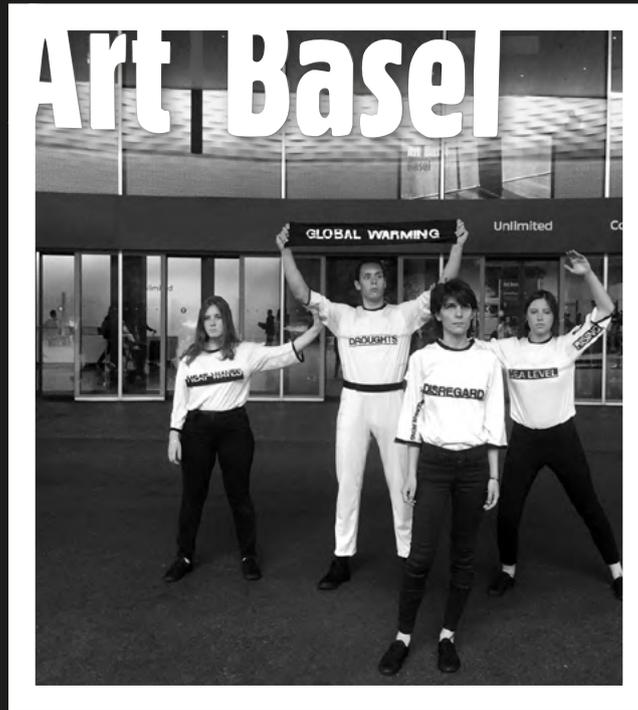


# CLIMATE BEING



2019



# CLIMATE BEING

ART BASEL, 2019

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ART OF  
21 • CHANGE  
•

# Climate being

*Climate Being* is an artistic performance presented in June 2019 at Art Basel, the international fair for contemporary and modern art in Basel.

Specifically designed for Art Basel by the association Art of Change 21, the theme of this performance is the climate emergency.

Short, silent and committed, it supports the role of art in the ecological transition.

*Climate Being* was presented at Art Basel from 11-14 June 2019, twice a day (2pm and 4pm), in front of the entrance to Hall 1.

*Climate Being* is a performance created and realised by a team of young ecologists and artists. It is made up of young members of the association Art of Change 21 and students on the course 'Art and Sustainable Development', at École des Arts de la Sorbonne, given by Alice Audouin, president of Art of Change 21.

Special thanks to Sylvie Bénard

**A**t a time when global warming is running riot and forecasts announce +2°C in 2030 and +4°C to +5°C in 2100, the artist, a witness of our time, can be a vehicle for change.

*Climate Being* delivers a strong message: we must support artists engaged in the ecological transition. They are the ones that history will remember as members of an aware and active avant-garde in a time marked by an unprecedented crisis: the Anthropocene.

*Climate Being* is playing a pioneering role in raising awareness of the climate issues at stake at high-profile meeting places for the art market, such as Art Basel.



# Art | Basel

Art Basel is the most important international fair for contemporary and modern art. Every year in Basel (Switzerland) it brings together the most prestigious galleries, presenting the works of over 4,000 artists.

The 50<sup>th</sup> edition of Art Basel in 2019 welcomed 93,000 visitors.

During this edition, two round tables organised by the art fair addressed topics such as ecology, the carbon impact of works of art, and the role of the artist in the global transition.

Events as important as art fairs are not without environmental consequences: shipping artworks, a travelling international public, private jets...

*Climate Being* is the first artistic and activist performance on global warming hosted by Art Basel.

**climate being (n):** human beings and living beings depend on the climate, the very condition for existence.

*"WE WERE BORN IN THE 1990S AND  
GREW UP WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL  
AND CLIMATE CRISIS. OUR ACTION IS  
CARRYING THE WORLD WE WANT. WE WANT  
TO ACT, TO UNITE OUR TALENTS, TO INVEST  
ALL THE OPTIMISM AND ENERGY OF  
OUR YOUTH TO EMBODY THE DIALOGUE  
BETWEEN ART AND THE ENVIRONMENT,  
TO PROMOTE AND DISSEMINATE IT."*

Apolline Carré, Thibault Charoing, Agathe Chebassier  
and who gave the performance in Basel.

Unlimited

Conversations

**GLOBAL WARMING**





## ACT 1 – THE FUTURE IS BEING DECIDED NOW

The acceleration of global warming has many consequences: rising sea levels, loss of biodiversity, heatwaves, etc.

Faced with the threat of collapse, two options are open to individuals: indifference or awareness leading to action.

*“It’s your choice”*

Taking action means giving the future a chance to be different, through more responsible consumption, reducing carbon emissions, renewable energies...

At the heart of this new roadmap is the committed artist. He and she embody this post-carbon future, giving it form and meaning.

Keywords used for this action:

*global warming, heatwaves, rising sea levels, disregard, collapse, action, awareness, green energy, committed artist, your choice.*

## ACT 2 – THE COMMITTED ARTIST

With the art market still going global and growing, artists are now being considered as 'artist polluters', with their works being flown around the world and production methods often incorporating those of traditional and non-ecological industries.

Materials that harm the environment and health, transport... The carbon footprint of art is becoming an issue and an invitation to rethink the art sector as a polluting industry. Artists cannot shy away from this new dilemma: how to create without polluting?

Keywords used during this action:

*CO<sub>2</sub>, flying, plastic, acrylic, carbon, pollution, solvent, trucks, oil.*





## ACT 3 – THE COMMITTED ARTIST

Artists, collectors, gallery owners, and consumers are all playing a part in the frenetic acceleration of the world around them; they are ending up losing their way.

Commodification, globalisation and consumption are gaining ground in the field of art.

Emerging from this headlong rush, the committed artist represents a figure of resistance. He and she open up opportunities and reveal new horizons to the players of their ecosystem.

Around the committed artist, collectors, gallery owners and consumers have the power to contribute positively to change.

Keywords used during this action:

*gallery owner, collector, consumer, committed artist.*

## ACTIVE WALKABOUT

In addition to the performance, two team members go on walkabouts in the fair, the streets of Basel, and even during exhibition openings.

They wear reversible costumes with handsewn words on them.

They draw attention to their jackets, then turn it inside out.

The outside of the first jacket evokes the art market: 'Art fair, beauty, gallery, artist, masterpiece, trendy'. While its interior evokes the ecological crisis: 'CO<sub>2</sub>, climate change, oil, pollution, extinction'.

The outside of the second jacket warns about the ecological crisis: 'CO<sub>2</sub>, climate change, oil, pollution, extinction': While its interior offers solutions: 'Sustainable development, engaged artists, green'.



## COSTUMES

The outfits were specially created and hand-stitched for the performance using scraps of material from the association Réserve des Arts.

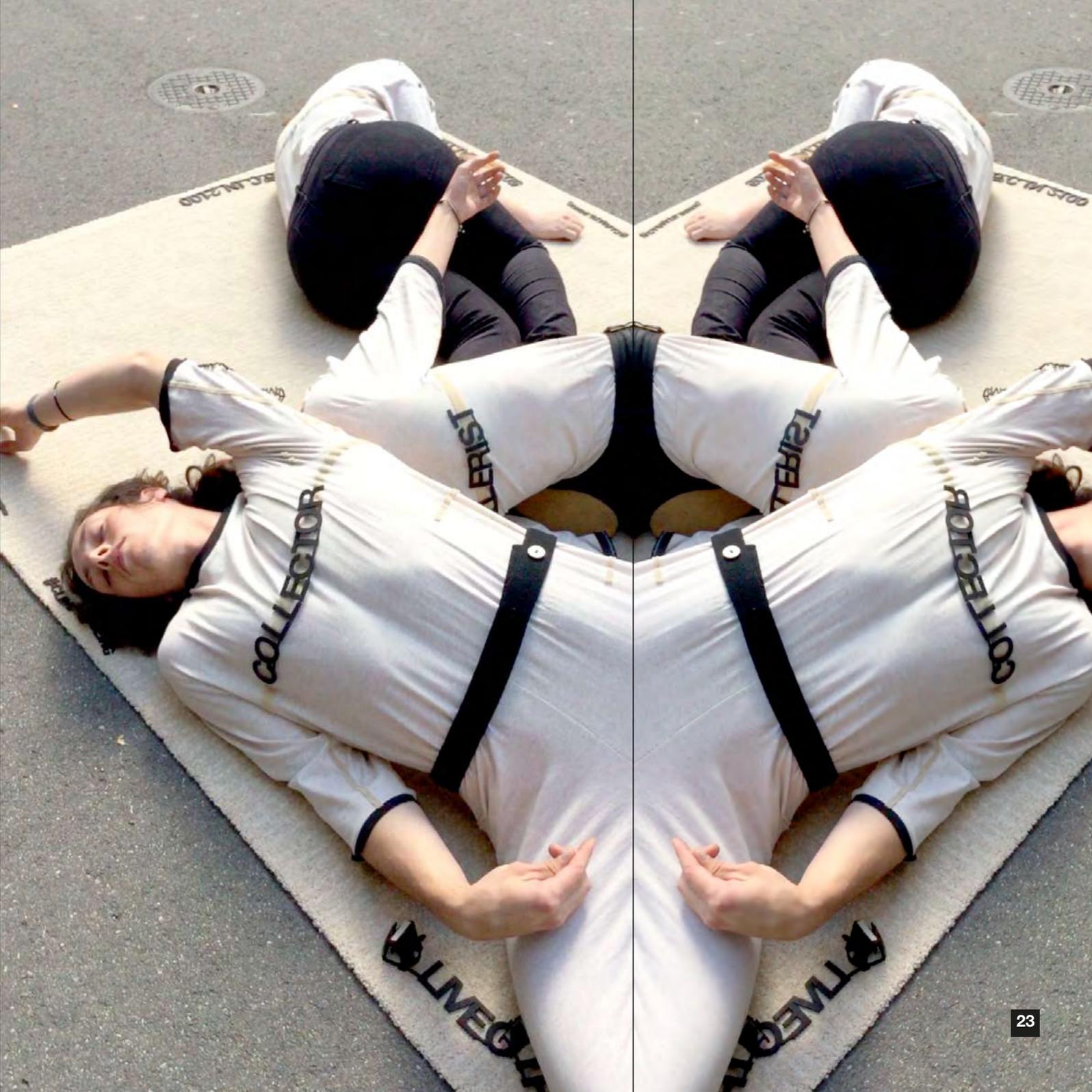
The shoes from the ecologically committed brand Veja were bought on Vinted, the mobile app for buying and selling second-hand.

All the words were laser cut in a Fab Lab using offcuts of leather and rubber from Réserve des Arts.

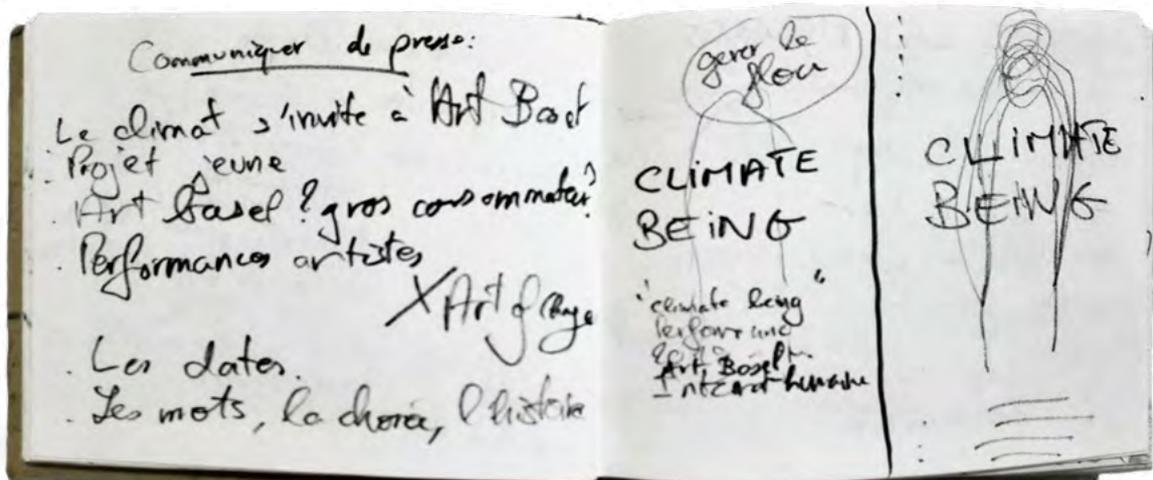












Research sketches by Thibaud Charoing



INCREASE YOUR  
COLLECTION,  
DECREASE YOUR  
POLLUTION

#CLIMATEBEING

BE AHEAD, BE GREEN

#CLIMATEBEING

WHAT IS YOUR  
CLIMATE LEGACY?

#CLIMATEBEING

SUSTAINABILITY IS A  
MASTERPIECE

#CLIMATEBEING

## AUDIENCE FEEDBACK



*"I loved it. I think it's really important to talk about global warming here"*



*"We certainly need direct and impactful messages like this"*



*"It's powerful, I like that it's quiet, as is global warming"*



*"I think it's great young people are getting involved and being bold. Well done!"*



*"I really enjoyed it. It was convincing and straightforward, silence gives strength"*



*"It made me think. I found it interesting, intense"*



*"Art Basel is the perfect place to get this kind of message across"*



*"It's an effective way to challenge. Choosing Art Basel was a bold move"*



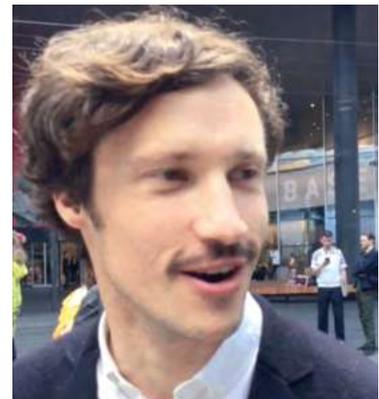
*"Young artists are committing to the most important issue of our time"*



*"Global warming is something we must talk about, it's a breakthrough"*



*"An impromptu performance that raises crucial questions"*



*"They're committed, it's great to see"*





## THE TEAM

<b>ALICE AUDOUIN *</b>	Founder and president, Art of Change 21
<b>SILA CANDASAYAR</b>	Photographer and student at École des Arts de la Sorbonne
<b>APOLLINE CARRÉ **</b>	Project manager, Art of Change 21
<b>THIBAUD CHAROING **</b>	Visual artist and student at École des Arts de la Sorbonne
<b>AGATHE CHEBASSIER **</b>	Photographer and project manager, Art of Change 21
<b>PAUL FERRETTI *</b>	Filmmaker, photographer, and student at École des Arts de la Sorbonne
<b>LORENA HERNÁNDEZ</b>	Environmental artist and project manager, Art of Change 21
<b>JÉRÔME MARTIN</b>	Film director, member of Art of Change 21
<b>BLERTA MERAJ **</b>	Painter and student, École des Arts de la Sorbonne
<b>PIERRE SERRA</b>	Stage director, actor
<b>CÉLIA TRIDON DE REY</b>	Student at École des Arts de la Sorbonne
<b>VICTOIRE WAMBERGUE *</b>	Head of communications, Art of Change 21

\*Present in Basel

\*\*Performance actor/actress in Basel



In Basel, in front of the *Unlimited* entrance at Art Basel, 11 June 2019  
Agathe Chebassier, Blerta Meraj, Apolline Carré, Alice Audouin, Thibaud Charoing

# MEMORIES



(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)



(5)



(6)



(7)



(8)



(9)



(10)

(1) *Climate Being* team heading for Basel: Paul, Thibaud, Apolline, Agathe, Victoire, Blerta. (2) Alice Audouin in Basel. (3) Agathe Chebassier and Apolline Carré at the Ruinar stand in Art Basel. (4) Artists Lucy Orta and Alicia Framis came to support the performance. (5) Alice Audouin and the artist Julian Charriere at the Ruinar stand. (6) Rehearsing the performance in Paris. (7) Preparing the promo clip for the Kickstarter crowdfunding campaign. (8) Preparing texts prior to the performance. (9) Team meeting before the project launch. (10) Blerta Meraj with the artists EVA & ADELE.

# ART OF CHANGE 21 •

- Art of Change 21 is a non-profit association (1901 law), founded in Paris by Alice Audouin. Art of Change 21 links art, creativity and major environmental issues. The association follows many courses of action on an international level and aimed at the general public. They mobilize and unite many artists committed to the environment.
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The *Climate Being* performance at Art Basel was funded by Art of Change 21; 50% of the budget came from the association's own funds and 50% through a Kickstarter crowdfunding campaign the association set up and ran together with project team members (96 contributors, 4,458 euros raised).

Art of Change 21 is sponsored by the artist Olafur Eliasson and social entrepreneur Tristan Lecomte. Its main partners are the Schneider Electric Foundation and UN Environment.

[www.artofchange21.com](http://www.artofchange21.com)

@artofchange21

**GREEN ART**

**AWARENESS**

**ACTION**



## Many thanks for their support

Odilon Audouin, Jean-Claude Barnathan, Nathalie Bastianelli, Valérie Bernardout, Annaïg Botherel, Chantal Beineix-Gillion, Charles Carmignac, Virginie Carré, Bruno Cassé, Julien Charriere, Charlotte Chebassier, Myriam Coneim, Jean-Louis Dumeu, Alexandre Fahandezh Saadi, Marie-Annick Giraud, Pierre-Iwan Voos, Pascal Janvier et Christiane Delangle, Louis-Pierre Jauneau, Rosa Kalil, Laurence Laufer, Pauline Lisowski, Marie-Louise Mangona, Annie et Patrice Maurand-Régnier, Marc Menesguen, Maud Mingeau, Pierre-Henri Moulard, Patricia Moulin Lemoine, Charlotte Mouton, Henri Jacques Nijdam, Cathy Nosaty, Olivia Olivi, Marie-Claude Paolini, Pascal Piednoir, Dominique Reinhard, Marie-Edith Richermoz, René Robert, Claude Schryer, Yvonne Senouf, Elliott Spencer, Christopher Terestchenko, Hubert Tridon de Rey, François Tron, Catherine Varnier.

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*Graphics: Agathe Chebassier et lemaquettiste.com*



ART OF  
CHANGE  
21 •