

#### Contingent Movements Archive

Maldives Pavilion, 55th Venice Biennale, 1 June 2013 - 24 November 2013 in collaboration with Laura McLean, with the assistance of Kalliopi Tsipni-Kolaza



www.contingentmovementsarchive.com



installation view, Maldives Pavilion

The Contingent Movements Archive is an online archival project that speculates on the contingent circumstances the lowlying island nation of the Maldives may face as global temperatures and sea levels rise. It is predicted that the country could be uninhabitable by the end of the 21st century.

Landmasses have disappeared before. Over thousands of years geological shifts and fluctuating sea levels have shaped migratory patterns and cultural evolution. But the complete disappearance of a nation state beneath the ocean is unprecedented in modern times, and the questions that arise in the face of this situation throw current international laws and issues of cultural continuity into disarray.

The Contingent Movements Archive seeks to unpack some problematics and possibilities of the anticipated submersion and dissolution of the Maldives, and to explore these contingencies within a global context. The project draws together a wide range of perspectives to map out potential migration scenarios for the permanently displaced population and its culture.

The archive was built up over the period of the 55th Venice Biennale, with critical input from the Contingent Movements Symposium, held at the Library of Historical Archives of Contemporary Arts (ASAC) of the Venice Biennale, 28-29 September 2013. Contributors include Monica Narula, Nabil Ahmed, T.J. Demos, Marianne Franklin, Suvendrini Perera, Elaine Stratford, DavorVidas, Carol Farbotko, Ravi Agarwal and more.

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### *Contingent Movements Archive* Salle Miró, UNESCO, Paris 25-29 November 2013

exhibition curated with Laura McLean in the context of Adapting to the Anthropocene, an event organised by COAL, Paris and UNESCO for the days of philosophy





The Contingent Movements Archive is an archival project with contributions from artists, academics and researchers. For "Adapting to the Anthropocene" we exhibited the archive, accessible on a touchscreen, together with documentation and artwork by Nabil Ahmed, Benedetta Panisson, Rosa Barba, Christopher Draeger & Heidrun Holzfeind, Marian Tubbs and Drew Denny.

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#### Shifts in Time: Performing the chronic

Mumok Kino, Museum Moderner Kunst, Museumsquartier Vienna, May 8th 2013

Shifts in Time: Performing the Chronic, a circular sequencing of performances, readings, screenings, food / drinks, and narratives was an event organized by Phd in Practice, Vienna Art Academy at Mumok Kino in Vienna on May 8th 2013. The different interventions try to raise questions of how to engage with time and the untimely in order to unfold the use of the temporal in memory, history and politics. Interventions into hegemonic time patterns are rehearsed through dislocating, shifting, metamorphosing, and re-framing.

My participation consisted of a "waiting room" configuration, proposing a time for contemplation and reflecting on atmospheric alterations.



192 islands, 2013, magazine







installation view, Mumok Kino, Vienna

## Human Meteorology at Spécimens: Collections, croisements, sentinelles Domaine de Chamarande, France, 25 nov 2012 - 31 march 2013

A recorded voice narrates a history of a Human Meteorology. It's the story of the air we breath and the atmosphere that surrounds us, and of how we have tried to control and modify it.



installation view, Chateau de Chamarande





slideviewers with stereolithographies:

Human meteorology, soundrecording on LP looped videos on monitors Blue sky filter stereolithographies: Airopaidia, 1786, Breathing device, 375, Cloudseeding, 1947, Gas attacks, 1915, Hail cannon, 1898, Snow crystals, 1885, Roofed city, 1949, Weather shooters, 1555

#### One kind word can warm three winter months, Cité des Arts, Paris



installation view from One kind word can warm three winter months, Cité des Arts, Paris



*Breathing device*, 2012, sterelithography

### Human Meteorology at Galleri Mejan, Stockholm



Haloclasty (images in becoming), 2012, slides of salt, slideprojectors



Diamond dust, 2012, installation view

Roofed city, 2012, stereolithography in slideviewer

Diamond dust, Color of a lake, Shockwaves & Vortexes, Lightdrawings 2011-12, looped videos on monitors



Diamond dust, Color of a lake, Shockwaves & Vortexes, 2011-12, looped videos on monitors



Lightdrawings, 2012, video, colour, 4min 30sec, looped

# *Conserving utopias* 2011, digital print on plexiglass mounting



A serie of saltdrawings reproducing the island of Utopia as described by Thomas More in his homonymous book, are captured and sealed under a layer of plexi.



Infiltration, 2011, NAC Open Studios, Nida

*Infiltration* is a soft texture of salt progressively built up on the wall. Pleasing to the eye, it simultaneously evokes the presence of a potentially threatening subnature. An invasive, uncontrollable element which questions the groundedness and the stability of the architecture.

### *Culture Hors Sol*, Parc of Buttes Chaumont, Paris 2010, installation *in situ*, mixed media - plants, EPS, rockwool, plastic - 15 x 15m



Culture Hors Sol, 2010, Naturel Brut, Parc des Buttes Chaumont



*Culture Hors Sol* is a work created *in situ* for the Parc of Buttes Chaumont, where it was installed during three months. Japanese knotweed, a plant classified as "invasive" in France as it is a scourge for the development of other species, was collected in nature and replanted by means of cloning as a soilless culture. These plants which normally grow on land are transposed onto the artificial lake. The installation gives the basic conditions for survival, light and access to water, without being a closed system where everything would be controlled, leaving room for the unpredictable.

### *Swimmer* 2010, hdv video, colour, stereo, 16/9, variable dimensions, 4 min 40 sec



Swimmer, 2010, Quando si parte, Assab One, Milan

In *Swimmer* a man crosses the English Channel in fourteen hours.

The video follows the swimmer in this border area and films the vastness of a space beyond the scale of the human body. The camera catches and fragments the movements punctuated by the sea, capturing its tilting and arrhythmia, blending an inevitable feeling of seasickness to the poetics of space. As if we were there.