

# *HUMAN/NATURE*

## A Guide for Closer Looking

### Glossary

**Adaptation** is the process in which a living thing changes slightly over time so it can continue to exist in a particular environment

**Artificial Intelligence (AI)** is the ability of a computer program or a machine to think and learn

**Algorithm** is a set of instructions for solving a problem or accomplishing a task

**Biodiversity** is all the variety of life that can be found on Earth (plants, animals, fungi and microorganisms) as well as to the communities that they form and the habitats in which they live

**Catastrophe** is a sudden and widespread disaster

**Collective action** is action taken together by a group of people whose goal is to enhance their condition and achieve a common goal

**Climate change** is the long-term alteration of temperature and typical weather patterns in a place

**Continuum** is something that keeps on going and changes slowly over time

**Crossroads** is the point at which an important choice has to be made

**Environmental disaster** is a specific event caused by human activity that results in a seriously negative effect on the environment

**Environment** is the air, water, and land in or on which people, animals, and plants live

**Environmental equity** describes a world in which no single group or community faces disadvantages in dealing with environmental hazards, disasters, or pollution

**Humanity** is the human race, which includes everyone on Earth

**Irreversible** is impossible to change or to return to a previous condition

**Nature** is all the animals, plants, and other things in the world that are not made by humans, and all the events and processes that are not caused by humans

**Stewardship** is the activity or job of protecting and being responsible for something



**ABOUT THE EXHIBITION**

*Human/Nature* addresses one of the most urgent issues of our time—climate change.

*Human/Nature* features work by Laura Ball, Stas Bartnikas, Obvious, Donovan Quintero, Karen Reimer, Matthew Ritchie, Regan Rosburg.

**CURATOR'S NOTE**

Humanity is at a critical crossroads—it is widely acknowledged that we must take immediate action or our planet will face irreversible climate catastrophe. The exhibition combines visual imagery and scientific interviews to explore our paths forward. What will the world look like if we do not reverse our current path? Alternatively, what will the future look like if we take action now?

— Cyndi Conn, Curator of *Human/Nature*

**ABOUT OUR PARTNER**

The Bulletin of Atomic Scientists equips the public, policymakers, and scientists with the information needed to reduce man-made threats to our existence. The Bulletin is a media organization, posting free articles on its website and publishing a premium digital magazine. In addition, the Bulletin's website, iconic Doomsday Clock, and regular events help advance actionable ideas at a time when technology is outpacing our ability to control it. The Bulletin focuses on three main areas: nuclear risk, climate change, and disruptive technologies. What connects these topics is a driving belief that because humans created them, we can control them.



**Interviews** ●

**Take Action** ●

**Exhibition Checklist** ●

**Weinberg/Newton Gallery** ●

**Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists** ●





Click on the blue dots to interact

What is the relationship between humans and the environment?

Do you see climate change as a natural cycle of the earth, human-made, or both? What experiences bring you to that understanding?





What is your experience of climate change? How have you been impacted or what observations have you noticed?

What do you think the world look like if we do not reverse our current path? What do you think the future will look like if we take action now?



● View

View ●



● Analyze



● View

Coloring page ●

How are humans, animals, and plants interconnected?  
What does environmental stewardship mean to you?

● **HUMAN/NATURE** Gallery One

Click on the blue dots to interact





 Watch

What natural resources do you have access to? Why are they important to you and your community?

How is climate change impacting your community?

What communities are most impacted by climate change?How does this affect everyone?



# OBVIOUS & STAS BARTNIKAS

Watch ●

● Learn

● Explore Stas Bartnikas photographs

What is the relationship between technology and the environment?

What can AI teach us about the earth?



 **View work in Gallery One**



 **View**

**View** 

How do we know that the climate is changing? How does it connect with you personally?

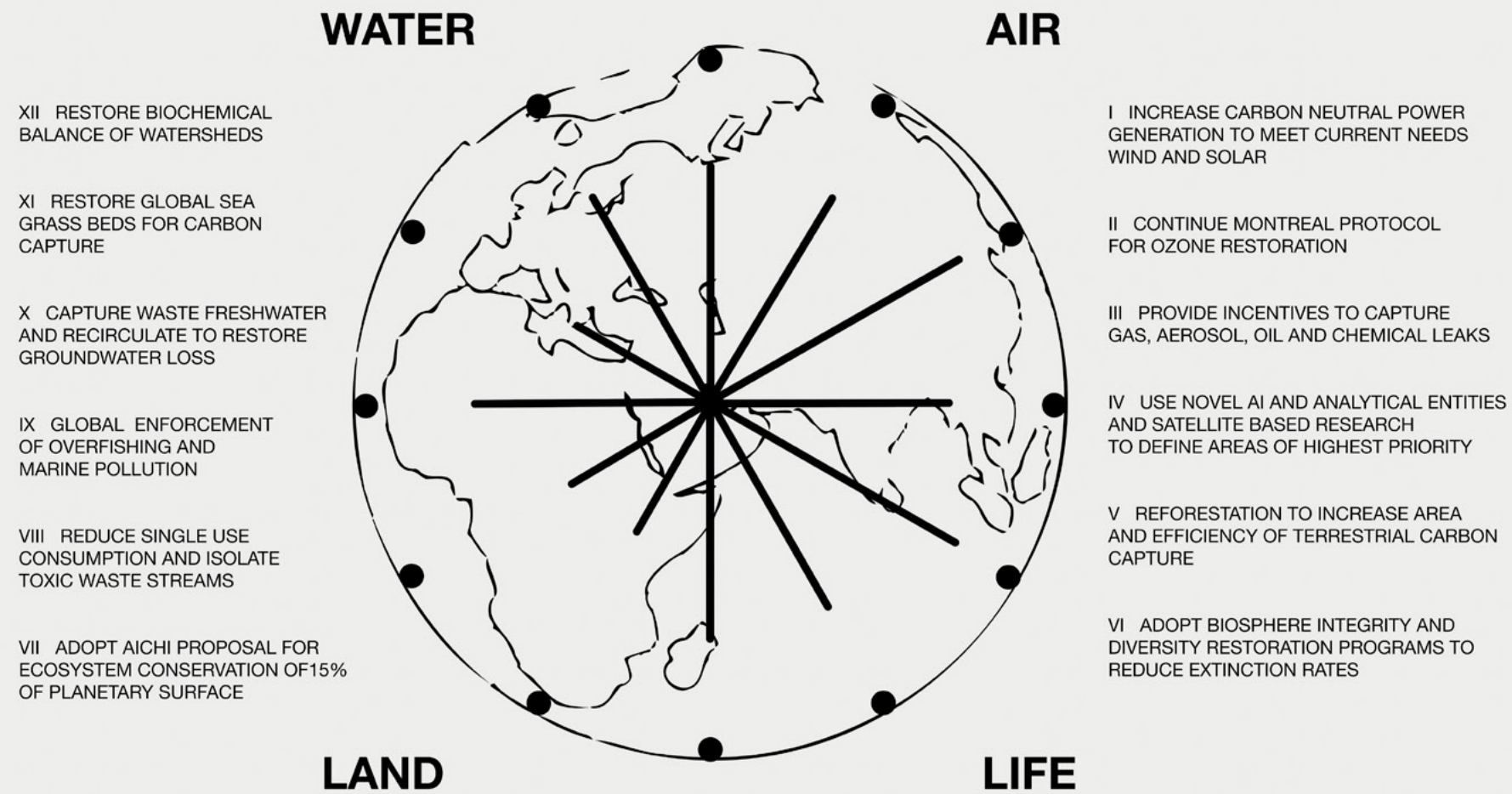
What information do charts and graphs provide? What do they leave out?

 **HUMAN/NATURE** Gallery Two

Click on the blue dots to interact



View ●



● Participate

Unlike the Doomsday clock, the goal of the 'life clock' is to build out collective action from the center, moving simultaneously in all directions, with each proposal presented in response to a planetary boundary collapse.\*

\*"Planetary boundaries: exploring the safe operating space for humanity." Rockström, J., W. Steffen, K. Noone, Å. Persson, et.al. 2009. <https://www.stockholmresilience.org/research/planetary-boundaries>.

View work in Gallery One ●

What positive actions are currently being taken to fight climate change? What more should be done?

What actions can you take?

● **HUMAN/NATURE** Gallery Two

Click on the blue dots to interact



What relationship do you have with nature?

**Describe a nature memory.**

What did you see, feel, smell, hear?

What living things were there?

What non-living things were there?

Who was there with you?

What things did you do?

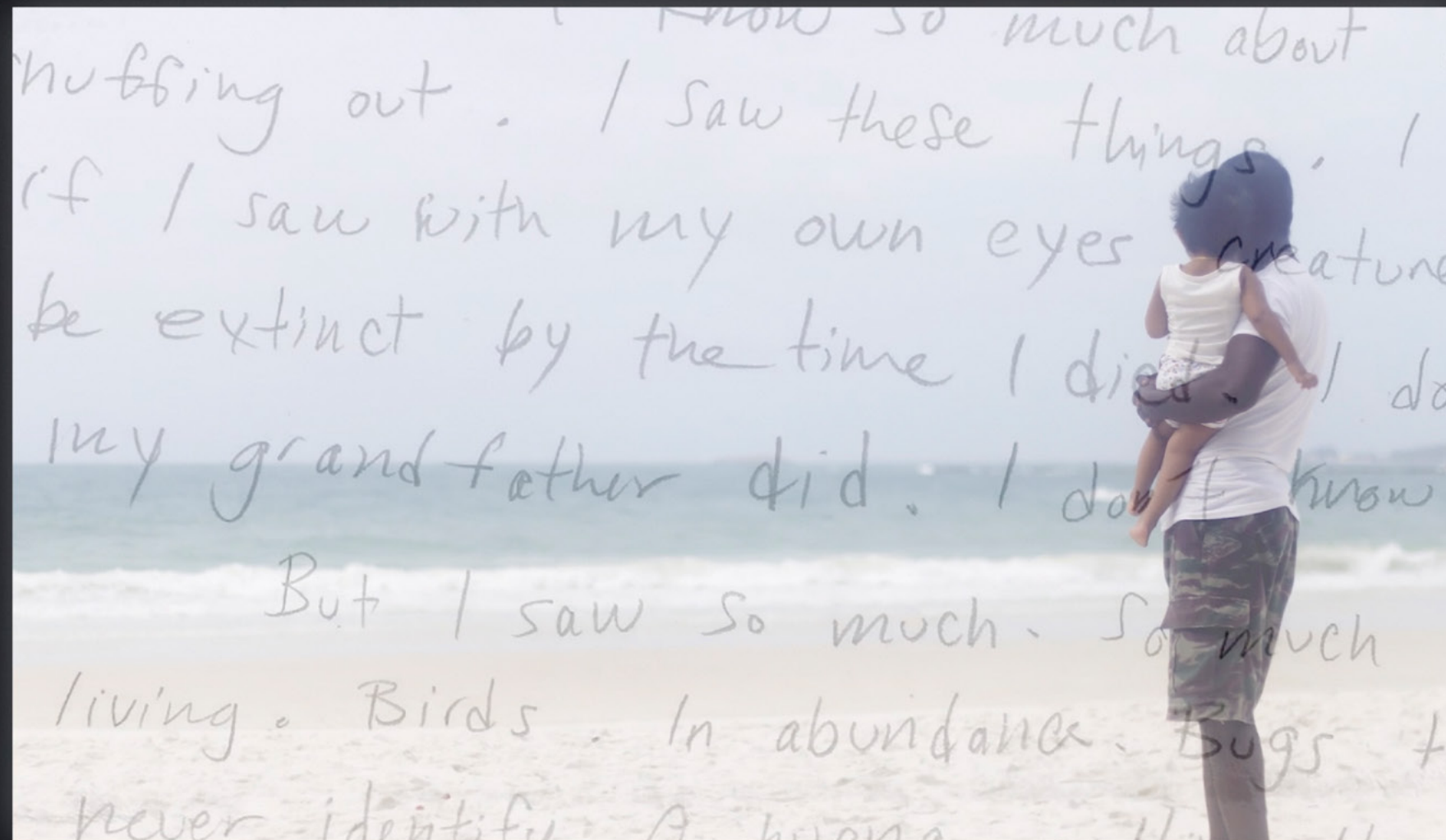
How did you feel?



 **View**



Watch



View *Everything is Fine*

When did you realize that climate change was affecting your life? How did you feel?

What hopes and concerns do you have for yourself, your community, your country, the world, and/or our planet?



**HUMAN/NATURE** Gallery Two



# LAURA BALL

List all of the things you see.

What things do you recognize? What things seem new to you?

Does the artwork depict a scene from real life or imagination? What about the artwork makes you think this?

How does the artist use color?

What other details do you notice?

How does your eye move through the artwork? What choices did the artist make to make that happen?

Does the placement of color within the artwork remind you of anything?

What do you think is happening in this artwork? What else could be happening?

What is the mood of the artwork?

What is your emotional response to the artwork? What makes you feel the way you do?

How can you connect this artwork to your own life?

What do you think the artist is trying to say in this artwork?



View



Laura Ball, *Rebirth*, 2015, Watercolor and graphite on paper, 51.5 x 50 inches



**HUMAN/NATURE** Laura Ball