WHEN THE WATER RISES
RECENT PAINTINGS
BY JULIE HEFFERNAN

LSU Museum of Art
Julie Heffernan’s recent paintings explore imaginative scenarios and alternative habitats as her personal response to the threat of environmental disasters.

With waters rising all over the globe, Heffernan imagines worlds in trees or life on rafts in which undulating mattresses, tree branches, and road signs act as guides for this wayward journey. Construction cones interrupt the landscape, signaling places to stop and enter interior worlds, to reflect on the human condition—its feckless activity, violence, failure, and redemption. Heffernan reveals worlds within worlds, where her characters tend these alternative environments and safeguard remaining bounties we cannot live without. Her attention to detail—rendering in miniature the Palmyra Temple destroyed by ISIS or the names of embarkation points for Syrian refugees—is a way to remember calamitous events of the past years and mark the plights of victims of current unrest. For Heffernan, this unrest is exacerbated by diminishing water resources and drought due to changing weather patterns and planetary excess. Intricately wrought, Heffernan’s paintings evoke the fantastical allegory of Hieronymus Bosch and the sublime of Thomas Cole and Albert Bierstadt.

With these paintings, Heffernan spells out the dilemma of climate change, but also begins the conversation about how we might adapt to vastly different climatic conditions. The exhibition will be accompanied by a full-color catalogue with plates of works included in the exhibition and others selected for their environmental message as well as texts by Julie Heffernan and exhibition curator Courtney Taylor.

**Number of Works:**
11 paintings  
(ranging from 55 x 65 to 70 x 105 in)

**Minimum size:**
130 linear feet

**Organized by:**
LSU Museum of Art

**Booking Period:**
8–9 weeks

**Availability:**
though 2022

**Participation Fee:**
$5,500, includes 25 publication copies

**Shipping:**
LSU Museum of Art makes all arrangements, exhibitors pay pro-rated shipping

**Contact:**
Courtney Taylor, Curator  
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**ARTIST**

Julie Heffernan received her MFA in Painting from Yale and a BFA from the University of California, Santa Cruz. Heffernan has received numerous grants including an NEA, NYFA, and Fulbright Fellowship and is in the collection of major museums including the Brooklyn Museum of Art and the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. She is represented by P.P.O.W in New York and Catharine Clark in San Francisco. Heffernan is a Professor of Fine Arts at Montclair State University.

**Illustrated checklist follows.**
Camp Bedlam
Julie Heffernan
2016
oil on canvas
68x104 inches
Courtesy of LSU Museum of Art

Self Portrait as Great Acceleration
Julie Heffernan
2016
oil on canvas
67x60 inches
Courtesy of Catharine Clark Gallery

Self Portrait as Hiveminder
Julie Heffernan
2016
oil on canvas
60x84 inches
Courtesy of Artist
Sky Burial
Julie Heffernan
2016
oil on canvas
54x100 inches
Courtesy of Artist

Self Portrait as Fountainhead
Julie Heffernan
2016
oil on canvas
96x56 inches
Courtesy of Artist

Requiem for Palmyra
Julie Heffernan
2016
oil on canvas
60x54 inches
Courtesy of Catharine Clark Gallery
Self Portrait on the Brink
Julie Heffernan
2013
oil on canvas
66x68 inches
Courtesy of Artist

Self Portrait as Standing My Ground
Julie Heffernan
2016
oil on canvas
68x66 inches
Courtesy of Artist

Self Portrait as Red Tent
Julie Heffernan
2015
oil on canvas
54x66 inches
Courtesy of Artist
Self Portrait as Castaway
Julie Heffernan
2016
oil on canvas
68x60 inches
Courtesy of Artist

Self Portrait as the Other Thief
Julie Heffernan
2013
oil on canvas
76x96 inches
Courtesy of Artist