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Exhibition Resource List

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9 Artists Changing the Way We Think About the Environment

This article by Shannon Lee displays nine artists who are breaking the boundaries of what Environmental art can be in today's society. They each have their own style which compliments one another. Many of the artists listed are using forms of poetic devices to challenge the discourse of the environment. We chose this article because we felt these artists put together pieces of work that embodied those in the Neon Heater Exhibition. They each have their own medium they are working with, whether that be technology or the Earth itself, and provided a real insight as to what the project was about and why it was made.

A Rough Guide to Environmental Art

The definition of "art" and "environment" is constantly changing. The atmosphere has been in existence longer than the existence of humans and "an environment can only exist in relation to a form of life that inhabits it" (Thornes, 395). Landscape can be seen as a mask for the struggles its inhabitants have endured. The environment is seen differently by each artist and is based on their experiences, whether that be positive or negative. This article examines how environmental pieces were created in earlier centuries (nineteenth and twentieth). During this time, environmental pieces were extremely popular and artists such as Monet, Van Gogh, and Langdon created iconic pieces of work using the landscape as the focus. In the 1960s

performative pieces started to use “terms as land art, process art, ecological art, eco-art, earth art, earthworks, and total art” (Thornes, abstract), making land art the shortened term for landscape art. As climate change became an issue, global warming gained attention in the land art community. The sky has become prominent in these pieces, as it is a significant part of land art pieces by focusing on pollution in the atmosphere.

[Creative Ecology: Art’s Role in Environmental and Sustainability Issues in Australia](#)

This is the written account of a study conducted through the use of interviews with varying artists, community organizations, and research institutes as well as other venues. After conducting these interviews, and actively participating in community festivals that celebrate the environment, the author determined that art has the power to educate people about the difficulties of man’s relationship with the environment.

The author determined that many artists address their own personal concerns through art, and use their art as a means of increasing their own individual understanding of these issues. Since art has the ability to bring people together as well as connect them with the art on an emotional and subliminal level, this can serve to inspire new appreciations for our environment. The final point proven during the course of the study is that art has the ability to foster a more environmentally conscious and sustainable society.

[Environmental Art](#)

Environmental art has many forms and outcomes of what it can do for the viewer. Artists are aiming to work together with natural elements and not harm them. More often than not, they use a lot of raw elements from the Earth, and develop a connection between the environment and the viewer. The main purpose of this article is to communicate the idea of Environmental art,

how it started, and how it has changed over the years. This is what our theme is wrapped around. All of the artists throughout time displayed have implemented this theme using a number of trends from the beginning of this style's existence, including movements toward preserving nature.

[From conceptual to environmental art: situating sculpture in landscape](#)

From an environmental perspective, we are living in transitional times; the practices we engage in now have far-reaching implications for the survival of the earth and all its life forms. Concerns about the decline of nature have been occurring far before the post-war era. Preoccupied with the increasing forms of pollution, intellectuals and artists of the nineteenth century sparked new discussions about having ecological awareness. But there are certain artists that truly contributed to the recognition of ecological concerns by creating conceptual installations that later expanded into the category of Environmental art.

Richard long

Most known for creating *A Line Made by Walking* a piece consisting of a path by treading over the same ground repeatedly, then the spaces are documented through photography.

David Nash

This artist is famous for his work with trees, wood, and the natural environment since the 1960s. His work involves manipulation of wood and saplings to produce sculptures that bridges abstraction and figuration.

Andy Goldsworthy

This British sculptor is known for his site-specific works placed in nature settings. Though he does not define himself as an environmental artist, his works focus on

ecologically-minded practices starting in the 1960s. His installation *Outclosure* was a result of his interest in the tradition of making common land inaccessible—resulting from the *Inclosure Consolidation Act* of 1801.

Anya Gallaccio

A Scottish-born artist that was most known for her works with natural, organic, or perishable materials. *Blessed* is a piece consisting of bronze cast apples hanging from a tree. It is a site-specific installation that uses inorganic materials with organic materials as a way to make humans think about the erosion of nature and waste.

Land Art Generator

This resource is a preamble to a design competition that took place in 2012 based on ecological and environmental art. It gives a brief but comprehensive explanation on what ecological art, or eco-art, is and also describes the different motives behind the movement. The article introduces and briefly describes the works of four different eco-artists: Ann T. Rosenthal, Betsy Damon, Eve Mosher, and Andrea Polli. This resource was selected because it gives a very concise and clear description of the Environmental art movement as well as a helpful start in beginning to form a list of eco-artists to reference and take inspiration from.

The Era of Environmental Art

This article went into great detail about why environmental art is very important and the impact it has on current environmental issues. It states that, “Environmental Art is often used as an umbrella term to encompass Land Art, Earth Art, Earthworks, or Eco-Art.” This article then delves into the history of environmental art. During the Neo-Romantic Movement, artists started to worship nature as they were entranced by its beauty. Eventually, Environmental art

intertwined with social and political issues. This began around the 1960s and would change the viewer's perspective of nature. As site-specific art pieces damaged the environment, artists began creating more sustainable pieces and environmental art changed to spread awareness of environmental issues. This includes pollution, nuclear damage, and global warming. In various art pieces, nature restoration is stimulated to show that humans can do better for the environment.

What Is Environmental Art?

This article was chosen as a resource as it relates to the COVID-19 pandemic, and how it's affecting both man and nature. The article explains that environmental art is an art movement that gained a lot of traction during the industrial revolution due to the amount of pollution that was being put into the environment. These art pieces are usually larger in scale and as a result are placed mainly outside in a specific setting rather than in galleries, although some artists photograph their work so that it can be shown in galleries. The purpose of this movement is to bring awareness to the relationship between man and nature, as well as restoring the environment to its state before man began to alter it.