

Let Death Dance Again (Stéfan Schäfer, b. 1981)

Ok<|>jökull Memorial Shirt

2020

On Sunday 18 August 2019 Iceland held an official memorial for its glacier Ok, previously known as Okjökull (Ok glacier). Ok was the first glacier to be declared dead as a result of climate change. By creating this shirt, Stéfan Schäfer hopes to prompt debate about the death of non-human entities as a result of human influence.

The image on the commemorative shirt shows two NASA photographs of Okjökull, taken in 1986 and 2019. Both were distributed via several news websites using the free online tool juxtapose.js, which allows viewers to slide between 'then' and 'now' images.

The shirt was part of a larger research project concerned with new ideas and revelations about death, rituals and commemoration in the context of the environmental impacts of the Anthropocene. The project focuses on the death of non-human entities, and proposes the development of a non-human-centered design approach to coping with these impacts.

The shirts are GOTS-certified environmentally-friendly screenprints on organic cotton, printed by Superette Amsterdam. All profits go to memorials and nature conservation in Iceland.