

## Harn Museum of Art Brings Together International Contemporary Art Addressing Human Impact on the Environment.

GAINESVILLE, FL, Sept. 11, 2018—The Harn Museum of Art at the University of Florida will explore an era of rapid, radical and irrevocable ecological change through works of art by 45 international contemporary artists. The Harn-organized exhibition *The World to Come: Art in the Age of the Anthropocene* opens Sept. 18, 2018 and will be on view through March 3, 2019. Environmental issues will be examined through more than 65 works of photography, film, sculpture and mixed media, as well as related symposia and programming.

The Anthropocene is a controversial term used to name a new geological epoch defined by human impact. While geological epochs are known as products of slow change, the Anthropocene has been characterized by speed. “Runaway climate change, rising water, surging population and expanding technologies compress our breathless sense of space and time,” said Kerry Oliver-Smith, Harn Curator of Contemporary Art. “Human impact has made a profound change on the Earth. Artists chosen for the exhibition respond by upending the status quo, challenging human mastery over nature and attuning us to the deep bond between human and non-human life.”

*The World to Come* unfolds around seven overlapping themes: “Deluge,” “Raw Material,” “Consumption,” “Extinction,” “Symbiosis and Multispecies,” “Justice” and “Imaginary Futures.” Topics range from disaster, environmental devastation and loss to the emergence of new bonds and alliances between humans and non-humans. Also considered is the magnitude of waste and growing populations, the laws of nature, inequality and protest. Lastly, artists explore the effects of technology and make a call for optimism with new ways of imagining a vibrant future for the world to come.



Gideon Mendel, South African, b. 1959  
*Adlene Pierre, Savanne Desolée, Gonaïves, Haiti, September 2008* From the series *Drowning World*, 2008, courtesy of the artist and Axis Gallery, New York and New Jersey



Richard Mosse, Irish, b. 1980, *Stalemate*, 2011  
Courtesy of the artist and Jack Shainman Gallery, New York

“Engaging art to create a dialogue about important topics of our time is crucial in the role of an art museum,” said Dr. Lee Anne Chesterfield, Harn Museum of Art Director. “We are grateful to the Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, as well as the National Endowment for the Arts for supporting this endeavor and seeing the value in the exhibition’s creation, presentation and documentation.”

Artists whose work is on view in the exhibition embrace a rethinking and re-visioning of humanity’s relationship to nonhuman life. These artists include Jennifer Allora and Guillermo Calzadilla, Claudia Andujar, Sammy Baloji, Subhankar Banerjee, Huma Bhabha, Liu Bolin, Edward Burtynsky, Sandra Cinto, Elena Damiani, Dornith Doherty, Charles Gaines, Mishka Henner, Felipe Jácome, Chris Jordan, William Kentridge, Wifredo Lam, Maroesjka Lavigne, Eva Leitolf, Dana Levy, Yao Lu, Pedro Neves Marques, Noelle Mason, Mary Mattingly, Gideon Mendel, Ana Mendieta, Kimiyo Mishima, Richard Misrach, Beth Moon, Richard Mosse, Jackie Nickerson, Gabriel Orozco, Trevor Paglen, Abel Rodríguez, Allan Sekula, Taryn Simon, Nicole Six and Paul Petritsch, Laurencia Strauss, Thomas Struth, Bethany Taylor, Frank Thiel, Sergio Vega, Andrew Yang, and Haegue Yang.

A symposium titled “The World to Come: Art, Politics and Climate Change” will be held Oct. 19 to Oct. 20, 2018. This interdisciplinary program will foster discussion around artistic practices, scientific fieldwork and anthropological research in response to our current environmental, planetary crisis. T.J. Demos, Professor of History of Art and Director of the Center for Creative Ecologies at the University of California, Santa Cruz will be the keynote speaker. Seven speakers whose expertise range from geological sciences to political science will join the Harn on the second day of the symposium. A complete schedule may be found at [www.harn.ufl.edu/theworldtocome/symposium](http://www.harn.ufl.edu/theworldtocome/symposium).

A fully illustrated catalogue will accompany the exhibition and will include essays by Kerry Oliver-Smith, Harn Curator of Contemporary Art; Marisol de la Cadena, Professor of Anthropology, University of California, Davis; T. J. Demos, Professor of History of Art and Director of the Center for Creative Ecologies at the University of California, Santa Cruz; Natasha Myers, Associate Professor of Anthropology, York University; Trevor Paglen, artist, geographer and writer; and Joanna Zylińska, Professor of New Media and Communications, Goldsmiths, University, London. The publication is supported by the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, University of Florida Office of Research and Office of the Provost, John Early Publication Endowment, and the Robert C. and Nancy Magoon Contemporary Exhibition and Publication Endowment.

The exhibition is organized by the University of Florida’s Harn Museum of Art and made possible by the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, UF Office of the Provost, National Endowment for the Arts, C. Frederick and Aase B. Thompson Foundation, Ken and Laura Berns, Daniel and Kathleen Hayman, Ken and Linda McGurn, Susan Milbrath, an anonymous foundation, Visit Gainesville, UF Center for Humanities and the Public Sphere, UF Office of Research, Robert and Carolyn Thoburn, UF Biodiversity Institute, UF Center for Latin American Studies, UF Water Institute and UF Department of English “Imagining Climate Change” program with additional support from a group of environmentally-minded supporters, the Robert C. and Nancy Magoon Contemporary Exhibition and Publication Endowment, Harn Program Endowment, and the Harn Annual Fund.

*The World to Come: Art in the Age of the Anthropocene* will travel to the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor from April 27, 2019 to July 28, 2019.

Admission to the Harn Museum of Art is free. For more information, call 352-392-9826 or visit [www.harn.ufl.edu](http://www.harn.ufl.edu).

Images are available upon request by emailing [twroath@harn.ufl.edu](mailto:twroath@harn.ufl.edu).

### **Programs**

The Harn is offering a number of related programs providing an opportunity for visitors to engage in conversation about the works on view and the environmental themes addressed in the exhibition. All programs are free and open to the public.

### **Tours**

#### **Saturdays and Sundays, 2 p.m.**

No reservations necessary for individuals and small groups. Groups of 10 or more may schedule a tour three weeks in advance by contacting [tours@harn.ufl.edu](mailto:tours@harn.ufl.edu).

### **Member pARTy**

#### **Thursday, Sept. 20, 6:30 – 9 p.m.**

Become a Harn Member for free at [www.harn.ufl.edu/join](http://www.harn.ufl.edu/join) and celebrate the opening of the exhibition with light bites and refreshments. There will also be an opportunity to join at the door the night of the event.

### **Curator Talk: Rapid Change/Short Time**

#### **Sunday, Sept. 23, 3 p.m.**

The environmental crisis has become an urgent and crucial issue in our contemporary world. Many scientists believe we have changed the Earth so profoundly that we now occupy a new geological era—the Anthropocene. Kerry Oliver-Smith, Curator of Contemporary Art will discuss the changing relationships between humans and non-humans and the artists’ role as a witness and catalyst of new ways of thinking, seeing and imagining a vital world to come

**Film Screening: Pulling Teeth From A Polar Bear**

**Saturday, Sept. 29, 3 p.m.**

This documentary takes viewers to remote St. Lawrence Island in Alaska to hear from members of the Yupik community who have been affected by toxins in the environment. The film is produced by Jacqueline Allegra Curnick, who received her MDP in Sustainable Development Practice from UF in 2018. This film project was supported by the Mary M. James Student Inspiration Fund of the Harn Museum of Art. Discussion to follow. (Film, 18 mins, 2018)

**Educator Workshops:**

Harn workshops will provide K-12 teachers with resources for exploring exhibition themes in their classrooms and in the museum. Service points may be earned for participation. For more information, visit [www.harn.ufl.edu/k-12](http://www.harn.ufl.edu/k-12). Email to [register@harn.ufl.edu](mailto:register@harn.ufl.edu).

**Secondary Social Studies, Language and Visual Arts Teachers**

**Thursday, October 11, 4 – 6 p.m.**

**K-12 Art Teachers**

**Wednesday, October 17, 2 - 4:30 p.m.**

**Symposium: The World to Come: Art, Politics and Climate Change**

**Friday, Oct. 19 through Saturday, Oct. 20**

This interdisciplinary program will foster discussion around artistic practices, scientific fieldwork and anthropological research in response to our current environmental, planetary crisis. Lively conversations between guest speakers, UF faculty and attendees will confront the challenges of artistic, political and personal practice in the late Anthropocene, in search of ways forward to a more vibrant, compassionate and just future. This program is open to the public and presented by the Harn Museum of Art and UF Imagining Climate Change.

**Keynote Lecture: Blackout: The Necropolitics of Extraction**

**Friday, October 19, 6 p.m., Reception to follow.**

T.J. Demos, Professor of History of Art; Director the Center for Creative Ecologies, University of California, Santa Cruz

**Lectures and Panel Discussion: Saturday, October 20, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Reception to follow.**

**For a full schedule, visit [www.harn.ufl.edu/theworldtocome/symposium](http://www.harn.ufl.edu/theworldtocome/symposium).**

The symposium is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, UF Center for Humanities & the Public Sphere, Harn Eminent Scholar Chair in Art History Lecture Series (keynote), UF Imagining Climate Change and UF Office of Research.

**Visiting Artist Lecture: Noelle Mason**

**Tuesday, Oct. 30, 6 p.m.**

This program takes place on the University of Florida campus (Little Hall, Room 101).

Artist Noelle Mason, whose work is on view in the exhibition will present a public talk. This lecture series is presented by the UF School of Art + Art History.

**Museum Nights: Earth Ethics Ain't Easy**

**Thursday, Nov. 8, 6 - 9 p.m.**

This evening will be entertaining, while taking on challenging topics. The Harn will ask tough questions like: in the global battle of plants (and porpoises) versus plastics, whose side are we on in our hearts; and whose side are we on in our actions? Activities include tours of the exhibition, discussion boards, art making with recyclable materials and more. Visitor can meet campus partners including the UF Office of Sustainability and enjoy free food. This ongoing program is made possible by the generous support of University of Florida Student Government and Office of the Provost. Additional support for this evening provided by the UF International Center (Learning without Borders) and the Honors College.

**Family Day: Art in Nature****Saturday, Dec. 1, 1 – 4 p.m.**

Families with children will discover the variety of life depicted throughout the galleries. After an engaging tour, participants will create art that celebrates and supports our natural world. This program is ideal for families with children ages 5 – 11, but all ages are welcome.

**Lecture: The Art and Science of Adaptive Land Use Planning and Conservation****Sunday, Feb. 3, 3 p.m.**

As Florida grows to approximately 33.7 million residents by 2070—almost 15 million more people than in 2010—one of the biggest challenges is to ensure that sufficient land and water exist to meet the needs of people, agriculture and the environment in the coming decades. At the same time, sea level rise will impact densely developed coastal areas of the state, potentially forcing residents to relocate inland and creating conflicts between conservation, agricultural and developed land uses. Michael Ives Volk, Associate Director, UF Center for Landscape Conservation Planning will address Florida's future, with a focus on climate change impacts on developed areas, biodiversity and an integrated approach to land use planning that may help address future growth and changes as they occur.

**About the Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art**

Founded in 1990, the Harn Museum of Art is an integral part of the University of Florida. The Harn contributes to an interconnected, international community by integrating the arts and culture into curricula throughout the university's system of colleges and centers. Its holdings include more than 11,300 works in five main collecting areas: Asian art, African art, photography, modern art of the Americas and Europe, and international contemporary art. The museum also has noteworthy collections of Oceanic, Ancient American Art and works on paper. In addition to rotating installations drawn from its permanent collection, the Harn organizes traveling exhibitions, public lectures, panel discussions, academic symposia, and educational programs for adults, students, and children.

The Harn Museum of Art, at 3259 Hull Road in Gainesville, Florida, is part of the University of Florida's Cultural Plaza, which is also home to the Florida Museum of Natural History and the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. Admission is free. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. The museum is open until 9 p.m. the second Thursday of every month for Museum Nights. The Camellia Court Café is open Tuesday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information call 352-392-9826 or visit [harn.ufl.edu](http://harn.ufl.edu).

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