

Whispers of the Vanishing

A collaborative endeavor, comprised of a cross-disciplinary collective, endeavors to shed light on the grave consequences of glacial melting and climate change. This initiative is underpinned by the creation of an innovative artistic installation that seeks not only to illuminate but also to educate the populace regarding the urgent environmental quandaries confronting our global community.

Three Artifact Series

1. Photography
2. Timelapse
3. Digital Animation

Glacier Melting

Glacier melting, driven by climate change, poses significant concerns despite its subtle presence in urban areas. It contributes to rising sea levels, leading to coastal flooding and land loss. Additionally, glaciers serve as vital freshwater reservoirs, essential for agriculture and ecosystems. Their retreat disrupts biodiversity and alters weather patterns, triggering extreme events. While not immediately visible in cities, glacier melt threatens global water security, ecosystem stability, and exacerbates climate-related challenges. Addressing climate change is imperative to mitigate these impacts and safeguard vulnerable communities and ecosystems from the far-reaching consequences of glacier melt.



Image source:
<https://www.nbcnews.com/science/environment/satellites-show-worlds-glaciers-melting-faster-ever-rcna791>

Blood Falls

Blood Falls is a captivating natural phenomenon found in Antarctica's Taylor Glacier, where water rich in iron oxide flows from beneath the glacier, giving it a vivid red color. This remarkable sight, initially thought to be the blood of ancient life forms, is now understood to be caused by the oxidation of iron-rich subglacial brine. While not directly caused by the climate crisis, Blood Falls is still significant in understanding the Earth's changing climate. It serves as a reminder of the intricate and poorly understood processes occurring beneath glaciers, highlighting the need for continued research into the dynamics of polar ice sheets. Furthermore, the accelerating retreat of glaciers in Antarctica due to global warming may eventually expose more of these subglacial environments, potentially leading to the discovery of similar phenomena. Thus, while not a direct consequence of climate change, Blood Falls underscores the urgent need to address the broader issues surrounding glacial melting and its implications for the planet's future.



Project Inspirations: Sculptural Art



Paul Kos
The Sound of Ice Melting, 1970



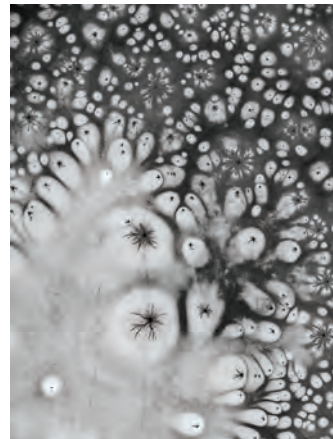
Olafur Eliasson
Ice Watch, 2014
Photo: Charlie Forgham-Bailey



Susan Schuppli
Moving Ice, 2024



Norway Ice Music Festival, 2018



Kacper Kowalski
Event Horizon 30, 2021

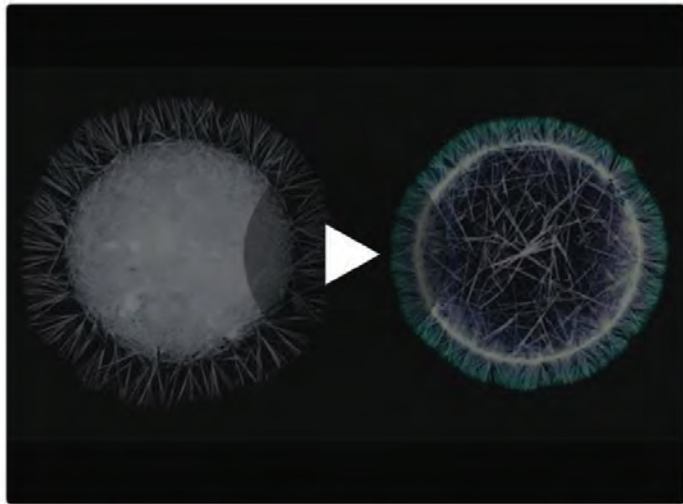


Michael Massaias
Melting Ice Cream Pops, 2014

We were inspired by a wide diversity of works in different mediums that used ice and melting as a way to bring across the key message.

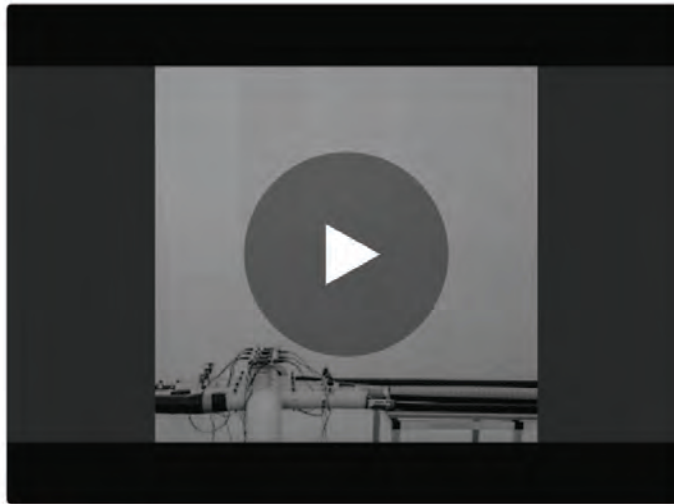
Abstract and more direct means of representation were also looked into.

Project Inspirations: Sound



YouTube Jana Winderen - Spring Bloom in the Marginal Ice Zo... ?

Jana Winderen
Spring Bloom in the Marginal Ice Zone, 2021



YouTube Blizzard ?

Philip Samartzis
Blizzard, 2021



YouTube Thomas Köner - Daiken ?

Thomas Koner
Daiken, 2017

LISTENING TO ICE

RESEARCH WORKS WRITING ABOUT



Listening to Ice (preview clip) by Susan Schuppli, 4K feature film, colour with Dolby 5.1 or stereo sound, 2023, 1:10:27 mins.

Listening to Ice documents the activities of a small team of researchers from India and the UK who made their way to Drang Drung Glacier in the Zaskar Range of the northeastern Himalayas in 2021 to study the impacts of climate change.

Susan Schuppli
Listening to Ice, 2024

Using sound as inspiration, recording the delicate drip of melting ice can evoke a sense of the passage of time and the fragility of our frozen landscapes. Capturing these sonic nuances not only offers an auditory window into the transformative process of ice melting but also serves as a poignant reminder of the urgent need for climate action.

Using Ice as a Medium

1 Emotional Provocation

Exploring how ice can be utilized to evoke deep emotions related to the climate crisis.

2 Interdisciplinary Insights

Understanding the perspectives of both artists and scientists on using ice as a medium to convey messages.

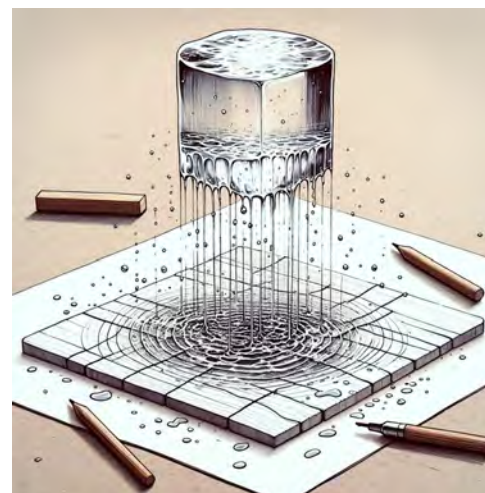
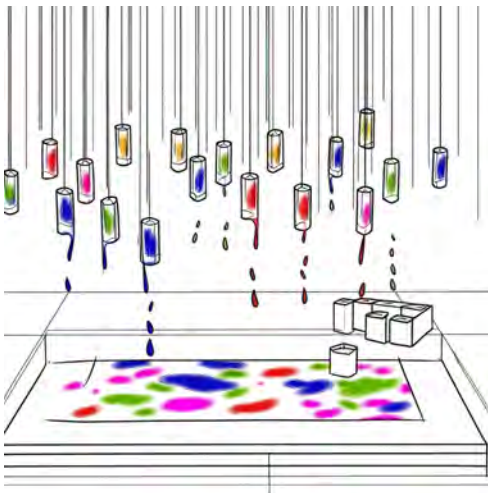
3 Multidisciplinary Outcomes

We can explore multidisciplinary outcomes such as immersive sensory experiences, enhanced emotional engagement, and interactive storytelling by integrating sound, video projection, and sculpture in an artistic installation.

4 Sustainable Art Medium

Ice, as a sustainable art medium, offers a powerful means to address environmental themes. Its use in art symbolizes the natural water cycle and environmental conservation in the era of climate change.

- Evolution of Ideas: Transitioning from mycelium and coral reefs to a focus on melting ice sculptures.
- Interdisciplinary Approach: Converging environmental science, art, and digital technology to convey the message.
- Evolution of Installation Elements: The team has explored the metamorphosis of ice in real-time, capturing its transformation as a poignant symbol of environmental loss.
- The auditory component has been carefully curated to embody the voice of the disappearing glaciers, offering a haunting soundscape that echoes the silent emergency of our era.



Making Process

Instructions:

Step 1: Preparation of Colored Ice

Mix water with red and blue food coloring in separate containers. Carefully pour the colored water into the transparent cylinders, filling them up to a desired level before freezing them in the freezer till solid.

Step 2: Setting Up the Installation

Choose a suitable location and lay down a protective sheet or tray beneath where the canvas will be placed. Ensuring there is a sturdy overhang structure that can hold the weight of the ice cylinders. Place the canvas directly under the hung ice cylinders.

Step 3: Assembling the Installation

Once the liquid is completely frozen, attach the ice cylinders to the overhang structure. Ensure they are securely fastened and positioned so they drip directly onto the canvas.

Step 4: Observing the Melting Process

As the ice cylinders melt, observe the patterns formed by the colored water on the canvas. Adjust the cylinders if needed to create desired effects.

Step 5: Post-Installation

Once the ice has fully melted, clean up any spilled water and dismantle the installation. Allow the canvas to dry. You may apply a protective coat to preserve the artwork.

Materials Needed:

Transparent Cylinders: Acrylic or glass tubes, small in diameter.

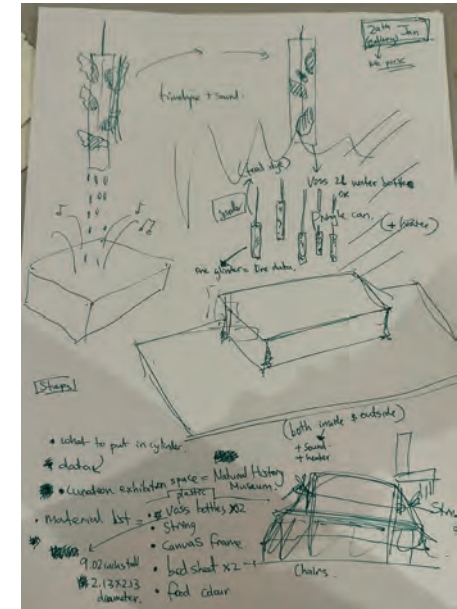
Colored Liquid: Water-soluble, non-toxic food coloring.

Freezing Equipment: Standard freezer with enough space for the cylinders.

Support Structure: A frame or overhang structure to suspend the cylinders above the canvas.

Canvas: Any textile sheet, size depending on your installation space.

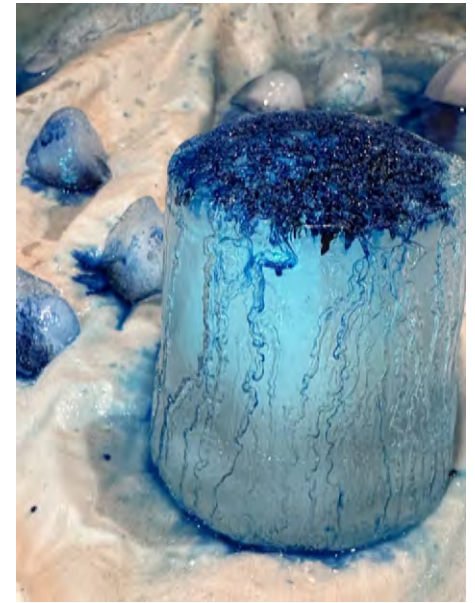
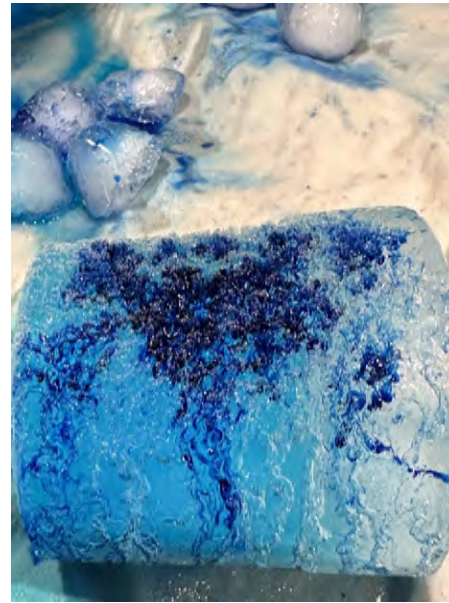
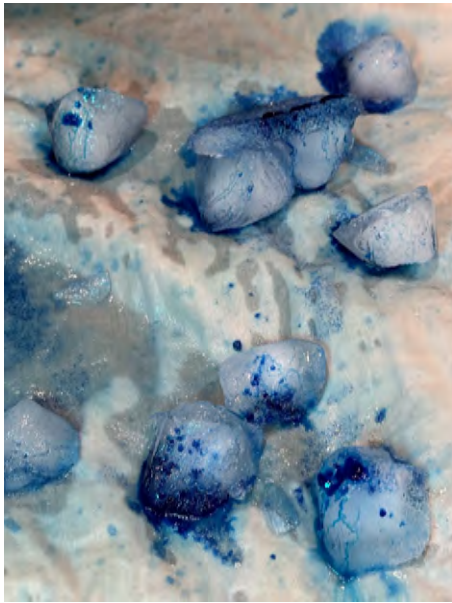
Protective Sheet or Tray: To catch melting water and protect the floor.



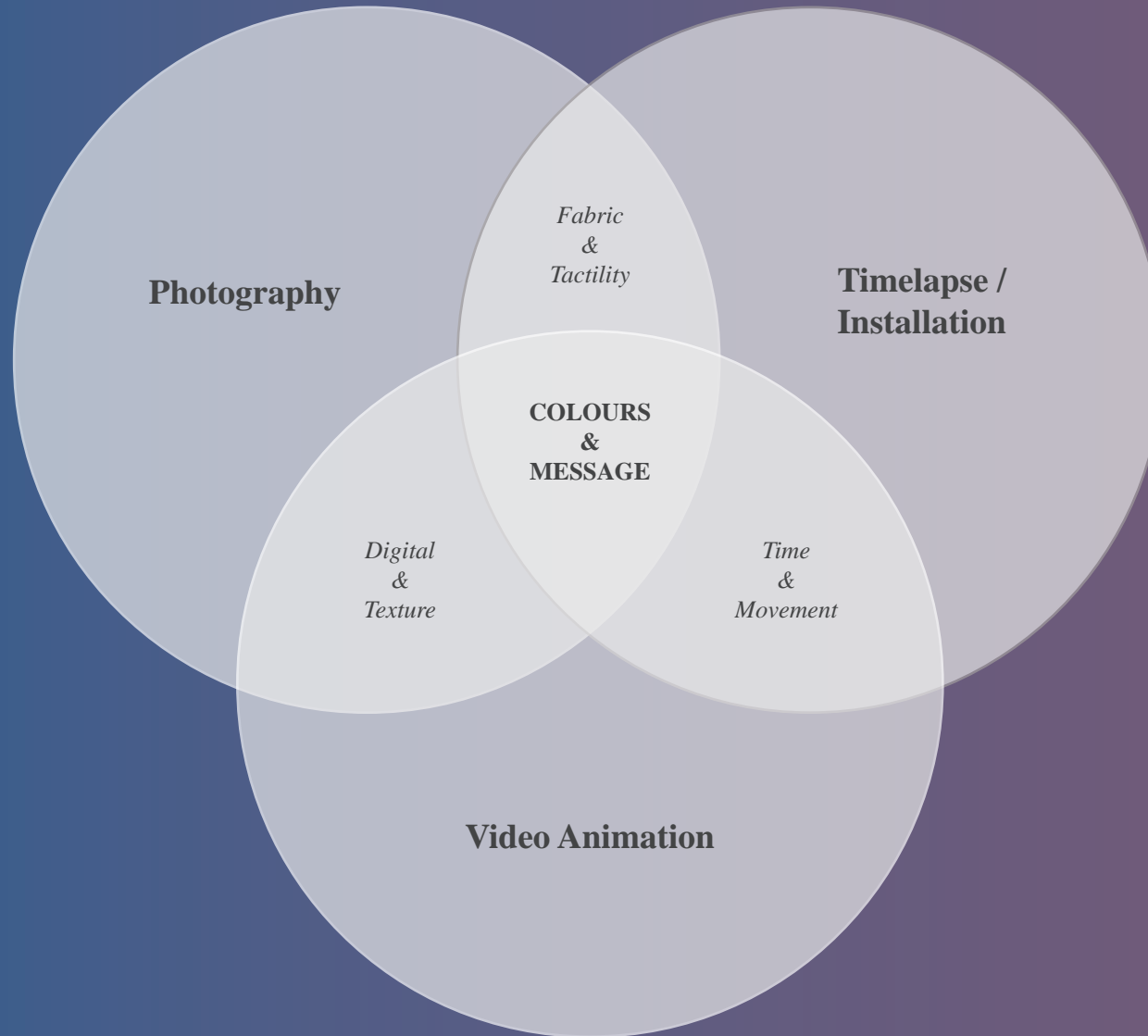
Red: Representing Blood Fall

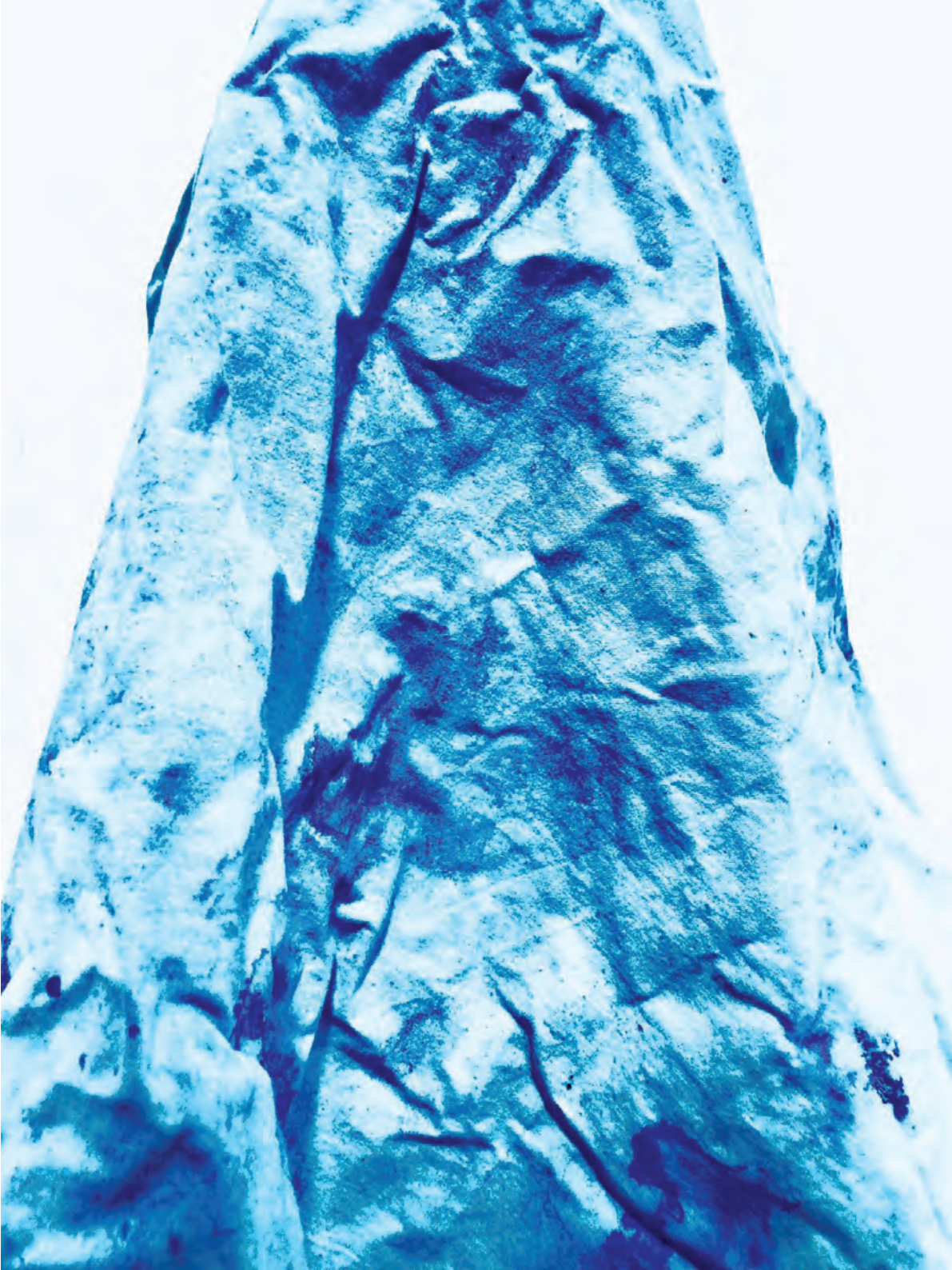


Blue: Making ice melting visible



Interdisciplinary Approach



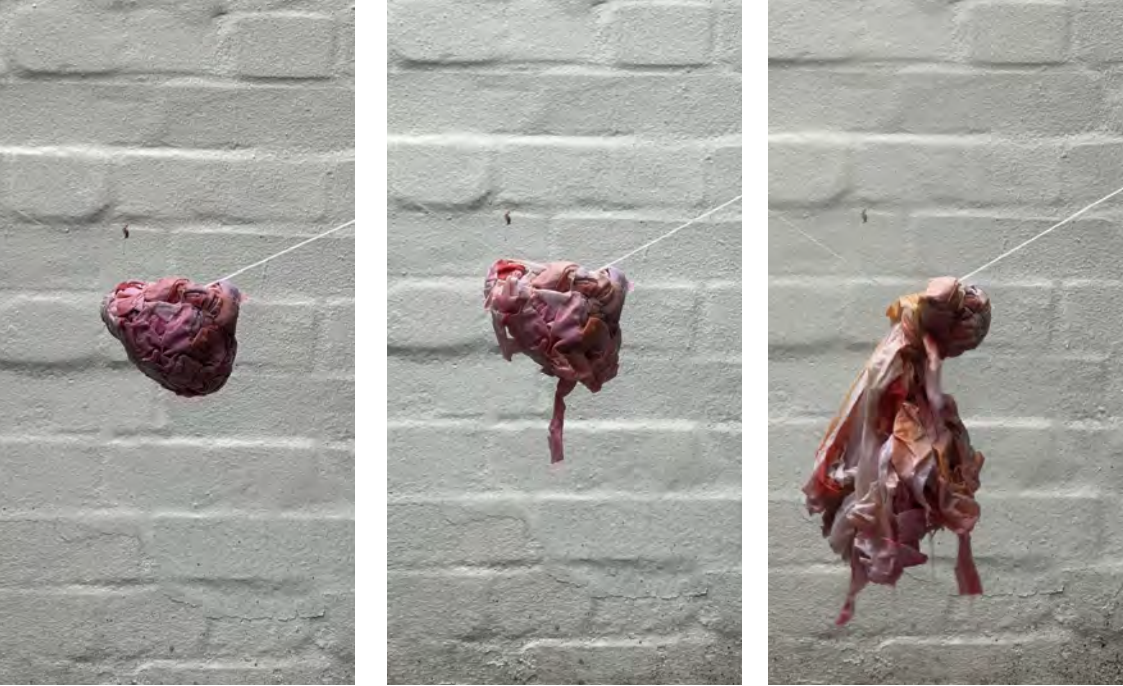


Artefact 1 - Photography

Using photography as a medium to capture xxx

text from wayne / maggie ...???

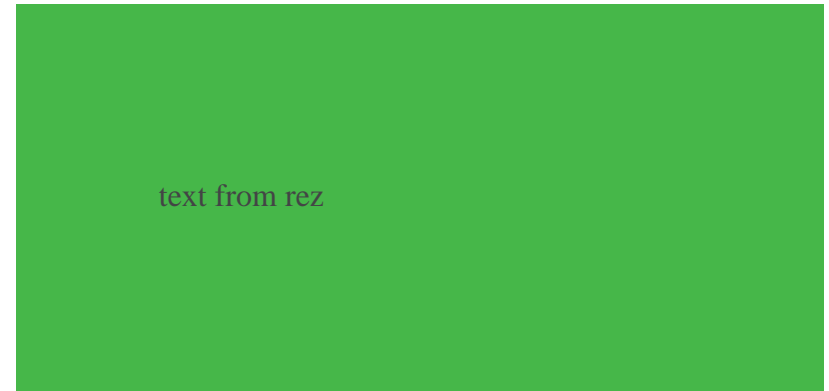
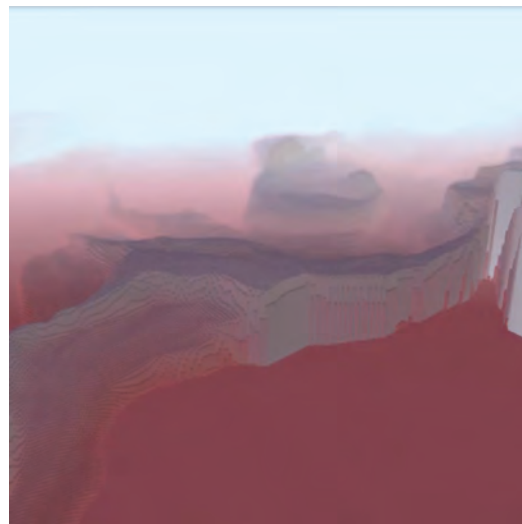
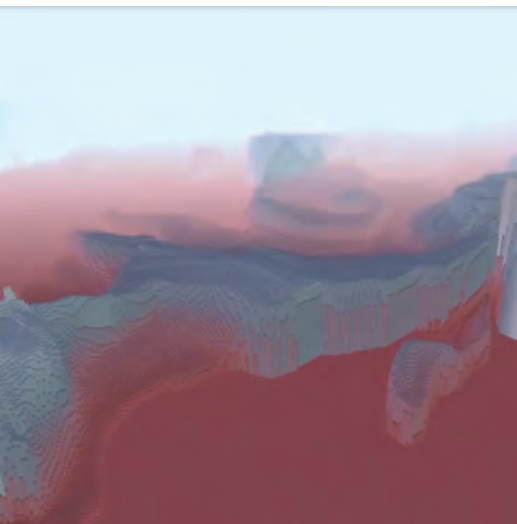
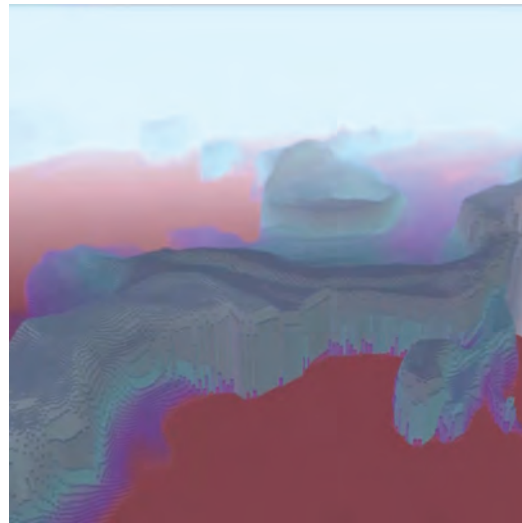
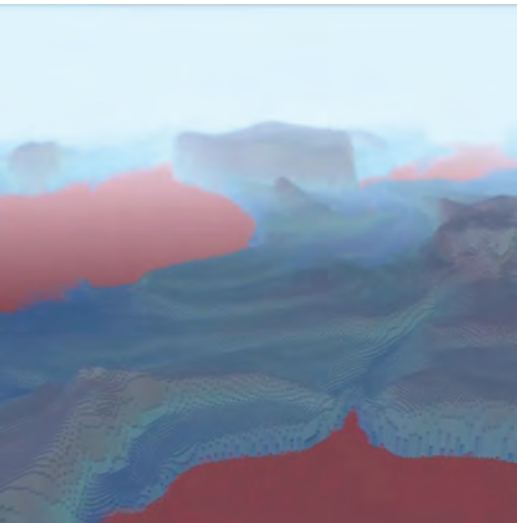
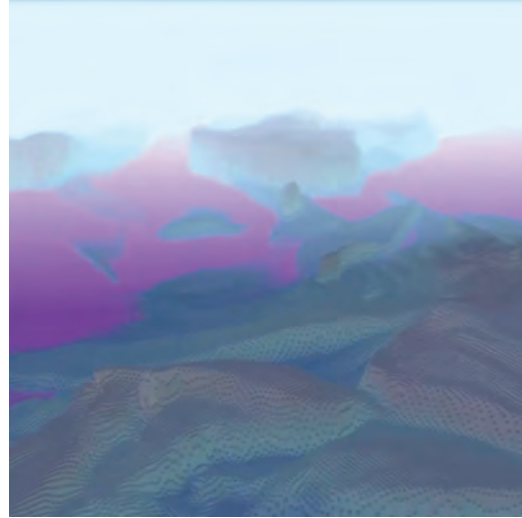
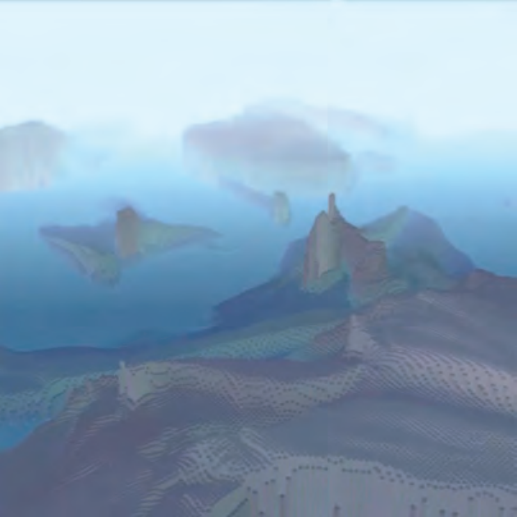




Artifact 2 - Timelapse Video / Installation

Made from strips of torn old bedsheets fused together, a sculpture takes shape, unraveling gradually like the thawing of Blood Falls. Resembling a human figure, its red hue evokes a sense of unease in viewers. This transformation illustrates the impact of climate change, urging us to consider the urgency of protecting our environment. With its crimson tone reminiscent of blood, the sculpture compels contemplation of the profound effects of environmental degradation and underscores the necessity of conservation efforts.





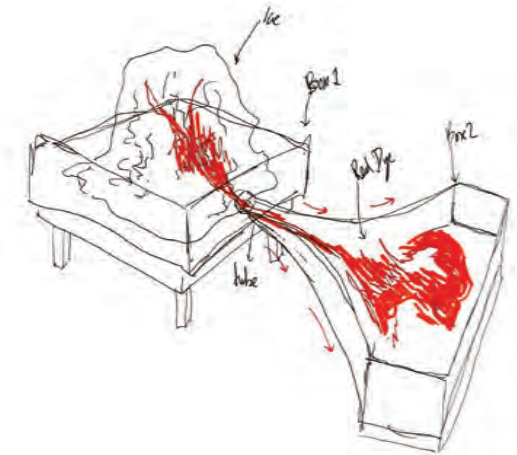
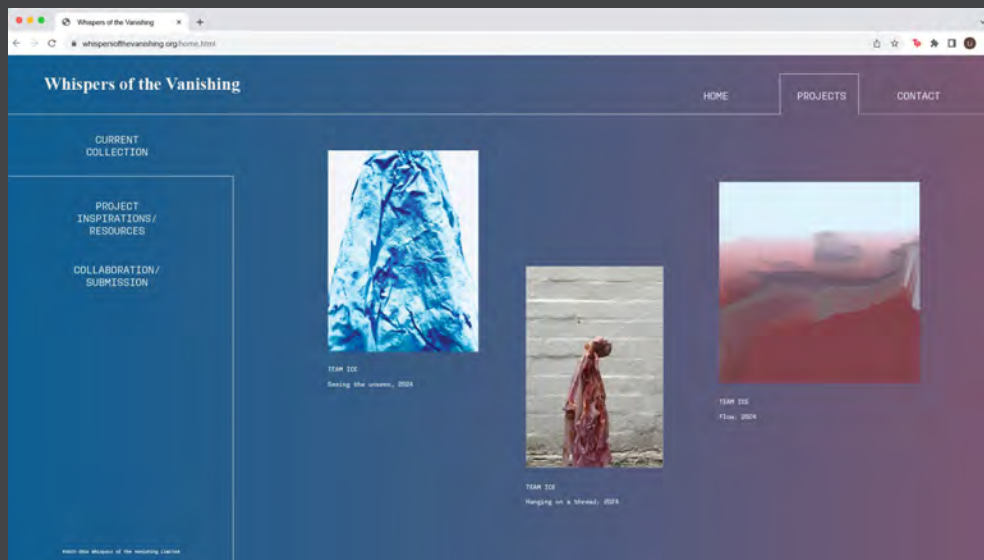
Artifact 3 - Digital Animation

Moving On

These are just three of many possibilities in the representation of ice and melting to create art objects that talk about the impacts on global warming and climate change.

All these could be documented on an online website which includes resources from all our research as well as project examples which used ice as a medium.

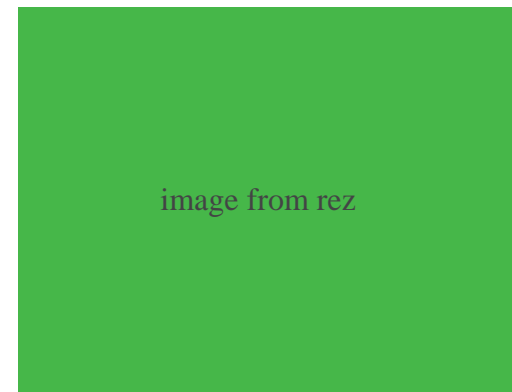
An open call can be held to allow other individuals to come up with their own interpretation and understanding of the subject matter. Submissions could be accepted through the website and an exhibition with all the artefacts could be held to generate a wider conversation.



Ice Volcano Box
From Joseph, age 16



Ice Skater Dress
From Sophia, age 20



Quick Sketches from peers we reached out to when we asked them for how they will/can shed light on this issue using Blue and Red as colour sources to talk about glacial melting and the blood falls.

Team Ice

Li Si Yi	10037752
Li Tian Rei	10036723
Maggie Law	10036071
Wayne Huang	10015163