

Some not so fun facts from the desk of I. Carmen Quintana

Worldwide heat waves are spreading and intensifying, hurricanes are stronger and more destructive, glaciers are shrinking and lakes are drying up. Droughts are commonplace with deserts expanding.

- The United Nations reports that 75% of land and 66% of the marine environment has been severely altered by human action. There is a floating island of plastic between the coast of California and Hawaii that is about the size of Texas.
- 75 to 80% of the ice in the Arctic has melted in the last 35 years. It has been projected that all the Arctic ice could melt by 2040 resulting in an ocean rise of some 23 feet. The southern tip of Florida would be underwater and NYC might need to spend \$20 billion to save itself.
- 81% of Greenland is covered in ice, which averages 2000 meters deep, and can reach 3 km. This 2,800,000 km³ of frozen H₂O represents 61% of fresh water on earth. I really don't want to live to the day when this vast island nation is renamed Whiteland.
- The permafrost in Siberia is turning to mud and flowing away. There are reports of lakes where methane is percolating up to the surface.
- The Amazon is being burned deliberately. At least California's fires, in the main, don't seem to be man-made,
- The CO₂ levels are already at 408 PPM well above preindustrial age levels of 280 PPM. They weren't supposed to surpass 350 PPM.

The above info has been gleaned from United Nation & NASA reports, as well as, from an Energy Policy Institute seminar at The University of Chicago.

And, finally, this: In the Washington Post article of 9.19.19 (also the NY Times, ScienceNews, National Geographic, The Smithsonian, CBS and NPR) nearly 3 billion birds have been lost in North America; just since 1970.

Riotous conditions are erupting all over the planet. Earth has been betrayed. We were never Camelot. Against the wrath of nature we have no defenses. And of course there is no return to the day before the first Kleenex fell to the forest floor.

The iPhone was introduced by Steve Jobs on June 29, 2007. Today, Thu 10.10.19, the world's population hit 7,736,088,110 at 10 AM EST. Almost 5 billion people now have a cell phone. If the resources that brought us cell phones/service were brought to bear on global climate change then just imagine the world our children and grandchildren would inherit.

I. Carmen Quintana is a Visual Artist and Art Historian with both an MFA and an MA in AH from The University of Chicago. These 3 works are digital collages created in Photoshop for a 10-week course at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. They are dye sublimation prints on highly polished aluminum panels printed at RCP of Portland MI near enough to where the artist now resides in the Douglas/Saugatuck area of MI.

TITLE: "Newsflash - Camelot Wants Her Treasure Back"

(L) Panel: "The Newspaper Hawker" (M) Panel: "Mother Nature Doesn't Want Us Anymore" (R) Panel: "The Lady Of The Lake Is Now In A Pond"

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