

# Changing epistemologies in climate-themed art: Where we are and where we need to go

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At the end of 2021, artist Ben Okri wrote “we have to find a new art and a new psychology to penetrate the apathy and the denial that are preventing us from making the changes that are inevitable if our world is to survive.” Western epistemologies since the time of Aristotle have treated nature as other, in opposition to the human, creating barriers that are failing us in our response to climate change. Can art, or the artistic sign, as described by the Prague School, adequately provoke a new worldview for those who experience the art? Through the exploration of the intentional and unintentional epistemologies in multiple works of climate-related art, such as Superflux’s *Invocation for Hope*, Jónsi’s *FLÓD*, Slowdanger’s *Supercell*, and Empress VR’s *Sunlink*, we will examine how far artists have come with regards to Okri’s call for change in art and the unexplored imaginaries for future artistic endeavors.

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