

Exhibition on the ice Everything melts



Photo: Courtesy Apexart
Eliana Otta "Vicarious fragile pilgrims", 2020, from the exhibition "Goodbye World", Apexart Open Call Exhibition



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The climate change exhibition "Goodbye, World" brings works of art to the frozen Baltic Sea in the Swedish part of Lapland. When the ice melts, they will sink into the sea

The German artist Olaf Nicolai neatly arranged crockery and cutlery on the floor. It looks like an opulent picnic for one person or an elaborate ritual could start here anytime. But if you want to settle down at Nicolais "Picnic, égoïste", you shouldn't be too sensitive to the cold. Because the work is located on a snow-covered ice surface in the arctic part of the Baltic Sea in northern Sweden and unfolds in the lonely winter desert an absurdity that also makes you think about the mass of things. The work is part of the exhibition "Goodbye, World", for which the Berlin curators Raimar Stange and Andreas Templin, in cooperation [with the New York art organization Apexart](#), brought works to an ice floe in the Gulf of Bothnia. Martha Rosler printed Mike Pence and his "Space Force" idea as a motif on a cake that animals can eat, Peter Niemann hung a tailor-made suit by Joseph Beuys on a stick and Nadira Husain lets a light blue clay turtle through the snow to be wrong.

The works of art will stand there until the ice begins to melt in spring and the works will gradually subside. This fairly corona-compliant exhibition, which is documented online, is not only a plea for exhibiting in pandemic times, but also a commentary on another crisis: climate change, which has led to record temperatures in the Arctic in recent years and melts the formerly eternal ice. Sinking sculptures are certainly not the most subtle metaphor for this creeping catastrophe, but Stange und Templin is also concerned with another aspect. They want to shed light on the role of the art market in the global material battle, which is based on the constant circulation of goods and relies on the visibility of works.

In this respect, it is a gesture that is as discreet as possible, with which works that also revolve around human hubris are lowered to the sea floor far from civilization and thus withdrawn from the market. The organizers emphasize that all works are made of degradable materials. We really don't need any more plastic waste in the sea.

All photos and videos of the exhibition [can be seen on "Apexart"](#)