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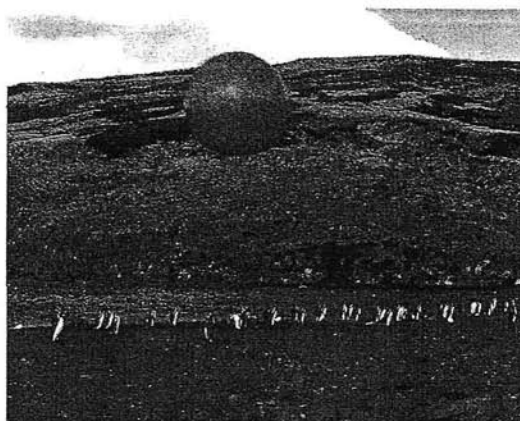
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BULLETIN

"Balloon in no man's land"— a contemporary art project

Nin Brudermann is a conceptual artist, originally from Vienna, Austria, now living in Brooklyn, New York, USA. In her project "Balloon in no man's land", she documents and joins in the launch of weather balloons from remote islands. The project has a photographic and a video part. It is being shown in contemporary art galleries and museums and a book will eventually be published.

WMO and several Members are mentioned as supporting organizations of the project. National Meteorological Services, through networking between the WMO Information and Public Affairs (IPA) Office



and IPA Focal Points, have been instrumental in helping Nin Brudermann reach these remote places.

The artist says:

Balloons on uninhabited islands are unexpected dynamic dissonances in a virgin airspace. I decided to sail the oceans to capture balloons [on film]. "Balloons in no man's land" is a surreal, but certainly true story. Twice a day, all over the globe, 2 000 weather balloons are launched simultaneously from the remotest, most isolated places and land as weather forecasts in everybody's living room. They are "messages in a bottle" sent to civilization from the lands of penguin and polar bear. All nations participate ... Weather has no territories. I wanted to see what the balloons see.

Islands covered by the project are Jan Mayen (Arctic Ocean) and Crozet, Kerguelen, Amsterdam and St. Paul (South Indian Ocean), Svalbard (Norway), Tromelin Island (Réunion), Willis Island (Australia) and Dikson and Ayon Islands (Russia).

"Balloon in no man's land" was first presented in May 2003 at Art Chicago (<http://www.artchicago.com>) with great success. Meteorological maps of upper-air observations were also displayed. "People were curious to find out about the balloon spectacle that is happening every day all over the globe", Nin Brudermann says.

In August 2003 Nin Brudermann launched her balloon with support from the Italian Meteorological Service from an island in the Venice Lagoon, Campalto Island, as part of Marko Peljhan's "Makrolab" installation (Individual Systems' section) of the Venice Biennale, the most renowned event in contemporary art. Also her trip to the Australian Antarctic Station, Casey, was broadcast live at the Biennale (see <http://makrolab.ljudmila.org> and <http://www.labiennale.org/en/visualarts/exhibition/3.html>). The project is scheduled to finish at the end of 2003.

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