

Jonas Staal. Art, Law and (Climate) Justice

The artist will be in dialogue with Martina Angelotti

Wednesday, 22 April 2026

from 6:45 pm

at ADVANT Nctm, Milan



Jonas Staal, Comrades in Extinction, Ph Andrea Rossetti, Courtesy by nctm e l'arte

***nctm e l'arte* continues its programme of meetings dedicated to the protagonists of the contemporary art scene. The next event features the artist Jonas Staal, who will be in dialogue with Martina Angelotti, art historian and curator.**

The work of Jonas Staal (Netherlands, 1981) deals with the themes of democracy and the law.

With a keen interest in issues of social justice and the right to self-determination of individuals and peoples, in 2012 the artist founded the New World Summit, an artistic and political organisation that develops alternative parliaments for stateless political movements.

More specifically, his work explores the relationship between democracy and propaganda, between social roles, property and mechanisms of control, and between environmental sustainability and the colonial economy.

This is also the case with the CICC – Court for Intergenerational Climate Crimes (2021 – ongoing), a tribunal that goes beyond the human realm and aims to prosecute climate crimes of the past, present and future.

Drawing on the existing legal system, the CICC involves activists and legal experts, starting with Radha D'Souza, co-creator of the project. In the trials designed and staged by Staal and D'Souza, prosecutors, witnesses, and the audience all take part, with the latter tasked with delivering a verdict based on the Intergenerational Climate Crimes Act, the legal foundation of the CICC (<https://framerframed.nl/en/dossier/statuut-intergenerationale-klimaatmisdaden/>).

Among the participants involved in the proceedings of the *CICC – Court for Intergenerational Climate Crimes* are also the *Comrades in Extinction*, animals belonging to extinct or endangered species.

The artist regards them as ancestors, companions, and witnesses to the perverse effects of development as it has been pursued to date. They deserve a voice so that they can contribute to the collective effort needed to secure a future for all living beings, including humans, in a period of evident eco-climatic crisis.

The event will provide an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of Jonas Staal's work and to view a selection of his pieces.

The event will take place on **Wednesday 22 April 2026**, from **6.45 pm**, in the conference room of **ADVANT Nctm**, Via Agnello 12, Milan, hosted by Gabi Scardi.

The event will be held in English. A reception will follow.

Jonas Staal

Jonas Staal is a visual artist whose work deals with the relation between art, democracy, and propaganda.

He is the founder of the artistic and political organization *New World Summit* (2012–ongoing). Together with Florian Malzacher he co-directs the training camp *Training for the Future* (2018-ongoing), with writer and lawyer Radha D'Souza he founded the *Court for Intergenerational Climate Crimes* (2021-ongoing), and with Laure Prouvost he is co-administrator of the *Obscure Union* (2019-ongoing). Exhibition-projects include *We Demand a Million More Years* (Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin, 2022), *Extinction Wars* (with Radha D'Souza, Gwangju Museum of Art, 2023), *Propaganda Station* (Museum of Contemporary Art, Zagreb, 2024) and *The British East India Company on Trial* (with Radha D'Souza, Serpentine Galleries, 2025).

His projects have been exhibited widely at venues such as the Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum in New York, V&A in London, Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam, M_HKA in Antwerp, Centre Pompidou-Metz and the Nam June Paik Art Center in Seoul, as well as the 7th Berlin Biennale, the 31st São Paulo Biennale, the 12th Taipei Biennale and the 14th Shanghai Biennale.

Publications include *Propaganda Art in the 21st Century* (The MIT Press, 2019) and *Climate Propagandas: Stories of Extinction and Regeneration* (The MIT Press, 2024).

Staal completed his PhD research on propaganda art at the PhDArts program of Leiden University, the Netherlands.

Martina Angelotti

Martina Angelotti is a Milan-based independent curator and art writer. Former curator of Visual Art and Culture at Fondazione Antonio Ratti (2022-25), where she explored links between artistic and ecological practices. She co-founded Post-Colonia (Tuscany) and ON (Bologna), dedicated to the relationship between art and the public sphere. She was the artistic director of Careof (2014-2020). She teaches at the Accademia Galli di Como, Università Cattolica di Milano and Università Iuav di Venezia. She has published essays and edited artist monographs for Mousse, NERO, Treccani and Postmedia Books. Recent publications include "*Visible. Art as policies for care*" (co-edited with Matteo Luccheti and Judith Wielander), NERO Ed., 2024; "*Fiamma Montezemolo. Hidden in plain sight*", NERO ed., 2024; "*Beyond Archive*", Edizioni di Comunità, 2020 and the Italian translation of "*The Inheritance*", Ed. Meltemi 2023, a graphic novel by anthropologist and artist Elizabeth Povinelli.

nctm e l'arte

nctm e l'arte is an independent project aimed at supporting contemporary art, involving the creation of a collection, the support of artists, interaction with public institutions and cultural organisations, and the implementation of public projects at a local scale.

Launched in 2011 by Nctm Studio Legale under the artistic direction of Gabi Scardi, *nctm e l'arte* fosters critical awareness and testifies to the importance that ADVANT Nctm places on research, planning and art as a privileged perspective on the present.

The *nctm e l'arte* collection includes 74 gouaches by Jonas Staal depicting the *Comrades in Extinction*.

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