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BRIC CONTEMPORARY ART
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BRIC Arts | Media | Bklyn Presents
Water Water Every Where
at BRIC Rotunda Gallery

Seven Artists Examine Water's Ubiquity In Everyday Life

Opening Reception Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Anne Percoco. *Indra's Cloud*, 2008. Digital photograph, 20 x 30 in. Courtesy of the artist.



Brooklyn, NY – BRIC Arts | Media | Bklyn presents ***Water Water Every Where***, a group exhibition examining water's ubiquity – its presence in our everyday life, in geopolitical reality, and in transcendent moments of existence. “The condition of the New Yorker is to be surrounded by water and yet to be little aware of it,” says the exhibition’s curator and Director of Contemporary Art at BRIC, Elizabeth Ferrer. “We are largely island dwellers, residing in a city whose geography features rivers, creeks, channels, estuaries, tidal straits, a grand harbor,

and the Atlantic Ocean. And yet we tend to look inward (and indeed, upwards), when imagining the contours of the city.” ***Water Water Every Where*** opens with a reception **Wednesday, March 16, 2011** at BRIC Rotunda Gallery and will be on view through **Saturday, April 30, 2011**.

Water Water Every Where includes the work of seven artists, six based in New York, and one in Mexico City – **Marie Lorenz, Mary Mattingly, Anne Percoco, Sreshta Rit Premnath, Joni Sternbach, Aleksei Stevens, and Kurt Hollander**. Their work encompasses photography, video, installation, sculpture, work on paper, and sound projects, varied means that examine water’s inextricable presence in our lives.

Works in the exhibition include *Aqua 2000*, a new, large-scale sculpture by Mary Mattingly recreating a water kiosk in Yuma, Arizona, a city with one of the hottest climates in the United States, and where such high-profit vending stations are proliferating. The exhibition will also feature Aleksei Steven’s 2010 *Standing Water: Sound Map of the Gowanus Canal*. This revelatory, 18-minute work in 6 movements is based on sounds he gathered using a hydrophone, an underwater microphone, in different parts of one of the city’s most infamously polluted waterways. It will be presented within the exhibition as an intimate environment, accompanied by Stevens’ small-scale photos of the murky canal waters. The photographer Joni Sternbach will contribute work from two series to the exhibition. They include a video and large-scale photograph capturing the movements of surfers on Long Island’s East End, as well as smaller-scale palladium

prints from her *Sea/Sky* series, landscapes that study the effects of light on water, and that transform primal natural elements into poetic abstractions.

Water Water Every Where will also contain a historic component, a selection of early 20th-century photographs, part of a hand-bound, multi-volume series of scrapbooks documenting the construction of the Catskill water supply system to New York. These photographs illuminate another crucial aspect of the role of water in the lives of New Yorkers: the massive, century-old engineering system that makes survival possible in our vast metropolis, yet that is little heeded by the city's eight million citizens. These photographs are lent by private collection.

Through varied means, the artists in this exhibition examine a diverse range of topics and issues, local and global. They include water as commodity and need; sport and risk; hygiene and the realm of the personal; water as artistic inspiration; spirituality, myth, and ritual; the U.S. military; and acts of piracy in international waters. And although the focus of this curatorial project is not emphatically environmental or political, these themes flow persistently through the work in this exhibition. Water affects *everybody's* life *everyday*, whether in its absence or excess, visibility or invisibility

Water Water Every Where will be accompanied by an illustrated, 24-page catalogue. In addition, with this exhibition BRIC will inaugurate a series of readings entitled *Ripple*. Curated by **Hawley Hussey** and **Kate Hill Cantrill**, two writers will be invited to read in each program; these individuals will in turn invite two others to complete an evenings' roster of readers. Writers taking part in the first edition of *Ripple* are **Greg Fuchs**, **Michele Madigan Somerville**, **Justin Petropoulos** and **Sara Jane Stoner**. Sound artist and composer **Bill Brovold** will present a piece inspired by water following the first set of readings. The program will be held on **Wednesday, April 6, 2011 from 7-9pm**, and is open to the public free of charge.

The exhibition is curated by Elizabeth Ferrer, Director of Contemporary Art at BRIC Arts | Media | Bklyn. Ms. Ferrer's earlier curatorial projects at BRIC include the 2009 *Status Report*, an exhibition about the border, immigration, and labor; and the 2010 *the no place*, an assemblage of work in varied media that offered poetic visualizations of unseen, the inaccessible, and politically charged spaces. Previous exhibitions curated by Ms. Ferrer have been presented at such venues as the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC; the Aperture Gallery, the Americas Society Art Gallery, and the UBS Art Gallery, all New York; the Austin Museum of Art; and the Snite Museum, University of Notre Dame, South Bend.

BRIC Rotunda Gallery
the contemporary art space of BRIC Arts | Media | Bklyn

Directions Located in Brooklyn Heights, BRIC Rotunda Gallery is a short walk from the 2,3; 4,5; R train at Court Street/Borough Hall; or the A, C trains at High Street.

Hours The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday, 12-6pm free of charge

Cost Events at the gallery are free to the public.



BRIC Arts | Media | Bklyn is a multi-disciplinary arts and media non-profit dedicated to presenting contemporary art, performing arts, and community media programs that are reflective of Brooklyn's diverse communities, and to providing resources and platforms to

support the creative process. All of our offerings are free or low cost, to enhance the public's access to and understanding of arts and media. Each year, upwards of a million people in Brooklyn and citywide are served through our programs. BRIC's contemporary art initiatives aim is to increase the visibility and accessibility of contemporary art while bridging the gap between the art world and global culture in Brooklyn through exhibitions, public events, and an innovative arts education program at BRIC Rotunda Gallery and around the borough.

BRIC acknowledges public funds for its contemporary art programs from the Institute of Museum and Library Services; National Endowment for the Arts; New York State Council on the Arts; New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; New York State Senators Velmanette Montgomery and Daniel Squadron; New York State Assembly members Inez Barron, Hakeem Jeffries, Alec Brook-Krasny, and Joan Millman; and New York City Council members Lewis A. Fidler, Brad Lander, Stephen Levin, Darlene Mealy, Domenic M. Recchia, Jr., and Albert Vann. Additional support provided by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts; The Lily Auchincloss Foundation; Barclays/Nets Community Alliance; the Robert Lehman Foundation; and the Tiger Baron Foundation.

Special thanks to Lead 2010-11 Exhibition Season Sponsor, Two Trees Management Co. LLC.



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