

Melting Ice/A Hot Topic: Envisioning Change.
06.10.2007 > 06.01.2008

This autumn, the contemporary art exhibition *Melting Ice /A Hot Topic: Envisioning Change*, will open at the Centre for Fine Arts in Brussels. This innovative exhibit is produced by the Natural World Museum (NWM) in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and sponsored by Autodesk.

NWM and UNEP's annual international symposium of acclaimed speakers will be held in Brussels to coincide with the opening of the exhibit. Global leaders from the worlds of Art, Conservation, Design, Policy, and Technology will come together to ignite new perspectives through a symposium on creative approaches to climate change. The symposium aims to foster a deeper understanding of the causes and effects of climate change, as well as discuss sustainable solutions for individuals, communities and industries.

Symposium's panelists include: Carl Bass, President and CEO of Autodesk; David Guggenheim, President of 1 Ocean 1 Planet; Peter Matthiessen, Novelist and Environmental Activist; Subhankar Banerjee, Artist and Educator; and moderated by Haroldo Castro, Conservation Filmmaker and Journalist.

Melting Ice / A Hot Topic draws attention to the **effects of climate change** and to the fragile state of our polar ecosystems in particular, by bringing together **40 international artists** and inviting them to respond to the theme of global warming. How exactly is the climate changing? What are the political implications? And how should we respond to the changes in the climate? The artists endeavour to provide insight into these questions through their work, including painting, sculpture, photography, multimedia and conceptual installation.

The exhibition is a unique opportunity to peacefully unite people in thought and action through the universal language of art. *Melting Ice /A Hot Topic* sets out to increase **awareness** of global warming and climate change and to inspire a **positive change of attitude and stimulate effective action** among individuals, communities and world leaders.

In addition to Belgian artist Ives Maes, the exhibit features works for art from these international artists: Subhankar Banerjee, Robert Bateman, Alfio Bonanno, David Buckland, Christo and Jeanne-Claude, Margaret Cogswell, Sebastian Copeland, Xavier Cortada, Siobhan Davies, Era & Don Farnsworth, Helen Mayer Harrison & Newton Harrison, Mona Hatoum, David & Hi-Jin Hodge, Laura Horelli, Gary Hume, The Icelandic Love Corporation, Ichi Ikeda, Svein Flygari Johansen, Chris Jordan, Yoshiaki Kaihatsu, Fred Ivar Utsi Klemetsen, Angela Lergo, Jonas Liveröd, Dalibor Martinis, Strijdom Van Der Merwe, Jacob McKean, Gilles Mingasson, David Nash, Lucy + Jorge Orta, Sven Pålsson, Cecilia Paredes, Shana & Robert Parkeharrison, Andrea Polli, Ana Prvacki, Kahn Selesnick, Anne Senstad, David Trubridge, Theo Wujcik, and Justin Young.

Melting Ice opened at the **Nobel Peace Center in Oslo** on 5 June to coincide with the annual UN World Environment Day, hosted by Norway in 2007. The exhibition can be seen there until 3 September 2007. The Centre for Fine Arts will host *Melting Ice / A Hot Topic* from 6 October 2007 to 6 January 2008, after which the exhibition will travel on to Monaco, and then to **Chicago** in the USA.

Practical information

Symposium & Exhibition venue

Centre for Fine Arts
Rue Ravenstein-straat 23
1000 Brussels

Symposium Title

The "Bottom-Up" Design Approach to Global Climate Change

Symposium Date

05.10.2007

Times

11:00 – 11:05 > Opening remarks from moderator
11:05 – 11:45 > 6 minute intro from each panelist
11:45 – 12:30 > 45 minute group panel discussion
12:30 – 13:00 > Audience Q & A

Exhibit Title

Melting Ice / A Hot Topic
Envisioning Change

Exhibit Dates

06.10.2007 > 06.01.2008

Opening times

Tuesdays > Sundays, 10.00 > 18.00 hrs (except during concerts)

Tickets

Admission free