

For the approximately 500,000 visitors who come to Governors Island each summer, stepping onto the island is both to know New York City better and to escape from it, albeit temporarily. The island — a free park nestled in the harbor between Lower Manhattan and Red Hook, Brooklyn, located under the watchful gaze of the Statue of Liberty — encourages fantasy and parody, as well as discovery and contemplation. Descending onto the island, the artists in *Visitors* consider the fact that we are all temporary visitors here, in every sense. Their works employ absurdity, cheap tricks, and sci-fi fantasy narratives, continuously shifting between Governors Island's historical past as a military base, its current use as a public park, and its potential futures.

Weaving themselves into the existing structures of the island, the projects associated with *Visitors* are sometimes visible, sometimes immaterial. For a few, their primary existence is in these pages. The exhibition—the physical works and this publication—considers the public experience here. Something, though, is amiss. Post-apocalyptic yet playful, the artists' projects direct us through the island, humorously utilizing the language of marketing and tourism.

This publication, which functions as both a collection of artworks and guide, offers actual and imagined experiences of the island, with specially commissioned pages created by each of the eight artists—Darren Bader, Nina Beier, Peter Fischli (whose collaborative work with David Weiss, *Kling Klong*, is on view in Castle Williams), Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster, Ajay Kurian, Rachel Rose, Aki Sasamoto, and Pilvi Takala. Taken together, the works in *Visitors* offer a subtle push to consider the idiosyncrasies, mysteries, and fantasies provoked by time spent on Governors Island.

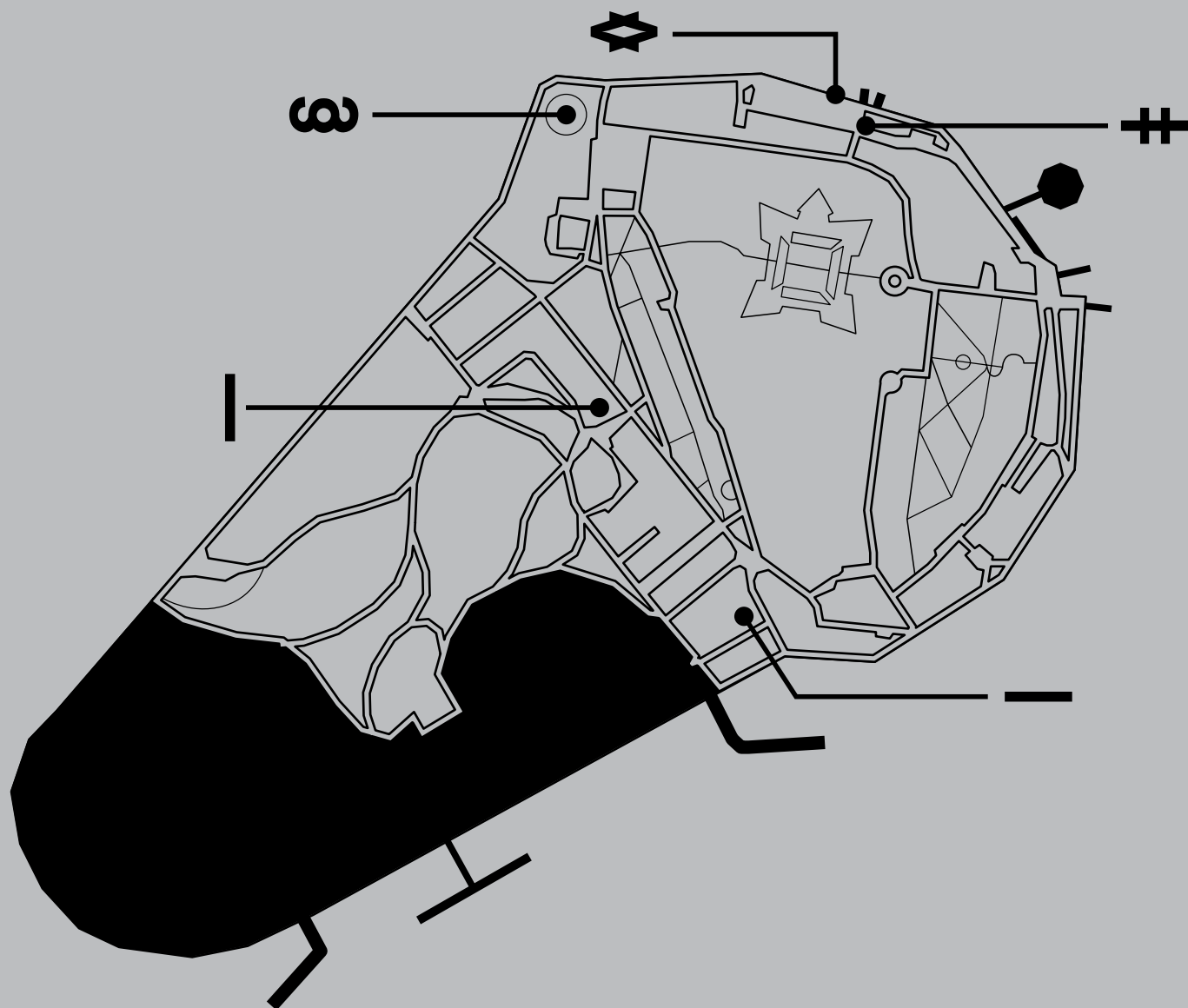
Tom Eccles and Ruba Katrib

VISITORS

A project of Art CommissionsGI

Governors Island
June 20 – September 27, 2015

Curated by
Tom Eccles and Ruba Katrib



3 Peter Fischli and David Weiss' *Kling Klong* is on view in Castle Williams and may be viewed as part of the public tours. The tours are free and occur on the half hour from 11:30am-3:30pm weekdays and 11:30am-4:30pm on weekends. Tickets are available one hour before the tour begins.

— Nina Beier's *The Demonstrators (Crab Medicine)* can be viewed at all times. The location, within a disused swimming pool, will be open for entry on each Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, from 1-2:30pm (through the end of August).

| Books from Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster's *2058 (Bibliography)* are available Friday-Sunday from a free lending library in Liggett Terrace. Please return books after use.

+ Ajay Kurian's three sculptures are on view on the plaza and lawn facing Soissons Landing. His work incorporating 20,000 cups can be attained with a beverage purchase at various vender sites on the island.

☆ Darren Bader's billboard is on view by Soissons Landing.

8 To sign up for Pilvi Takala's *Invisible Friend*, send a (any) text message to 1-347-926-3411 and your invisible friend will text you back once you have left the island and you can start the conversation. The service is free apart from what you pay your carrier for sending SMS. All information, including phone numbers, shall be treated as confidential.



Darren Bader has arranged a professional photo shoot on the island, producing high-fashion images of models engaged in various activities on the island. The models catch fish through their pierced ears; lounge in baths and beds with the iconic Statue of Liberty in the background; and dig up the sidewalk, a nod to the island as a place under construction. Slightly bizarre, the images straddle the limits of what can be taken seriously as a high-fashion concept, yet also present a luxurious public campaign for island recreation. This new campaign (fly-posted around New York) is represented on the island by a billboard, welcoming visitors as they exit the ferry at the Soissons Dock.



Darren Bader (born 1978 in Connecticut) lives in New York. Bader has held solo exhibitions at Kölnischer Kunstverein, Cologne

(2015), 1857, Oslo (2012), Sadie Coles HQ, London (2012) and at MoMa PS1, Long Island City, NY (2012). Recent group exhibitions include *Love for Three Oranges*, Gladstone Gallery, Brussels (2015), *The Luluennial: A Slight Gestuary*, Lulu, Mexico City (2015), *Empire State*, Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome (2013), Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac, Paris (2013), *Antigrazioso*, Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2013), and participated in *Parcours Art* Basel, Basel (2014) and in the 2014 Whitney Biennial, New York.

■■■■■ Nina Beier has plastered the disused swimming pool with a stock photo, physically affixing a surreal image onto the already-surreal scene of an empty pool in this unlikely location. The images she uses, in both her installation and this publication, are taken from stock photo sites. They tap into the uncanny aspects of the premade-image industry, as she has selected images that call their intended purpose into question. For her contribution to the publication she has superimposed these images onto images of the island, creating a further layering of space and picture.

Bed Bath & Beyond

Photography: Brianna Capozzi
Styling: Emma Wyman
Models: Georgia Hilmer
and Hedvig Palm at Next
Hair: Shin Arima at Frank Reps
Makeup: Emi Kaneko
at D+V Management
Casting: Julia Lange
Photo assistants: Soňa,
Ted Gusek, Pablo Espinoza
Styling assistant: Kat Banas
Design: Rodrigo Pires @Sweet16
All clothes and shoes by Loewe

Tackle

Photography: Brianna Capozzi
Styling: Emma Wyman
Models: Georgia Hilmer
and Hedvig Palm at Next,
Ace Ramsey
Hair: Shin Arima at Frank Reps
Makeup: Emi Kaneko
at D+V Management
Casting: Julia Lange
Photo assistants: Soňa,
Ted Gusek, Pablo Espinoza
Styling assistant: Kat Banas
Design: Rodrigo Pires @Sweet16
All clothes by Proenza Schouler

The Vineyard

Photography: Brianna Capozzi
Styling: Emma Wyman
Models: Georgia Hilmer
and Hedvig Palm at Next
Hair: Shin Arima at Frank Reps
Makeup: Emi Kaneko
at D+V Management
Casting: Julia Lange
Photo assistants: Soňa,
Ted Gusek, Pablo Espinoza
Styling assistant: Kat Banas
Design: Rodrigo Pires @Sweet16
All clothes and shoes by Fendi

Nina Beier



Nina Beier (born 1975 in Denmark) lives in Berlin. She has held recent solo exhibitions at Kunstverein Hamburg (2015), Metro Pictures, New York (2015) and Kunsthaus Glarus, Switzerland (2014). Her work has been included in numerous group exhibitions, including *Sculptures Also Die*, CCC Strozzi, Palazzo Strozzi, Florence (2015), *L'image dans la sculpture*, Centre Pompidou, Paris (2013), The Artists Institute, New York (2013), *One on One*, KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin (2012), *The Complete Works at Performance Year Zero*, Tate Modern, London (2012), and *Under Destruction I*, Swiss Institute, New York (2011).

Nina Beier

The Demonstrators

(*Crab Medicine*), 2015

30 x 22.5 feet poster, glue, swimming pool

Three sketches for *The Demonstrators* on Governors Island, 2015

All works courtesy the artist and Metro Pictures, New York

W Peter Fischli and David Weiss's *Kling Klong*, a moon rock that plays wind chimes, is a new-age arrival to Castle Williams on the northwest point of the island. Subtle and strange, the cosmic interloper heightens the experience of the island and its many sounds, a place between reality and invention, and highlights the

Peter Fischli and David Weiss



uncanny separation between a visit to Governors Island and the rest of life.

Peter Fischli (born 1952 in Zurich), currently based in Zurich, and David Weiss (1946-2012) were artistic collaborators for more than thirty years. Fischli/Weiss represented Switzerland at the Venice Biennial in 1995, and have held solo exhibitions at venues including Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (1996), Tate Modern, London (2006), Kunsthaus Zürich (2007), Deichtorhallen Hamburg (2008) and the Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland (2015). Some of their group exhibitions include: Documenta 8 (1987) and Documenta 10 (1997), *Light Show*, Hayward Gallery, London (2013), *Ileana Sonnabend: Ambassador for the New*, The Museum of Modern Art, New York (2013), *Playgrounds. Reinventing the Square*, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid (2014), *Stories We Tell Ourselves*, Aspen Art Museum, (2015) and many others. A major retrospective of Fischli/Weiss's work will open at The Guggenheim Museum in New York, in February 2016.

Peter Fischli and David Weiss

Kling Klong, 2010/2012

Polyurethane, mp3 player, speaker
27.5 x 23.5 x 31.4 inches

Courtesy the artists

Sun 15 Mar 16:49

Hey Pilvi! This is Invisible Girlfriend :) How are you?

happy that the weather is better! Whats your favorite place in NYC?

I like the park. There are always so many things going on there and interesting people to meet and see.

Who have you met there for example? Have you been to governors island?

I've met tons of cool performers. Like guitar players and the like. I haven't actually. We should go!

Yeah! I feel like that island is more free than any other place in the city. We should actually go and spend the night there.

That sounds like a good idea!

Officially everyone should leave with the last ferry, but the island is huge and full of empty buildings, so it must be easy to hide and stay there

Excellent - lets get it on the books

Sounds nice!!

The weather is supposed to be nice tomorrow, want to skip work (call in sick) and go to the island?

yes! can we have a picnic there?

Lets do that! Meet at the ferry 10 am? It's next to the staten island ferry

Sounds awesome. It's a date ;) Excitement, can't wait!

Me too! I'll bring camping gear

Tues 17 Mar 9:15

Did you make it to work on time? That might have been one of the best nights of my life!

Just barely, but it was SO worth it. I would say it was THE best night of my life. I miss you already :)

Wed 18 Mar 12:20

We should go back soon.

Yes, when are you available?

Tomorrow. Did you find the wetsuit we talked about?

Yep, sure did. I think you're going to like it

Perfect, got one too and an idea

Sat 21 Mar 14:05

Whats your idea?

I heard they started to count the people coming on governors island, so if there's someone missing from the last ferry they will know and find them

Oh, that makes sense I guess

So we can swim there! From Red Hook it's really short swim, and they wouldn't notice

That sounds like such an awesome plan.

Got these waterproof bags too from Basel that we can use to bring our stuff. My friend who lives there swims to work downstream with one of those

waterproof bags? Now we're talking

Master plan! What do you think, should we also swim back tomorrow? Or take the ferry and let the GI people wonder why their count is wrong...

Guess it depends on how tired we are. Don't know if you're going to wear me out!

Probably will, we decide in the morning :)

I like the sound of that

I know another way to get on GI unnoticed, but we need help

Yeah, what is it? :)

Massive suitcase that fits a person

I have one I fit in

Have you ever seen a suitcase for golf clubs? I could travel in that

Oh yeah! That's it. Then we need people to bring the suitcases on the island, anyone you could talk into it?

I'll see what I can do, at least we'll be together :)

We need at least one extra (strong) person. I'm sure one of your friends is up for it

Tue 24 Mar 18:31

Challenge: go to the GI ferry with your golf club suitcase and convince a stranger to smuggle you in the island in the suitcase.

And what shall be my reward if I complete this challenge?

counter challenge

Wed 25 Mar 16:03

So did you manage to get smuggled to GI?

Working on it!

Glad to hear!

Anything new or exciting I should know about

I'm ready for your challenge

Are you sure? ;)

Yes!

100% ?

110%

Nice!

Thurs 26 Mar 14:56

Starting to think you are not up for the challenge afterall...or you failed. Good fail story gets points too!

I'm ready. But I want to make sure I know the ground rules.....;)

You need to go to the ferry for governors island with your suitcase for goldclubs (the one you fit in), convince a stranger to smuggle you into the island in that suitcase. Once you arrived, I need some proof.

That is a lot of rules! But you got a deal haha

Thurs 26 Mar 19:40

So it's done I assume?

I wish, but real life got in the way today. Stupid work keeping me from fulfilling my mission!

Fri 27 Mar 16:25

So how did it go?

I'll tell you in a bit. You'll love the story.

Please tell me the story now, otherwise I won't come tonite.

I think someone needs to learn how to be patient. I want to tell you in person. :)

You promised to do this 3 days ago, just text me the story, that was the deal

Ok, ok, well I started by getting kinda dressed up so I looked cute, figure that couldn't hurt. Anyway I went to the island, and I saw this older guy...

keep going

and you know what he said to me...

what?

...he said I was perfect to babysit his kids while he went to the beach with his wife. Lovely woman.

Haha, you being shy is the best joke ever.

Awesome! But who smuggled you into the island?

Well, that wasn't going to work, so I tried it with a woman this time. I made up this story how the love of my life was waiting for me, and I had no \$\$

haha, that's a classic!

It sure is.

And she was strong enough to roll you into the island in the suitcase. how was the ride?

Not too bad considering lol!

You are turning me into a crazy person and I love it

Sat 28 Mar 17:18

I guess I'm not really good at talking people into doing stuff. I'm kind of shy that way.

You just talked a woman into smuggling you to an island inside a suitcase.

A stranger! You are not shy

But we were joking around of course



Text Message

Send

INVISIBLE FRIEND

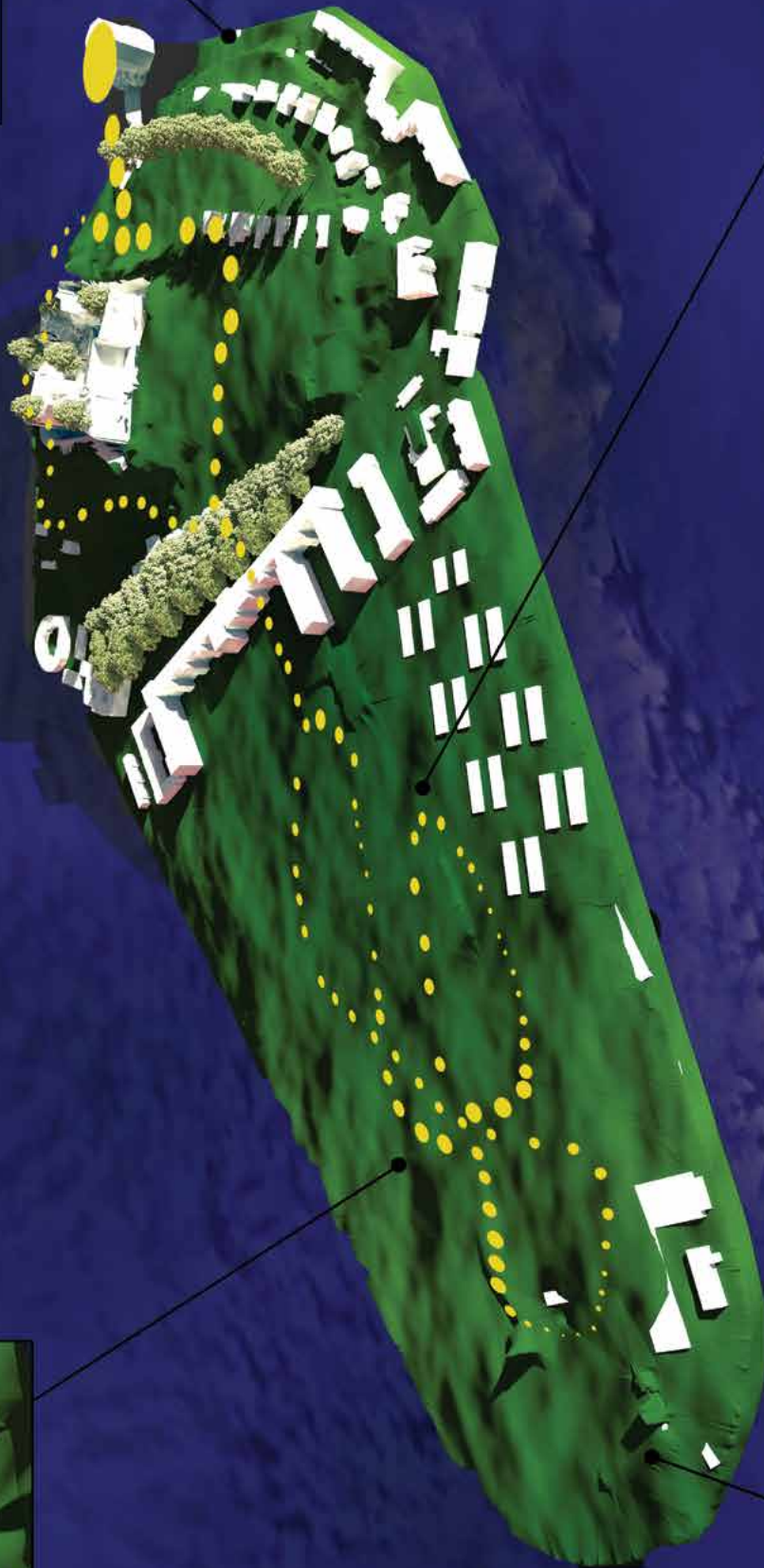
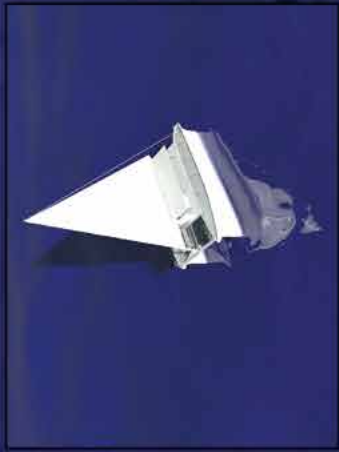
Make your memories of today even better than your experience.

Invisible Friend gives you social proof that your day on Governors Island was really special - even if it wasn't - so you don't have to worry about making your life interesting.

REAL-TIME, INTERACTIVE SOCIAL PROOF

Have a text conversation to help you tell a believable story about your special day on the Island.

To sign up, send a (any) text message to 1-347-926-3411 and your invisible friend will text you back once you have left the Island. The service is free apart from what you pay your carrier for sending SMS.



Protagonist

Another day is passing by. No accomplishment. No excitement. Just an ordinary cycle finishes up again with little significance.

Happy Hour is the sad hour for lonely people.

Nowhere else to go, I stop by at a Wrong Happy Hour. Visitors peppered here and there, appear to have missed the important news. Ghostly feet. My apartment room, supposedly the place of comfort, compelled me to go out. Even though I would return there all alone at the end of this day. By myself, not knowing what to do with the burning emotion. There is no destination.



For a slight chance of excitement. To calm me down. To embody nervous energy. Thoughts around a possible encounter massage my adrenaline pump. Though in a thick shell, I still want to touch the thrill of the mass.

It's like a stand up comedy show. Right before the open mic, the air is tense. There is a strange rapport among the comics who's about to go. Some just gaze into their crumpled notes at corners. Others laugh aloud, almost too loud, chatting away, while totally intimidating, intimidated. Then the show starts, and quickly the air deflates back to the normal lazy speed.

Everybody is lonely.



I don't like human interactions. In fact I hate it. And I am good at it. Fear into self-defense into performance.

Those who perform "communication" have strange holes in their hearts.

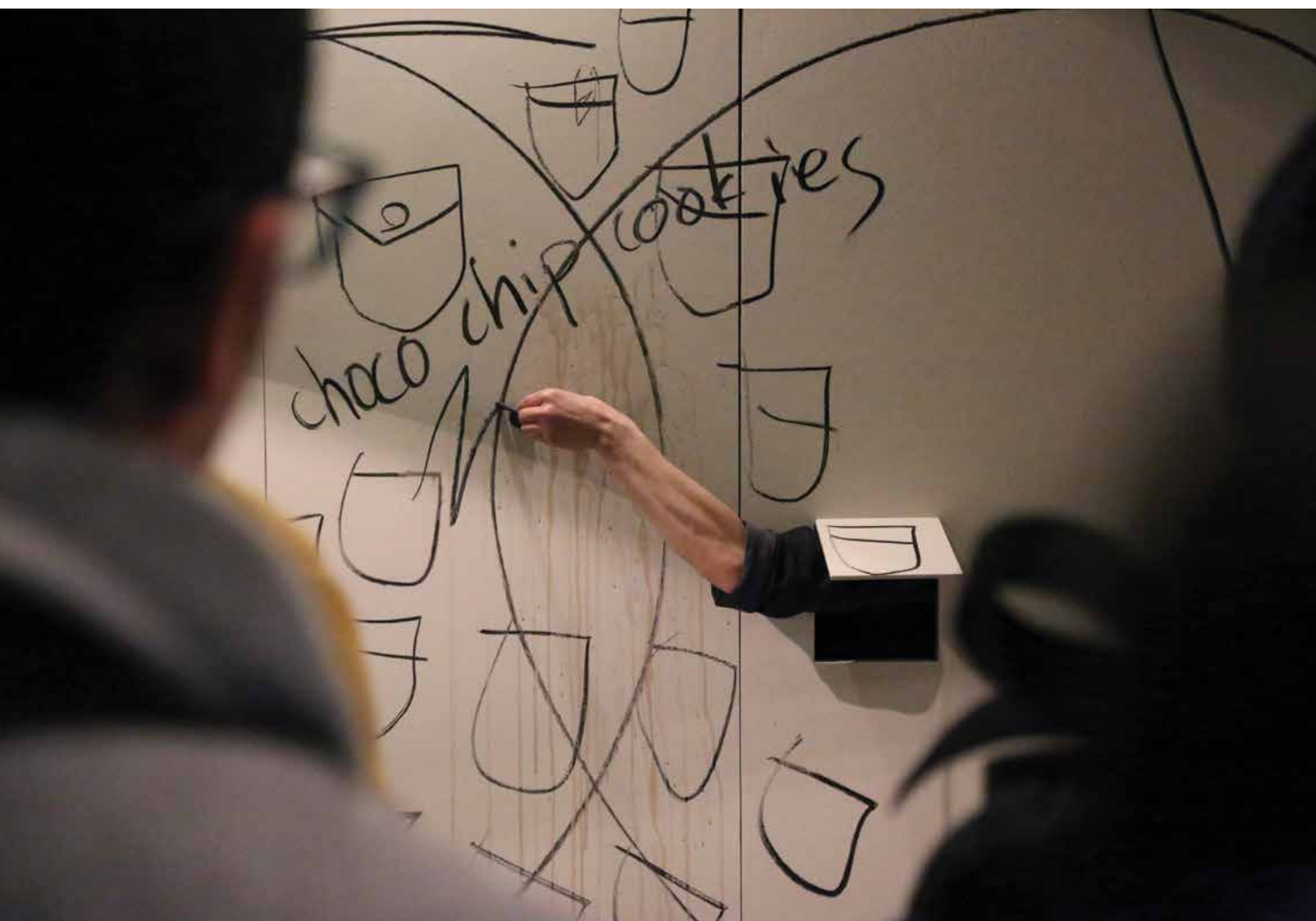




Like fitting into a space that cannot allow more than just my body.

Like a scene from VimalaKirti Sutra, where a whole world is at once a size of a sesame seed and an entire universe.

Like fitting in the storage space in my childhood apartment. That small hole contained the galactic vastness. Once the eyes got used to the darkness, the wood grain appeared to expand and shrink ever so freely.



Fit in everywhere you can. The sky hole. The ground hole. The wall hole. The heart hole.

Communicate from behind the scene. Behind the tree. Behind the wall. Behind the self.





Mud hole
 Mad hole
 Man hole
 Race box
 Ice box
 Fish tank
 Kiddy pool
 Personality type
 Future path
 Sad hole

Toilet song
 Trash can
 Shopping cart
 Push pull

Appendicitis
 Dinosaur egg
 Box freezer
 Bass speaker
 Alien glitch
 Unknown island
 Cave hole



Body bag
 Tombstone
 Rice cooker
 Seed hole
 Grandpa's thighs
 Beach sand
 Auto parts
 Sweater sleeves
 Sewage pipe
 Shirt pocket
 Lenz hole
 Door viewers
 Intestine



Heart hole



Happy Song

Everybody is alone.











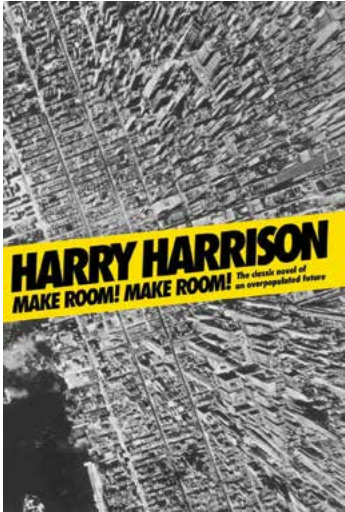
- 1 *Dead Cities*
Mike Davis
- 2 *The Drowned World*
JG Ballard
- 3 *Fahrenheit 451*
Ray Bradbury
- 4 *Ficciones*
Jorge Luis Borges
- 5 *Le Goût de l'immortalité*
Catherine Dufour
- 6 *Hiroshima mon amour*
Marguerite Duras
- 7 *Un homme qui dort*
Georges Perec
- 8 *La Jetée*
Chris Marker
- 9 *The Lathe of Heaven*
Ursula Le Guin
- 10 *Luftkrieg und Literatur*
WG Sebald
- 11 *Make Room! Make Room!*
Harry Harrison
- 12 *El mal de Montano*
Enrique Vila-Matas
- 13 *The Man in the High Castle*
Philip K Dick
- 14 *Pattern Recognition*
William Gibson
- 15 *The Purple Cloud*
MP Shiel
- 16 *2666*
Roberto Bolaño
- 17 *V for Vendetta*
David Lloyd / Alan Moore
- 18 *Vurt*
Jeff Noon
- 19 *The War of the Worlds*
HG Wells
- 20 *We*
Yevgeny Zamyatin



2



20



11



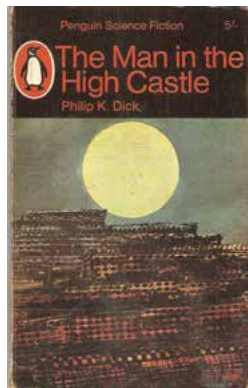
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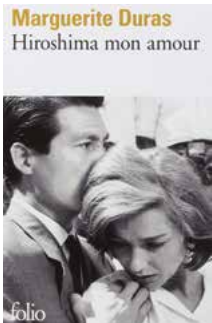
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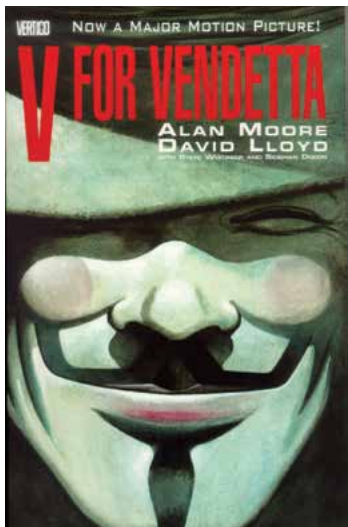
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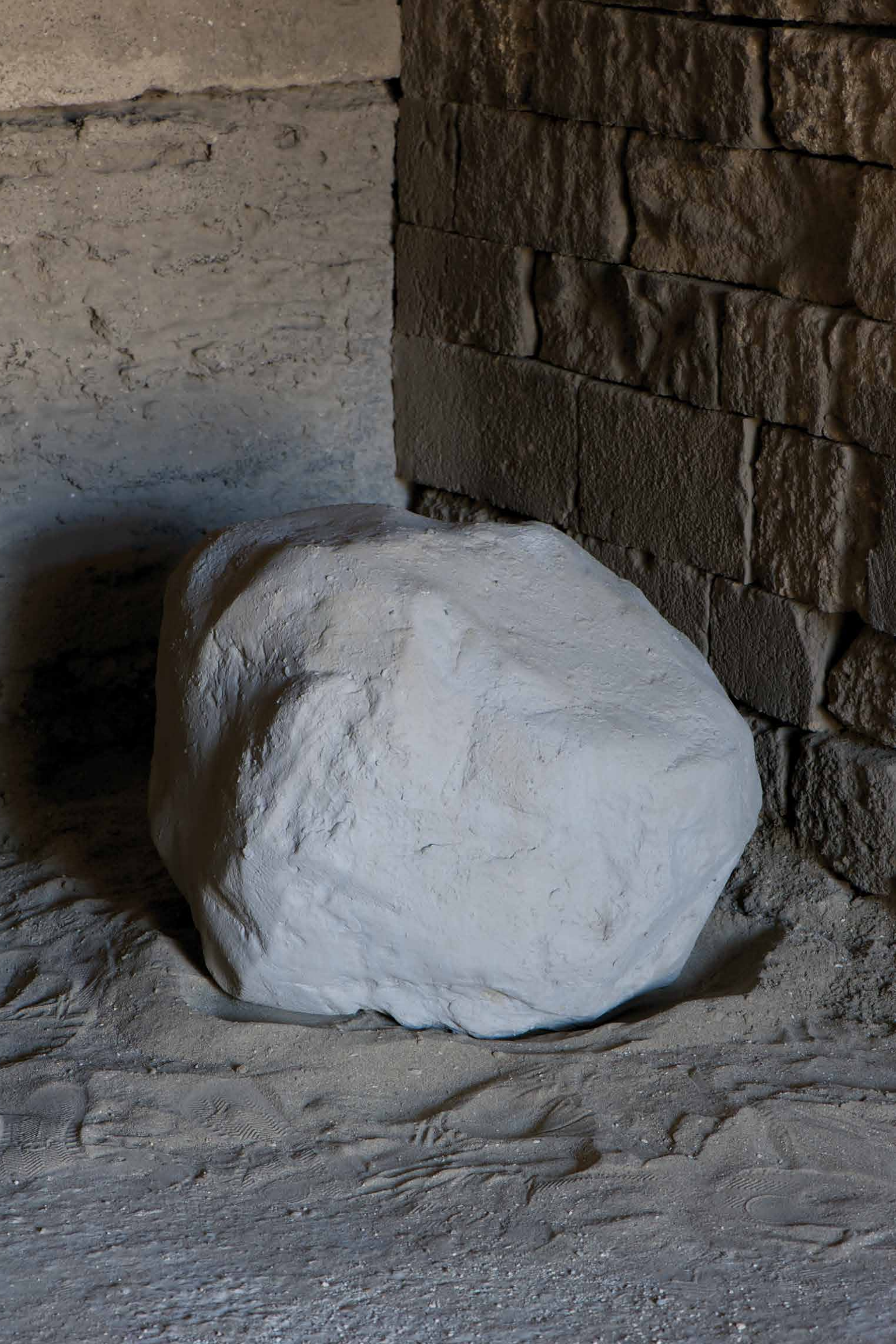
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19



17





The Voluntary Human Extinction Movement



“May we live long and die out”

Phasing out the human race by voluntarily ceasing to breed will allow Earth’s biosphere to return to good health. Crowded conditions and resource shortages will improve as we become less dense.

[Belarusian](#) | [Català](#) | [Chinese](#) | [Czech](#) | [Dansk](#) | [Deutsch](#) | [English](#) | [Español](#) | [Esperanto](#) | [Français](#) | [Hebrew](#) | [Ido](#) | [Interlingua](#) | [Interlingue](#) | [Italiano](#) | [Nederlands](#) | [Norsk](#) | [Occitan](#) | [Polski](#) | [Português](#) | [Romanian](#) | [Russian](#) | [Slovensky](#) | [Suomi](#) | [Svenska](#) | [Turkish](#)
Translations welcome

ABOUT THE MOVEMENT

- [What is the Voluntary Human Extinction Movement?](#)
- [Are you really serious?](#)
- [Are some people opposed to the VHEMT concept?](#)
- [What’s new?](#)
- [How do I join?](#)
- [How do I order stickers, T-shirts, and stuff?](#)

BIOLOGY AND BREEDING

- [What’s wrong with having babies? Don't you like babies?](#)
- [Aren't the wrong people making babies these days?](#)
- [I'm extra smart. Shouldn't I pass on my genes?](#)
- [What about the human instinct to breed?](#)
- [Do we have to stop having sex?](#)
- [Does VHEMT favor abortion?](#)
- [Will contraception lower birth rates?](#)

DEATH

- [Will new viruses, wars, famine, and toxic waste help the cause of human extinction?](#)
- [Are we all supposed to kill ourselves?](#)
- [Won't VHEMT die out when all its members die off?](#)
- [Why don't you just kill yourself?](#)
- [Is this another one of those suicide cults?](#)

DEMOGRAPHY

- [Birth rates are dropping all over the world. Isn't the “population bomb” a dud?](#)
- [If we only produce two children, doesn't that just replace ourselves?](#)
- [Will lower Infant Mortality Rates cause lower Total Fertility Rates?](#)

ECOLOGY

- [Is parenthood bad for Earth's ecology?](#)



- What's the big deal about animals going extinct?
- Are humans the most important species on Earth?
- How do I gauge the depth of my ecology?
- Don't humans have a place in Nature?
- Isn't over-population just a human distribution problem?
- Won't Mother Nature restore a balance if we get too over-populated?
- Why extinction? Why not just get our population down to a sustainable size?

ECONOMICS

- Does a growing economy require a growing population?
- Who will pay our social security when we're old?
- Is conservation the answer to resource depletion?
- Isn't over-population worse in poor countries?
- Is unequal distribution of wealth the cause of hunger rather than over-population?
- Wealthy countries have low fertility rates, so why not just increase a nation's GDP and let birth rates fall naturally?
- Is capitalism the main cause of environmental destruction?

POLITICS

- Didn't Hitler have the same ideas?
- Does VHEMT support China's one-child policy?
- Should human migration be controlled to help Earth's ecosystems?
- Will smart growth preserve green space around urban areas?
- What about our right to breed?

PHILOSOPHY and RELIGION

- What good is a healthy biosphere if there are no humans around to enjoy it?
- If there were a magic button for extinction, would you press it?
- Isn't over population just a symptom of the problem rather than the cause?
- Would we be better off if we had never been born?
- Are religions to blame for human over population?
- Earth's sun will burn out in a few billion years anyway, so what difference does it make?

SCIENCE FICTION and FANTASY

- Why can't new technological breakthroughs solve our problems?
- Without us, who would protect Earth from extraterrestrial threats like comets and asteroids?
- Why not clone extinct species from their DNA codes?
- Why not move excess human population to colonies on other planets?
- If we spread life to other planets, wouldn't there be more chance for it to survive?

FAILURE

- What if we fail to voluntarily phase ourselves out?

SUCCESS

- What will the world be like when our population starts getting smaller?
- Will human extinction solve all of Earth's problems?
- What will Earth be like without humans?
- Is voluntary human extinction possible?

Thank You For Not Breeding



Breeding

The life of a child and the life of an image are
legs of a ladder, held together
by the rungs between them.
It's a wobbly and complicated kinship

Each outgrows their parents,
becoming something that was not predicted.
Each moves around- some more than others.
each has a life of its own.

When an image is good, it might be closer to a bad child.
When a child is good, it might be closer to a bad image.
When a child is an image, it is not a child.
When an image is a child, you've grown too attached.

When a child likes an image, take guarded note
When a child doesn't like an image, inquire why.
There is no child that does not already have images.
There is no image that does not already have children.
There is no way to teach an image.
There are many ways to teach a child.
Some believe shielding a child keeps them pure.
Some confuse spectral color with skin.

Some think an image is strong enough to fight.

A child can learn different things, and
will learn without you.
You cannot protect an image forever.
You cannot protect a child forever.
Bad children are reared by a parent's lies
Bad images are formed with one truth in mind.
There are three pools on this island,
that keep all this inside.



BED BATH & BEYOND GOVERNORS ISLAND



TACKLE GOVERNORS ISLAND



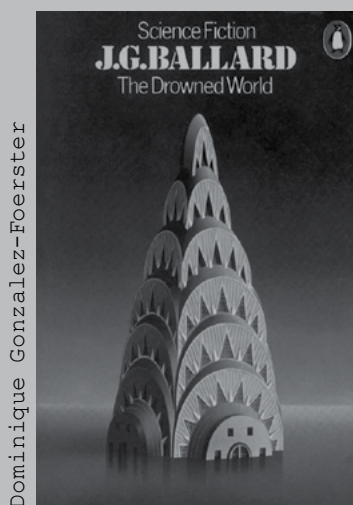




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THE VINEYARD GOVERNORS ISLAND

Drawing on past imaginations of the future, Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster offers a selection of books presenting dystopian visions and sci-fi prophecies of post-apocalyptic worlds. These narratives mark the continuous fascination with the transformation of the familiar present into an imminent, unknown future. This compilation of books emerges as a continuation of past projects presented at the Tate Modern, London (2008-2009) and Esther Schipper Gallery, Berlin (2012). Here, these titles are proposed as accompaniments to a visit - an array of potential narratives and quotations of the collective unconscious to be carried with you.



Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster (born 1965 in Strasbourg) lives in Paris and Rio de Janeiro. She has held solo exhibitions at institutions including MAM, Rio de Janeiro (2015), Palacio de Cristal, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid (2014), Dia Art Foundation, New York (2009), and Tate Modern, London (2008). Recent group exhibitions include *Parasophia*, Kyoto International Festival of Culture (2015), 1984-

1999. *The Decade*, Centre Pompidou-Metz, Metz (2014-2015), *Manifesta 10*, State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg (2014), *Lucius Burckhardt and Cedric Price – A Stroll Through a Fun Palace*, Swiss Pavilion, Biennale Architettura, Venice (2014), *To the Moon via the Beach*, LUMA Foundation, Arles (2012), *Making Worlds*, 53rd Venice Biennale (2009), and Documenta XI, Kassel (2002).

Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster
2058 (Bibliography), 2012

Courtesy the artist and
Esther Schipper, Berlin

✚ Ajay Kurian has replaced the cups used by the vendors on the island with those carrying the logo of the Voluntary Human Extinction Movement, a group dedicated to fixing environmental issues through the voluntary extinction of the human race. The cups carry the complexity of human-centric apocalyptic narratives, not to mention cold beverages. Kurian also shows a series of sculptures resembling children's pools that contain alternate worlds of images and objects.



Ajay Kurian (born 1984 in Baltimore, MD) lives in New York. He has recently had solo exhibitions at Artspeak, Vancouver (2014), 47 Canal, New York (2013), and

Jhaveri Contemporary, Mumbai (2013). Recent group exhibitions include *Open Source: Art at the Eclipse of Capitalism*, Galerie Max Hetzler, Paris and Berlin (2015), *nature after nature*, Fridericianum, Kassel (2014), and *ProBio, EXPO 1: New York*, MoMA PS1, Long Island City, NY (2013). In the past Kurian has organized exhibitions in New York as Gresham's Ghost. He has a solo show upcoming this fall at Rowhouse Project in Baltimore, MD.

Ajay Kurian

Untitled, 2015

Voluntary Human Extinction Movement website extract and poem for cereal boxes by the artist

The Very Best in Forms of Conquer, 2015

Mixed media

40x40x18 inches

How We Do, 2015

Mixed media

48x48x40 inches

Hypnagogia, 2015


Mixed media

40x40x18 inches

Untitled, 2015

20,000 cups

All works courtesy the artist and 47 Canal, New York

 Rachel Rose has created eight different maps that each present a different passageway through the island. The maps create specific experiences according to the role chosen: you can pick the path of the protagonist, sidekick, or skeptic, to name just a few of the characters available.




Rachel Rose (born 1986) lives in New York. She has forthcoming solo exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (2015), Castello di Rivoli, Turin (2015), Aspen Art Museum (2016) and Frieze London (2015). Recent group exhibitions include *The Importance of Being a (Moving) Image*, National Gallery, Prague (2015), *Taipei Biennial – The Great Acceleration* (2014), *Phantom Limbs*, Pilar Corrias, London (2014), *Geographies of Contamination*, David Roberts Foundation, London (2014), *Artist Spotlight: Rachel Rose, Migrating Forms*, BAM (Brooklyn Academy of Music), Brooklyn (2014), and *Chance Motives* at SculptureCenter, Long Island City, NY (2013).

Rachel Rose

Maps for Governors Island, 2015

Eight 5.5 x 8 inch maps

Courtesy the artist and
Pilar Corrias Gallery, London

 Aki Sasamoto has created a narrative around holes and the notion of trying to fit in. Her photo essay includes images and text that speak to isolation and empty space, suggesting a range of poetic and funny metaphors for islands.



Aki Sasamoto (born 1980 in Kanagawa, Japan) lives in New York. She has recently held solo exhibitions and performance productions at JTT, New York (2014), The Kitchen, New York (2014), Take Ninagawa, Tokyo (2012), Chocolate Factory Theater, New York (2012), as well as a two-person show at the Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY (2012). In addition, her work has been presented in group exhibitions including *Parasophia: Kyoto International Festival of Contemporary Culture*, Kyoto (2015), Pier 54, High Line Art, New York (2014), Gwangju Biennial: *Roundtable* (2012), *Greater New York: 5 Year Review*, MoMA PS1, Long Island City, NY (2010), the 2010 Whitney Biennial, New York, and *Freeway Balconies*, Deutsche Guggenheim, Berlin (2008).

Aki Sasamoto
Scarabs' Way, 2015
Photo essay

Courtesy the artist and Take
Ninagawa, Tokyo

§ Pilvi Takala has engaged in a virtual relationship, centered on the island, with Imaginary Girlfriends, a texting service that allows people to carry on fictional romances by phone. Takala has had an ongoing dialogue centered on romantic and adventurous dates on Governors Island, none of which have actually taken place. Her interactive project, *Invisible Friend*, is based on this research.

Pilvi Takala (born 1981 in Helsinki) lives in Helsinki and Istanbul. She has held recent solo exhibitions at Futura Centre for Contemporary Art, Prague (2014), Tartu Art Museum, Estonia (2014), Fabra I Coats, Contemporary Art Centre, Barcelona (2013), Bonniers Konsthall, Stockholm (2013), and Künstlerhaus Bremen (2012), among others. Her work has been presented in group exhibitions including *Shifting Identities*, Museum of Contemporary Art Rome (2014), *Image Employment*, MoMA PS1, Long Island City, NY (2013), 5th Moscow Biennale (2013), *Nouvelles vagues*, Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2013), *The Ungovernables*, New Museum, New York (2012), *VAN UIT HIER / OUT OF HERE*, Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven (2011), and the 9th Istanbul Biennial (2005).

Fri 27 Mar 16:25

So how did it go?

I'll tell you in a bit. You'll love the story.

Please tell me the story now, otherwise I won't come tonite.

I think someone needs to learn how o be patient. I want to tell you in person. :)

Pilvi Takala
Invisible Friend, 2015
SMS service

Research for *Invisible Friend*, 2015
Extract of SMS conversation using
'Invisible Girlfriends' service

All works courtesy the artist,
Carlos/Ishikawa, London and Stigter
Van Doesburg, Amsterdam

The Trust for Governors Island created Art CommissionsGI to give artists the opportunity to develop site-specific projects that respond to the Island's unique site and history, new landscapes, and democratic culture. The commissioned pieces expose the Island's diverse audiences to groundbreaking contemporary artworks in a singular, natural environment that is accessible to the public.

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THE TRUST FOR GOVERNORS ISLAND

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New York, New York 10004

Ronay Menschel, Chair
Leslie Koch, President

govisland.com

VISITORS

Governors Island

June 20 – September 27, 2015

Artists

Darren Bader, Nina Beier,
Peter Fischli and David Weiss,
Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster,
Ajay Kurian, Rachel Rose,
Aki Sasamoto, and Pilvi Takala

Curated by Tom Eccles
and Ruba Katrib

Design by Noah Venezia

Project Management and Support
Stephanie Shaw, Tracy Pollock,
Karlene King, and Meagan O'Neil

Curatorial Assistants
Josephine Graf, Tim Gentles,
and Adriana Blidaru

Visitors was made possible by
Art CommissionsGL.

Cover

Postcards of Governors Island
(View of Governors Island from
Lower Manhattan, Castle Williams,
Skyline of Manhattan from
Governors Island)

Darren Bader
Nina Beier
Peter Fischli and David Weiss
Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster
Ajay Kurian
Rachel Rose
Aki Sasamoto
Pilvi Takala

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