me think about things even if the art doesn't particularly appeal to me, I recognize the skill that goes into creating it.'

'It definitely evoked an emotion in me, I don't quite know what it is, but it was very thoughtful. It makes you want to do art.'

'It's inspiring in a way. It makes you want to go make stuff like that.'

'Just sort of inspiration for my own work or things that I could do.'

'I wouldn't go that far but it was very impressive.'



The Temple, 2021 installtion designed by Grace Ndiritu featuring works by Annie Albers, Split Wood, 1983; Elisabeth Wild, Fantasías, 2020; Chiari Camoni, Canopic Jar, 2020; Andrea Zittel, Material Manifestation: Single Strand Radiation, 2010; Armando D. Cosmos, Sheltering the Future, 2019. Our Silver City, 2094 installation view at Nottingham Contemporary, 2021–22. Courtesy: the actist and Nottingham Contemporary, Photo: Struct Whipps

Sum up the exhibition in a few words?

'Attractive and easy to understand.'

'Very different but interesting.'

'Eventful, tasteful, original.'

'Intriguing and thought provoking.'

'Pretentious and fun.'

'It's interesting. You wouldn't see stuff like this on a daily basis. It's a different perspective on life.'

'It was very calming in all the rooms.'

'Challenging, interesting, emotional.'

'Zen Mystique.'

'Immersive, cool.'

'Thoughtful and emotive.'

'Well put together.'

'Martian and otherworldly, felt like a journey through another world or a parallel sort of universe.'

'Immersive, futuristic and very cool.'

'A really cool concept.'

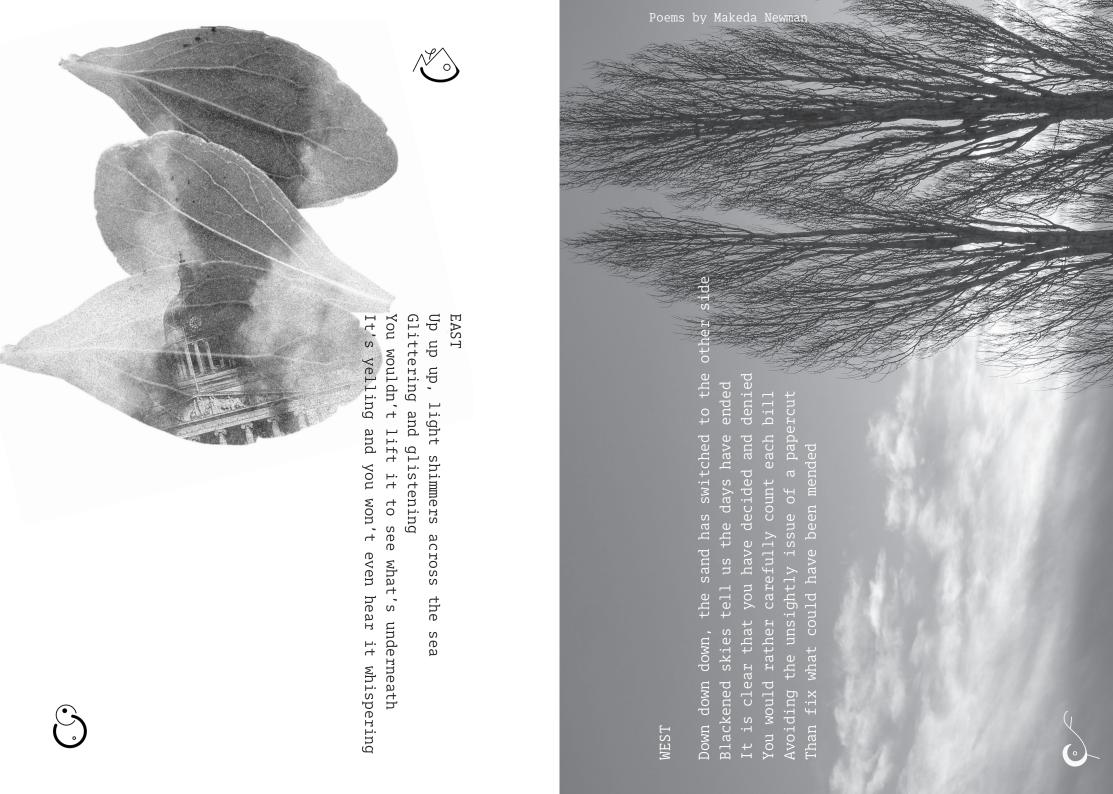
'Thoughtful. It's as if it's been made in the future, it gets you thinking will it be like this?'











MEGAN CROOK

OF GET CROOKED

BY JADE BRAMLEY

Get Crooked is a Nottingham-based colour-loving cornucopia of all things dressing up! They make garments to empower the wearer, with inclusivity and sustainability at the heart of who they are and what they do.

Can you explain what sustainability means to your business and what inspired you to strive for sustainability?

I think sustainability is really important, not just in terms of our everyday life, but for me, sustainability in terms of the business has evolved and grown over time. It started with me just being a bit of a hoarder of fabric and not getting rid of off-cuts, but not having the time to reuse everything. So, I now organise our fabric waste so that it can be utilised either by ourselves or someone else. And importantly, being in this space here, we run fully on renewable green energy.

We also make to order because it's more economical for us to work that way, rather than ending up with too much stock. We reduce our waste by cutting things individually rather than in massive bulk. We also make use of our remnants and donate what we can't use. For example, I had 10 boxes of knit swatches accumulated from doing trade shows, and we've used all of them and donated some to the university for their students. I just think it's important to just use what we can and then let go of what remains by responsible means.



Do you have advice for individuals or other small businesses on sustainability?

I think obviously it's going to be different for every business. For us, we changed our packaging years ago. I used these amazing mail bags that looked like disco balls - they were so cool. A customer said, 'it's pretty, but is it recyclable?', and that completely was a wake-up call. I decided it looks great, but I'd rather it be less pretty but be more sustainable. So now we use eco packaging. Our mail bags are all compostable as they're made from sugarcane.

How do you incorporate inclusivity into your work and your business? What does it mean to you?

For me, feel-good fashion is so important. I want everyone to feel fabulous. Everyone has the right to feel fabulous and what you wear has a big impact on how you feel about yourself. And so I make clothes for everyone, and that means for all budgets, all sizes and all ages. It's really important and that's part of why we also make to order, because it means that we can make items in extra small and XXL and every size in between - to be accessible for everyone. That, to me, is inclusivity and accessibility.





I think a lot of made-to-order places price-up when the sizes go up. But you guys just keep the same flat price, no matter the size.

We do that because I don't want to come across as sizeist. It does cost more in material to make larger sizes however we make use of our remnants and get a bit more creative with your what's called Lay Plan in terms of fitting in as much as possible.

How important is the vibrancy and colour that you incorporate into your designs?

Colour is life, and pure vitality. Colour therapy is real and I feel happier wearing colour and being surrounded by colour. I think colour is such an important part of life. I wear really bright, colourful clothes, I'm 37, but dress like a teenager. It lets people know I mean no harm, I'm friendly, approachable, and I want to be perceived as this.

I've noticed on your Instagram that you include your team and they seem to be very involved in the business. Tell me about your team and how you work together.

There are currently six of us: two part-time seamstresses, a fashion and textile assistant, a social media and marketing assistant, and a studio assistant who helps with admin. I am the team leader and creative director. It takes a whole village to build something special and I want that to be reflected in what the public see. It's not all about me and my dreams; our customers support these amazing and talented women by shopping with us. I couldn't do it without them and am so grateful for my rainbow queens. Everyone is involved in the creative process and it's wonderful to be making products that we all genuinely love.

Are there any difficulties with running a small business - especially after everything that's happened due to Covid-19?

Wearing many different hats as a small business owner can be exhausting. It's like when you see a swan floating gracefully on the water but then under the surface, they are paddling for their life. It's hard to get that balance between work time and just normal everyday life because work life doesn't really stop.

What do you love about running a small business in Nottingham?

I love being able to express myself creatively - it's just amazing. And I do feel very lucky to be able to do that. It's so much easier here in Nottingham because I feel like I've been accepted into the Nottingham creative and independent community with like open arms and it's invaluable. I love Nottingham. You can dress how you want and however you feel comfortable - you don't have to think twice about what you're wearing. I just feel completely accepted here.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO THINK TWICE ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE WEARING. I JUST FEEL COMPLETELY ACCEPTED HERE.

Can you share some of the future plans for Get Crooked?

We're planning some really exciting things for the year including using the space more for workshops, collection launch parties, hosting more sample sales and bringing back festivals. We're very excited about the future.

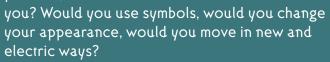






SOUTH

Bees dance, birds sing, trees send messages through complex fungal networks. The world is alive with connections and language spreads far beyond the limitations of words. If you could share your thoughts and feelings in any way possible, how would you? Would you use symbols, would you change



Always explore the world around and within you. Think, talk and write about your experiences and ideas using these prompts. Share your ideas too at #response_5





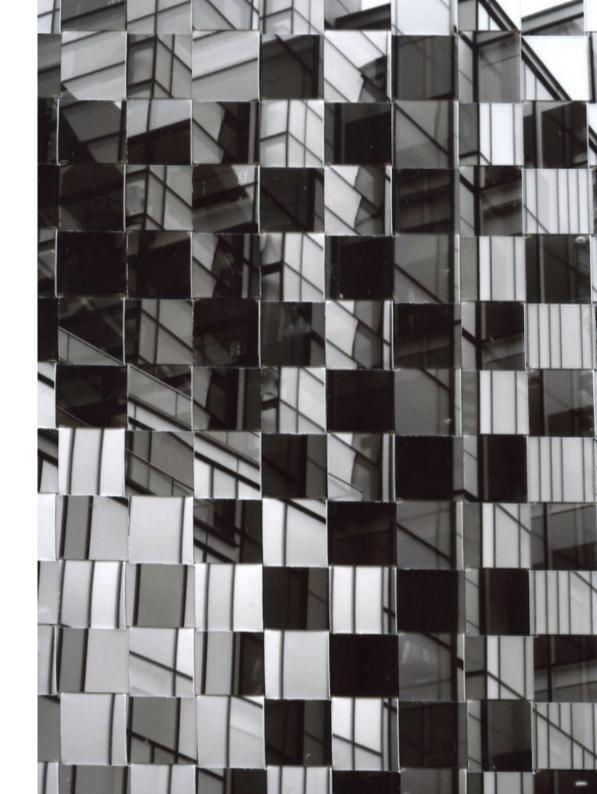
DID YOU VOTE FOR THIS?



by Olivia-Rose Barns

These images were created using a technique of weaving together two photographs that combine into one single image. Artist Grace Ndiritu, featured in Our Silver City 2094, presents a selection of artworks and artefacts, including intricate woven textiles. This inspired me to develop ways I could produce woven images for reproduction in print and as limited-edition inserts. I have woven together photographs of Nottingham showing the structure of buildings and sunsets I photographed whilst studying in Nottingham.



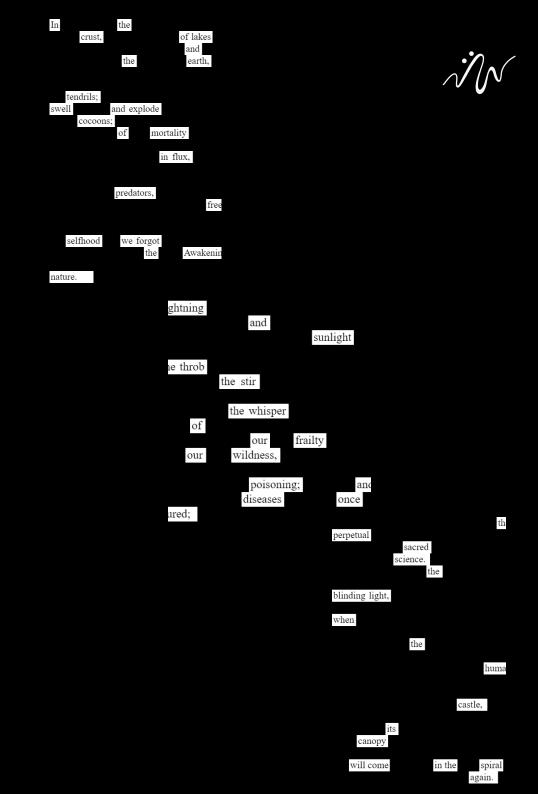


HOW TO WEAVE AN INAGE

OF ANY MATERIALS ARE INTERLACED TO CREATE NEW MESHED SURFACES OR FORMS. TRY MAKING YOUR OWN WOVEN IMAGE FROM THE PAGES OF THIS BOOK:

- **STEP 1** Cut a page of this book to make long strips.
- **STEP 2** Divide the strips into two piles one set will be horizontal and the other will be vertical.
- STEP 3 Weave the strips in and out of each other using glue to stick them so they stay in place.
- **STEP 4** Once finished glue all the ends to secure it.
- STEP 5 Cut the ends if you want it to feel neat. You have made a woven image!

Share your woven images using #response_5



CLIMATE CHANGE

"There are many reasons why people resist bad news, but a major driver here is fear. Fear that our current way of a major driver here is fear. Fear that our current way of life is unsustainable. Fear that addressing the issue will limit economic growth. Fear that if we accept government ineconomic growth. Fear that addressing the issue will limit income accept government ineconomic growth. Fear that addressing the issue will limit income accept government ineconomic growth. Fear that addressing the issue will limit income accept government ineconomic growth. Fear that addressing the issue will limit income accept government ineconomic growth. Fear that addressing the issue will limit income accept government ineconomic growth. Fear that if we accept government ineconomic growth in growth ineconomic growth. Fear that if we accept government ineconomic growth ineconomic growth in growth ineconomic growth ineconomic growth in growth ineconomic growth in growth ineconomic growth in growth ineconomic growth in growth in growth i

Washington, H. (2013). Climate change denial: Heads in the sand. Routledge.

Every six to seven years, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issues a summary of the state of scientific research into climate change. Over the last few decades, their statements on the human contribution to recent global warming have grown increasingly definitive, from "a discernible human influence on the global climate" in the Second Assessment Report (Houghton et al. 1996) to "human influence has been the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20th century" in the Fifth Assessment Report (pp17, Qin et al 2014).

Cook, J. (2022). Understanding and countering misinformation about climate change. Research Anthology on Environmental and Societal Impacts of Climate Change, 1633-1658.

FACT FILE

Direct observations made on, and above Earth's surface show the planet's climate is significantly changing. Human activities are the primary driver of those changes.

"Scientific evidence for warming of the climate system is unequivocal"

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

The Nottinghamshire Woodheat project is saving around 6,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions per year.

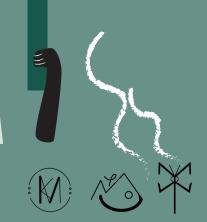
Nottinghamshire City Council

Although Indigenous peoples make up only 5% of the world's population, they support around 80% of all global biodiversity. However, they also suffer disproportionately from the consequences of climate change and damage to the environment.

UNFCCC 2019, Values of Indigenous peoples can be a key component of Climate resilience.
Siham Drissi 2020, UNEP

IN 2018, UIC HOMES THREW AWAY 6.6 MILLION TONNES OF FOOD, 68% OF WHICH WAS STILL EDIBLE.

WASTE AND RESOURCES ACTION PROGRAMME (WRAP), 2021



16TH SEPTEMBER 2087
INTERVIEW WITH WORLD-RENOWNED GALLERY
DIRECTOR AND CURATOR TAKASHI BY EMMA SANO

Emma: So, Takashi, thank you so much for making the time to have a chat today.

Takashi: The pleasure is all mine. Thank you for coming to the gallery.

Emma: You just mentioned it, and I'd like to start off by congratulating you on your seventh CommuGallery overall, here in Berlin. Can you, once again, for those who have not heard of this concept, explain what CommuGallery is?

Takashi: Thank you, it's been a crazy few months but I'm glad we did this project and love how it turned out in the end.

Well, CommuGallery is something close to my heart. I came up with this concept years ago. I was always fascinated

by art in all forms and felt drawn to art galleries. My mother was a ceramicist, so I was always around her creating something. Growing older and visiting more and more galleries, I concluded that looking at art was often a rather lonely experience. It was eerily quiet in the rooms, people always looked so serious looking at a painting or sculpture and analysing it on their own. I wanted to find ways for people to connect with each other when looking at art, discussing together and finding common ground in it.

Emma: So, how did you approach this?

society has become so dependent on smartphones and the internet, where we basically communicate all the time, but without actually connecting with each other. I wanted to create a more organic experience and way of conversing. I began by renting a small space in my hometown and put down carpets and pillows, some chairs and put up all sorts of art pieces I found for cheap. The idea was to visit the gallery, have a seat, to stay and talk it through together. I was surprised at how interested people actually were in coming and taking a look, and conversations started quite naturally. It became a huge hit online and, I guess that is how I got here. I have seven CommuGalleries all over the world, displaying art from artists of many backgrounds.

Emma: That sounds like a wonderful concept. If you had to advertise your spaces to everyone out there, reading and listening, what would you say to them?

Takashi: I guess, all
I have to say is, come
and give it a try. We
are so caught up in
our individual lives
that we completely
forget about the joys

Takashi: Considering how

of coming together. Art for the rich and privileged is long gone from this world. It is for everyone, anywhere, no matter how you interpret it. Take a leap of faith sometime, bring a friend and sit down for a while, you might connect with people who help you see the world, however cruel, in an entirely new light.

HOW/ TO MAKE & CO ANTHOTYPES AT HOME By GRACE HORTON

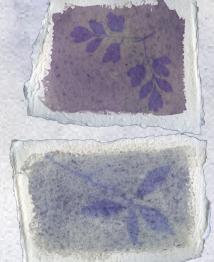
WHAT ARE THEY?

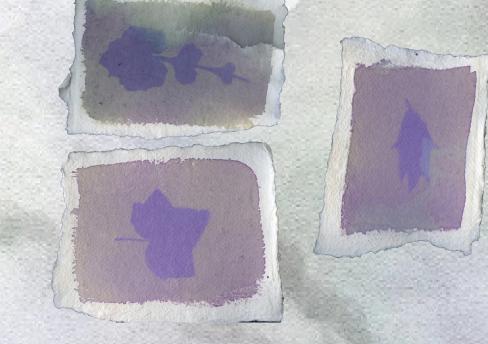
Anthotypes are images created using photosensitive material from plants. This process was originally invented by Mary Somerville in 1842. It is a great activity to do with family, reduces the use of processed dyes and paints and allows you to create your own original art pieces from scratch!

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

- o Berries or petals from a colourful flower
- o Cheesecloth or cotton cloth
- o Paint brush
- o Bowl
- o Heavy A3 art paper
- o Food blender or a pestle and mortar
- o Mixing medium such as oil or water
- o Glass clip frame
- o Plants/flowers
- o Sunshine!







Making the Dye Mixture

Grab your berries or petals of choice. This is a good way to use up old fruit in your cupboards! If you use juicy berries like grapes, peel the skin off and use that as opposed to the whole grape so that the mixture isn't too sticky. Although, it is fine to have some flesh in your mixture. To cover an A3 sheet of art paper, around 8 grape skins are recommended, or petals from 2-3 flowers.

Blend your chosen component into a dye, by combining with your mixing medium. You can use water or oil - only a few drops are needed.

Take your cloth and strain the mixture into a bowl, make sure all the liquid is squeezed out. Throw away the excess pulp and you are now left with your dye mixture!

TOP TIP

Wash your cloth in between straining different mixtures to reduce cross contamination of the colours.

CTED Creating Your Canvas

Use your paintbrush to paint the dye mixture over the paper or dip the sheet of paper into the mixture. A paintbrush will create a more rustic and organic feel. Now leave this to dry.

TOP TIP Leave it to dry in a dark place like a wardrobe - this can take up to a few days depending on your dye mixture.





Printing your Anthotype

Once the dye is completely dry, arrange your chosen flowers or plants on the paper. Secure this into your clip frame and place it in the sun! Note, clip frames are best as the glass and backboard need to be flush against each other.

Depending on your dye mixture, this may need to sit in the sun for between a couple of days and several weeks. The sunlight will bleach the dye exposed and leave the covered dye in its original state. When removed from the sun, take your paper out of the frame and remove the plants or flowers. You have now made an anthotype!

TOP TIP Keep the final product out of the sun to avoid further fading.

[F] - FUTURE

- [F] Busy. But good, been
 thinkin' about you.

Really? [P]

[F] A lot actually.

[F] Sorry, didn't mean to
 make you feel like
 that. You're not easy
 to forget you know.

Have you been trying to? [P]

To forget me?

[F] No, it's not like
 that. It's just...

Just what? [P]

[F] It's not your fault
 but, I guess, it's
 just painful to know
 you sometimes.



Why? What's wrong with [P] me, you ashamed or summin? Everything you've got is thanks to me.

[F]	No! Ugh, look, I'm proud to carry you with me, but you don't bear your own weight, I do. It's heavy. Like shame and hope and expectation and redemption all turned to stone. I don't know how to *sighs* you just don't understand. But I will.	[P]
[F]	*Silence* You could just let me go yanno? What's the point of keeping me around if it makes you so damn unhappy? I'll be fine.	[P]
[F]	*small laugh* I don't think I could. I still need you more than you know. Make up your mind! Ugh, why do you still not	[P]
[F]	know what you want? That's what I need you for. To figure it out.	[P]
[F]	Still all the hard work on me huh. What are you so afraid of? I don't want to be a stranger to you learnt nothing	
	yet? You know me better than anyone.	[P]

<pre>[F] That's why I'm afraid. I don't know it all, just where you'll go, what you'll do, who you'll be.</pre>	
So then you know it all turns out fine.	[P]
<pre>[F] *pauses* what if you don't like where it all ends up?</pre>	
Then I'll just keep going. I could go fur- ther than you yanno. Further than you ever thought possible.	[P]
<pre>[F] I believe you. Would you take me with you?</pre>	[P]
I'd have to! We carry each other right. But I won't have you slowing me down. [F] I'll see you here	
then, take your time. Don't wait for me, I'll catch you up.	[P]



RECONCILIATION BY GEORGE BIRCH



NORTH

The past and the future collide through sharing knowledge; the culmination of all that has come before us and the potential of what may be. Knowledge must be taught and learnt. What can you teach to those around you? What do you still want to learn and how will you use this knowledge?

Always explore the world around and within you. Think, talk and write about your experiences and ideas using these prompts. Share your ideas too at #response_5



LOVE AND WAR



Our relationship was once sweet and abundant. I loved them and they brought me nourishment, they brought me warmth when it was cold and a coolness when there was heat. They decorated the hills with flowers of every shade, shape and size while I tumbled through them. Picking, squeezing, and staring.

I was spoiled by their bounty. Their dirt crumbling between my fingers was once so intimate, leaving marks on my fingertips and highlighting my own prints. I used to kneel-down and stroke the grass in a loving gesture, prepared and eager for what they would bring me. Now the dryness at my knees leaves me bruised and scratched.

Praying, pleading, willing to try anything to bring them back to me. To bring back that mild sunshine that made everything glow so beautifully. That gentle patter of rain stroking every leaf with glistening globules as it made its way to the soft, soft, pillowy soil.

They
are
angry
now.

And hot. Their rivers were once mighty and flowed freely through any rock or boulder obstructing their paths. They are now as thin and frail as an elderly person's veins, in which the blood flowing fights for a glimpse of a heart, liver, or lungs. All just to live another day. The gentle showers they used to deliver me have been replaced by the everglowing scorching sun. So harsh that it flares and licks the back of my neck with its whips of heat, leaving behind crackling embers that alow in the once soft and squelching mud.

My plants, my crops, and trees, my vines, fruits and all the flowers once looked up in joyful expectation from the bed they lay in. They now look down on me in shame, hopelessness. They have given up.

It is punishment.
Punishment for
defiling them and
giving nothing back.
Punishment for
squeezing profit out
of their tender pores
and plugging up the
sagging mess with
bottlecaps and the
pretty plastic
we once used to
gaze upon our own
reflections.

So as our throats dry out and crack, and our skin bubbles and broils in the vengeful heat, I weep and choke.

Wishing for their return, knowing my time is up.





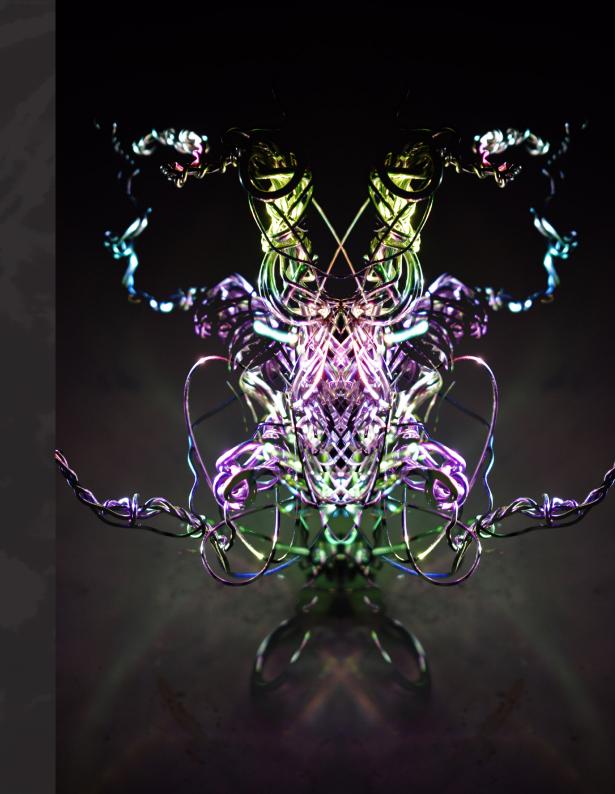


MOTHER'S

GRIEF

Our relationship was once sweet and abundant. Since the beginning, I gave you your life and spoiled you with gifts. I offered you the fruits of my nourishing earth. The land that you step on sustains you and gives you crops. I have gifted you the rivers that travel the world amongst the forests, providing you with the quenching water you drink. The weather, I have used to nurture you. The sun shines upon you in the midst of the deep blue sky.

I entrusted to you all I have made, and made you leader above all living things. In return, you protected me and blessed me with your care. So why do you persecute me now? You attempt to dethrone me for the pursuit of your industrial progress. You plot my death and enslave me in your greed, I feel my very being weaken and quiver in agony - all that I have built and given to you, pure of heart, you destroyed.



My land, you have used to resolve your conflict and you have drowned my soil in blood.

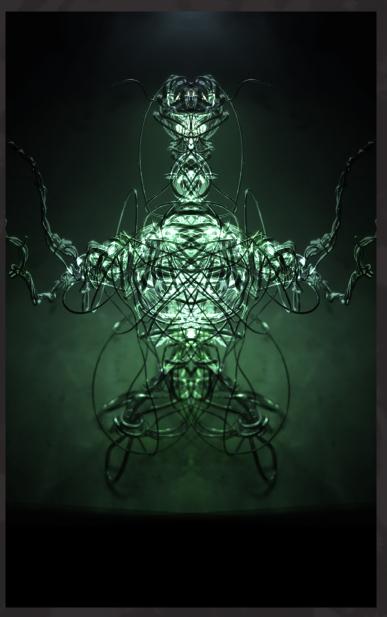
My water, the very essence of this earth, upon which you have dumped your waste and treated it like a body of garbage.

You snatched the homes of my children, endlessly cutting down my trees until none will remain.

I suffocate in the air that gives you your life.

The sunlight that once tendered all living things now drains away the fertile ground and melts the ice.

Generations after generations, I have silently watched as you detached yourself from me, I was slow to anger, but my patience has run short. Too often, I have become the victim of your transgressions. Now you stroll across the grass, hoping, wishing, kneeling down as if in prayer, eager for my crops to prosper, but only armyworms you will see. I stripped you of the rain that satiates your soil. But even after all this, you turn a blind eye to my sorrow. Have you not heard my warnings? Or do you keep it secret on purpose? Your silence, your ignorance, it gives me grief.



But I am a mother. My love is unconditional. I still long for you to return to me. I reminisce over a time when you used to cultivate my land. From dusk to dawn, your determination was steadfast. You nourished me like the caring and innocent child vou once were. It is only by your tender care and love that I will return what I have stripped away and carry on providing for you. My dear, dear child, please, choose your fate wisely.



© SOME REFLECTIONS

By Liz Jensen

It all starts in the heart. Here are some ways it can be stirred, as mine has just been stirred by reading this remarkable collection. The heart can be stirred by beauty. By troubling ideas. By the thrilling vitality of land and sea and sky. By the urge to hand-make an object imbued with love and meaning. By possibility. By fierce and brave imagining. By human fragility. By surprise. By love or grief or rage or longing. By transformation. By the power of the Wild. By discerning the ancient pathways that birth every new thing: an object, a life, an idea. By collective spirit. By speaking your heart, even if that heart is breaking, because it still beats - and given time (please trust me), it will heal. By laughter. By small pleasures. By vast joys. By silent or spoken conversations with a force in the multiple dimensions beyond our reach. By understanding what legacy means. By active hope. By wonder.

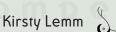
By reading powerful words by young people with beautiful, shining souls.

Design

Camille Kanaan



Saleha Khalifa 🔶

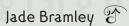


Karima Morsli (M)



Texts

George Birch



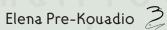
Lianne Dagan

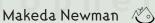


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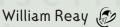
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