## REPRESENTATION

GURU SEVA KHALSA MÉXICO VISUAL ARTIST – SCULPTURE AND PHOTOGRAPHY Photographic Works: https://guruseva.carbonmade.com/

## **Project Description**

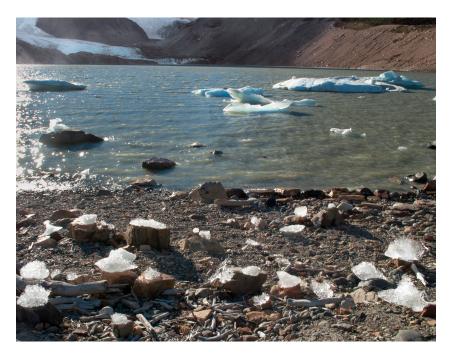
The project *Melted life* tries to link people's daily experience with the consequences of climate change. It reflects on how the local impact is a consequence of the global phenomenon well as how individual and collective actions produce global effects. Through the relationship between the micro and the macro, the work intends to point to the individual habits and social trends that have led to the current environmental crisis. These links are important because they connect global warming with human living decisions.

Formally, *Melted life* started with a series of images that juxtapose photography and typography; photos of the local environment, animals and objects, coupled with written phrases that expose facts about climate change. The pieces dialogue between the visual and the theoretical, the images re-contextualize hard data and numbers. Through text and image I strive to generate scenarios in which it is possible to reflect on the positive and negative relations between the mayor issues and their impact on the environment.

Subsequently, I started working with sculpture and installation around this topic. During research, interest has arisen in the direct bond between the apparent unconnected ecological and social phenomena that cause climate change. Such links as: contamination and drought, massive waste and the death of coral reefs, etc. In the works *Ice, heat and earth, Icebergs* and *Nicolas, the last pelican*, I sought to deepen these connections as to generate reflections in the viewer.

I look to expand the field of reflection in my work towards environmental, climatological, and historical concerns. Climate change is a crucial matter that has to be addressed by all fields of knowledge, including Art, which plays an important role in understanding the present as well as in imagining possible futures.

## **Artwork**





Title: *Icebergs* Year: 2016 Size: variable

Materials: ice and rocks

Location: Patagonia, Argentina

*Icebergs* piece was made at the edge of the lake of the Cerro Laguna Torre in the Argentinian Patagonia. The work is made of ice blocks that come directly from the glacier of the Cerro Torre, one of the many glaciers that have had an increase in the rate of melting over the past decade. The ephemeral nature of the installation symbolizes the fragile existence of glaciers today. The many ice figures were transported in collaboration with mountaineers from the area.





Title: Nicolas, the last pelican

Year: 2015 Size: 6x3 meters

Materials: sand, earth, rocks, cement, lime y seashells

Location: Navachiste bay, Sinaloa, México

The sculpture *Nicolas, the last pelican* is a large-scale site specific work in the Bay of Navachiste, northern México. It is made of stones, seashells and cement that resemble the shape of a pelican. Do to climate change the number of pelicans in the area has significantly decreased over the past years. The piece is visible only part of the year because of tide rises. Around the bay, shells come out from these sea level variations. In turn, it is a work in progress since over the years; the sculpture has been wearing away and will eventually disappear. In the making of the pelican sculpture, I worked with locals to gather materials and in developing the piece.



Title: Reflection of a polluted lake

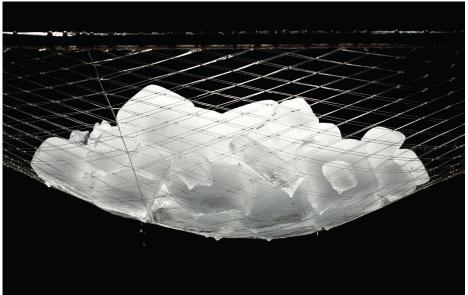
Year: 2015

Size: 1.5 x 2.5 x 1 meters approx. Materials: branches, roots and rocks

Location: Natural reserve of The Chichinautzin, Morelos, México

Reflection of a contaminated lake was made at the edge of an abandoned artificial lake, which has been contaminated by the spilling of chemical waste and garbage. The branches, roots and rocks used come from the surroundings. The roots and dry branches belong to dead trees, and reflect the consequences of lack of clean water as well as the death of plants due to human activity. Stones that exert pressure symbolize man's "weight" on natural ecosystems.





Title: Ice, heat and earth

Year: 2014

Size: variable (2x2.5x2.5m approx.)

Materials: sand, earth, seeds, wood, halogen lamps, metal, safety net and ice

Location: Santiago, Chile

*Ice, heat and earth* consists of suspending seventy kg of ice on top of an earth and sand circle. The ice melts faster than usually as it is heated by halogen lamps and the room gets warmer. The sculpture reflects on the greenhouse effect<sup>1</sup>, the heat wave that this phenomenon generates and how it influences the melting of glaciers. This piece puts the public facing the constant melting of ice, as well, the three states of water subsist in the same space: the solid ice melts, becomes liquid and falls, thereafter the water in the floor evaporates slowly and becomes gas.

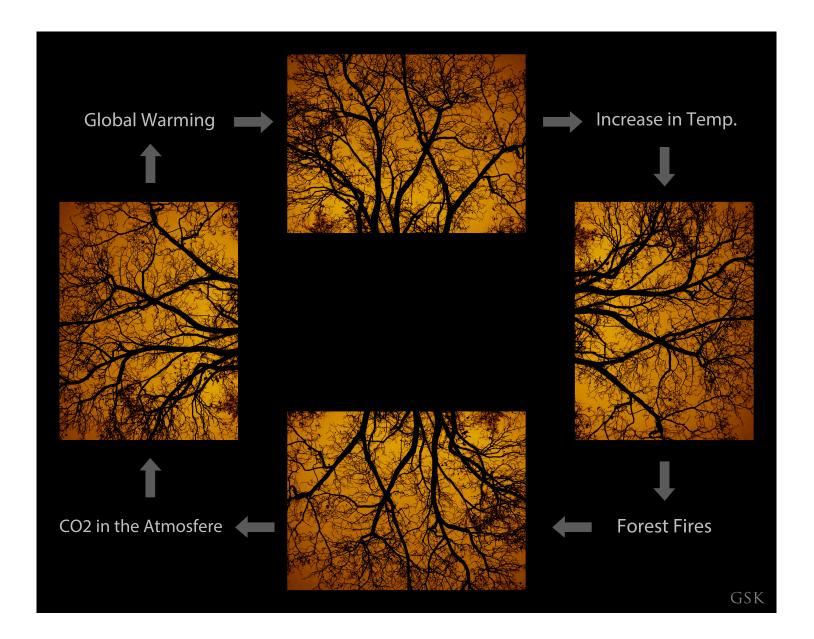
 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 1}$  The greenhouse effect is known as the global increase in earth's temperature.

## Photographic work



Title: *Untitled* Year: 2016 Size: 30x45cm

Technique: photography



Title: *Tree* Year: 2014 Size: 30x40cm

Technique: multimedia



Title: *Famine* Year: 2016 Size: 32x45cm

Technique: photography