



IN HUMAN TIME

AN EXHIBITION IN TWO PARTS

December 2017 – February 2018

Arnold and Sheila Aronson Galleries
Parsons School of Design, The New School
66 Fifth Avenue, New York City

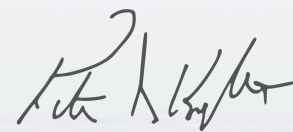
AN EXPLORATION OF POLAR ICE, HUMANITY, AND TIME

In Human Time, the first exhibition of the Climate Museum, featured installations in sequence by artists Zaria Forman and Peggy Weil. The show was presented in partnership with the Sheila C. Johnson Design Center at the Parsons School of Design.

The poles of the Earth can seem implacably vast, unchangeable and forbidding. But every week of climate news confirms that polar ice, far from invulnerable, is profoundly affected by human activity. How does this contradiction between invulnerability and fragility reflect on us? What does polar ice tell us about ourselves?

Through the work of Forman and Weil, *In Human Time* examines these questions. Humans possess a capacity for awe, creativity, curiosity, the advancement of knowledge and understanding; for beautiful art and brilliant science; for astounding instances of communication and common action.

We are, in short, defined by qualities permitting reasoned optimism that we can survive the climate crisis. But we are also capable of a reckless lack of attention and care. This tension spotlights our agency, our ability to decide and act. Which side of our genetic and cultural makeup will we choose? Which will drive our actions? It's up to each and all of us.



Peter S. Knight
Board Chair



Miranda K.S. Massie
Director



PART ONE: WHALE BAY, ANTARCTICA

Zaria Forman's installation (Dec 20, 2017 – Jan 15, 2018) included a reproduction of *Whale Bay, Antarctica, No. 4* and a time-lapse video depicting the process of making the piece. Forman's intensely intimate work conveys the urgency of climate change by connecting people to the beauty of remote landscapes. In her drawings, we see at once an almost clinical degree of expository detail and the immediate, warm power of human touch.

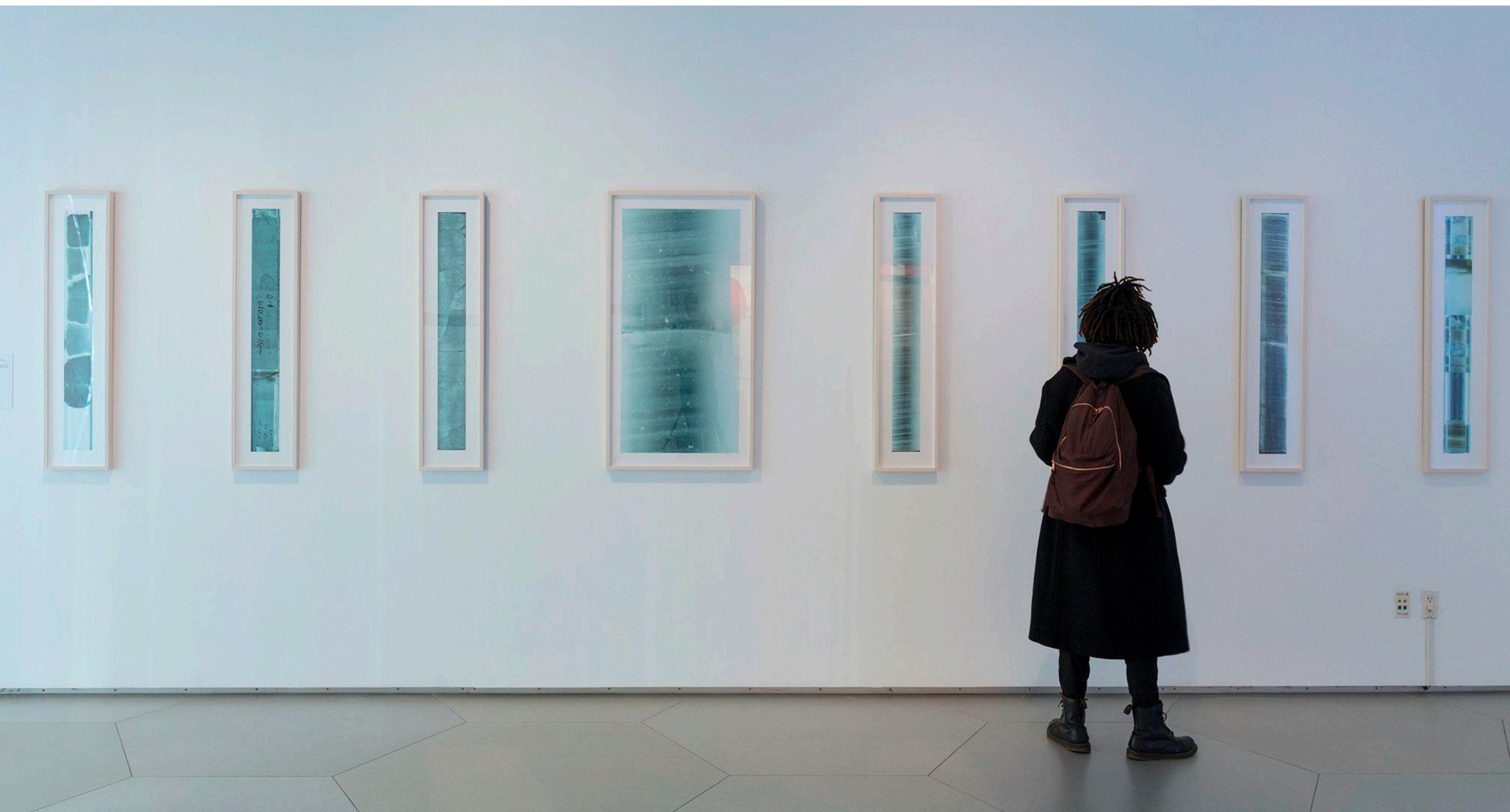




Zaria Forman, *Whale Bay, Antarctica No. 4* (in progress), 84x144 inches, soft pastel on paper, 2016

PART TWO: 88 CORES

Peggy Weil's *88 Cores* (Jan 19 – Feb 11, 2018), shown for the first time as part of this exhibition, is a 4.5 hour film that descends two miles through the Greenland Ice Sheet in one continuous pan going back more than 110,000 years in time. The film stitches together digital scans of 88 one-meter segments of a Greenland ice core, underscoring the critical role ice core science has played in humanity's quest to understand Earth's past—and future—climate. Still images of the ice core segments were also on display.









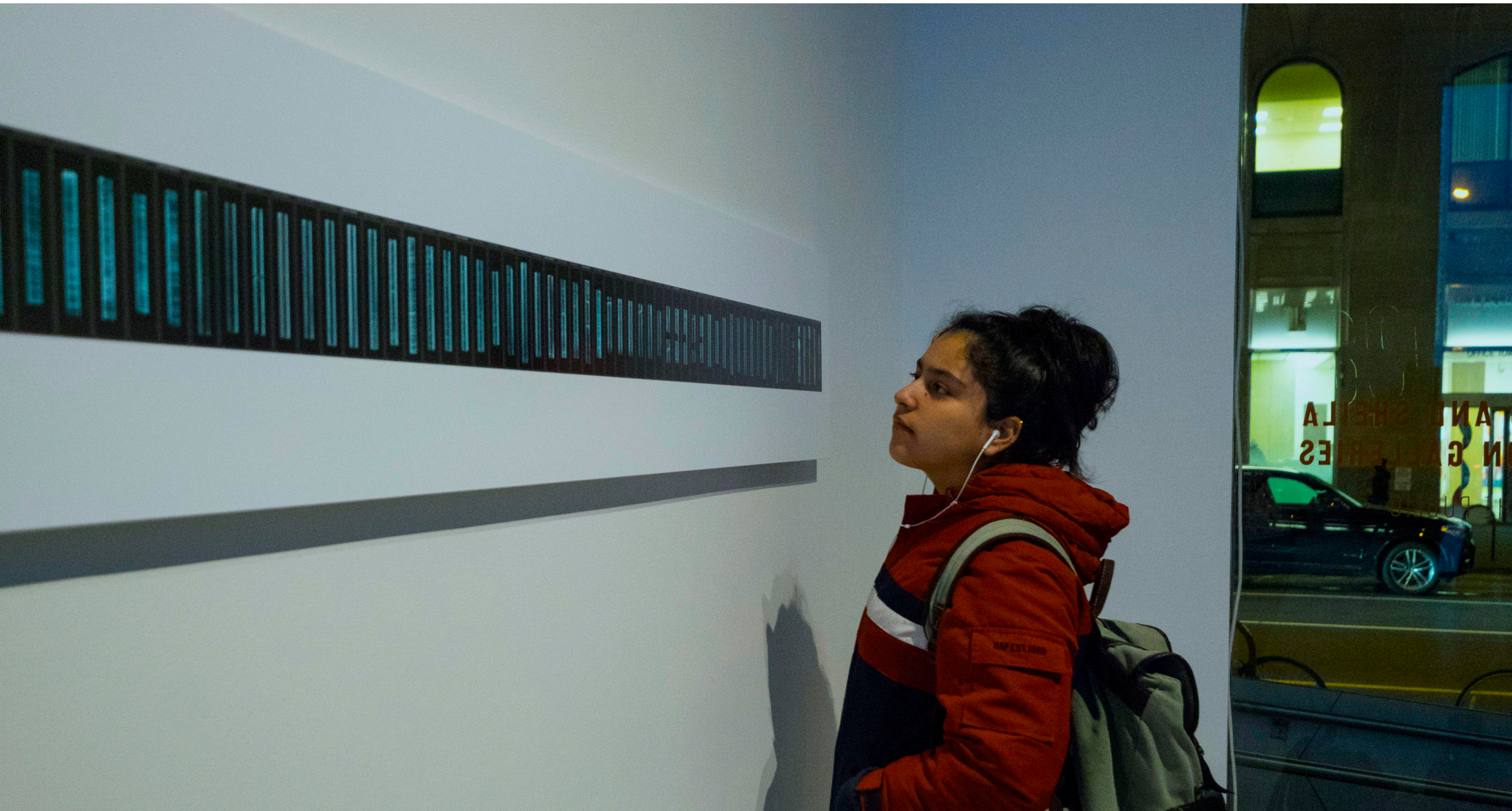
The installation was accompanied in the hallway outside the gallery by artifacts and media offering context on climate change, ice core science, and the Arctic.

REFLECTIONS ON DEEP TIME

Forman and Weil's installations raise questions of timescale that give rise to the exhibition title. Forman's drawing may look at first like a photograph captured in a fraction of a second, but the work is the product of weeks of touches of blue and gray. We learn this in a time-lapse video that looks mesmerizingly fast—especially in relation to Weil's 4.5 hour video descent, the apparently slow pacing of which can pull the viewer into a meditative suspension. But some of the one-meter ice core sections composing the film capture four hundred years of time. The slow film is the fast one.



These incongruities bring time into focus. Meaningful shared action demands a stronger awareness of time, of both continuum and urgency, than it is comfortable to hold. James Baldwin said of the struggle for racial equality and our common humanity that “[t]here is never a time in the future in which we will work out our salvation. The challenge is in the moment; the time is always now.” Human beings will be living with climate change past the foreseeable horizon. What that looks like will depend on decisions we make together about our thought, dialogue, and action—now.



THE NEW YORKER

ELEMENTS

AS THE WORLD MELTS, AN ARTIST FINDS BEAUTY IN ANCIENT ICE



By Carolyn Kormann February 9, 2018



The Atlantic

A Trip to a Museum for Convincing Americans About Climate Change

An exhibition in Manhattan is the first step in a grand attempt to change the national conversation around global warming.

LAURA RASKIN | FEB 5, 2018



HYPERALLERGIC

The Climate Museum Captures the Gravity of a Global Crisis

The world's first climate change museum opens its inaugural exhibition, exploring polar ice through art at the Parsons School of Design in Manhattan.



Allison Meier | February 9, 2018



A New Climate Museum Prepares Us for the Long Haul

"In Human Time," the museum's first exhibit, opens in New York City.

by Caroline Craig | January 19, 2018



VISITOR FEEDBACK

Tell us what you think...



Now that you've seen *In Human Time*,
tell us what you think...

Not only beautiful, but
moving.

Can't wait to see what
The Museum does next.

You are of the essence.



Now that you've seen *In Human Time*,
tell us what you think...

Very inspiring!

I like the exhortation
to us all that we are
all of the essence.

The ice cores are making
and awe-inspiring—
putting us in perspective
as small protectors/destroyers
of a much larger
natural process.

You are of the essence.

thank you!



Now that you've seen *In Human Time*,
tell us what you think...

Never has this made more
sense than now

—
A Hurricane Irma
Survivor

You are of the essence.



Now that you've seen *In Human Time*,
tell us what you think...

I feel the overwhelming
necessity to do something
about the climate

now...

You are of the essence.



Now that you've seen *In Human Time*,
tell us what you think...

Gorgeous and thought-
provoking. Super excited to
follow the next steps of
the Climate Museum!

—Lauren K

You are of the essence.



Now that you've seen *In Human Time*,
tell us what you think...

I am in awe of how
you managed to depict
something so terrifying
in such an incredibly
beautiful way.

Can't wait to see
more!

You are of the essence.





A SPECIAL THANKS

We are grateful to the many people and organizations who made it possible for us to present *In Human Time*. In particular, we thank our partners at the Sheila C. Johnson Design Center at the Parsons School of Design, The New School.

Photo credits: Arash Fewzee (p4), Sari Goodfriend (pp5, 6-right, 7-9, 12, back cover), Fiona Lew (p6-left), Colin Rex (p1), and Peggy Weil (front cover).



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