

LARS JAN
LUMINARIES



CJG CHARLIE JAMES GALLERY
CHINATOWN, LOS ANGELES

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LARS JAN LUMINARIES

Luminaries is Lars Jan's first solo show with Charlie James Gallery and includes new work from his two recent epic public projects: the performance installation, *Holoscenes* (Times Square, 2017), and kinetic pavilion, *Slow-Moving Luminaries* (Art Basel Miami Beach, 2017). Bound by the artist's ongoing research into climate change and human adaptation, the projects focus on transformative collisions between water and both the human figure and architectural forms. The objects and media works in the gallery exhibition – featuring 'light circumferences' (frameless circular light boxes), light boxes, illuminated sculpture, prints, and video – evoke both the mundanity and allure of catastrophe. Cumulatively, the works conjure the alternately mythical and geologic narratives that our behaviors and buildings will be subsumed by the sea.

Included from *Holoscenes* are several 'light circumferences' from the *Quaternary Suite* (2015) and prints from the *Anthropocene Suite* (2018). Captured in a white industrial silo filled with the water, the light circumferences feature a man and woman suspended in near-limbo states, the liquid vessel and physical positions suggesting adults in utero. The prints feature images of performers in various stages of submersion carrying out everyday behaviors – making a bed, cleaning a window – during performances in public spaces in Abu Dhabi and New York's Times Square. The images accentuate the simultaneously reflective and transparent nature of the performance apparatus, presenting an intricate and indecipherable layering of body, object, and the metropolitan textures of the surrounding environs.

The three *Luminary* light boxes are each six-foot squares, featuring a single building-like sculpture in various stages of immersion at the ocean's edge. Viewed together, the light boxes also comprise a triptych, joined by embedded geometries and a story-board like progression of past, present, and future. The single-channel video, *Slow-Moving Luminaries*, *Point Dume*

(duration 00:03:20), features the same sculpture in a seamless loop of submersion and emergence, rendered in achingly slow-motion amidst sublime tones of oceanic twilight. Distortions subtly shift the integrity of the image throughout, as water pouring over and off the camera acts as a second lens.

A minimalist building-like sculpture of the same scale featured in both the *Luminary* light boxes and single-channel video occupies the center of the gallery, illuminated by LED neon. Its title, *Luminary*, 1 refers to the 1 Hotel South Beach, adjacent to the exhibition site of the *Slow-Moving Luminaries* exhibition, and on which its design is based. In tension with the other works in the gallery, the piece suggests the ephemeral nature of what we build, and stasis itself.

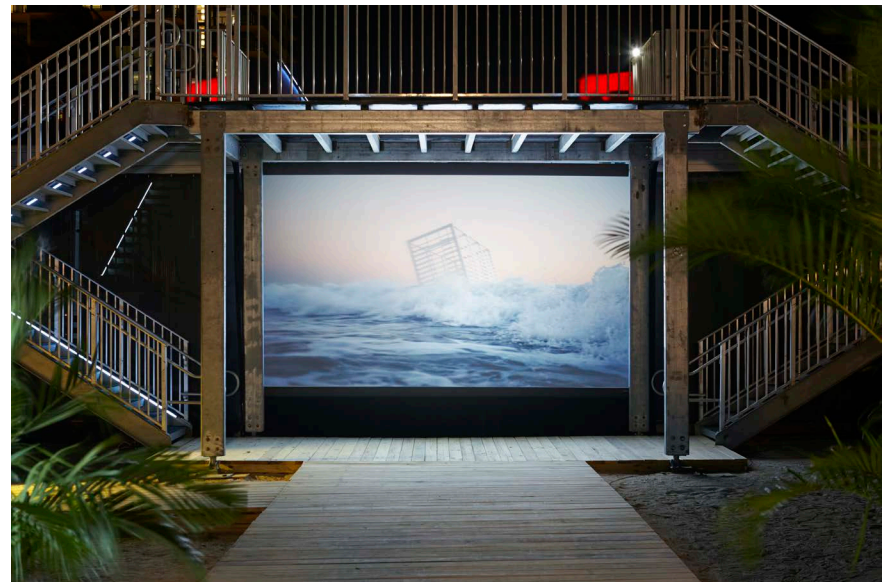
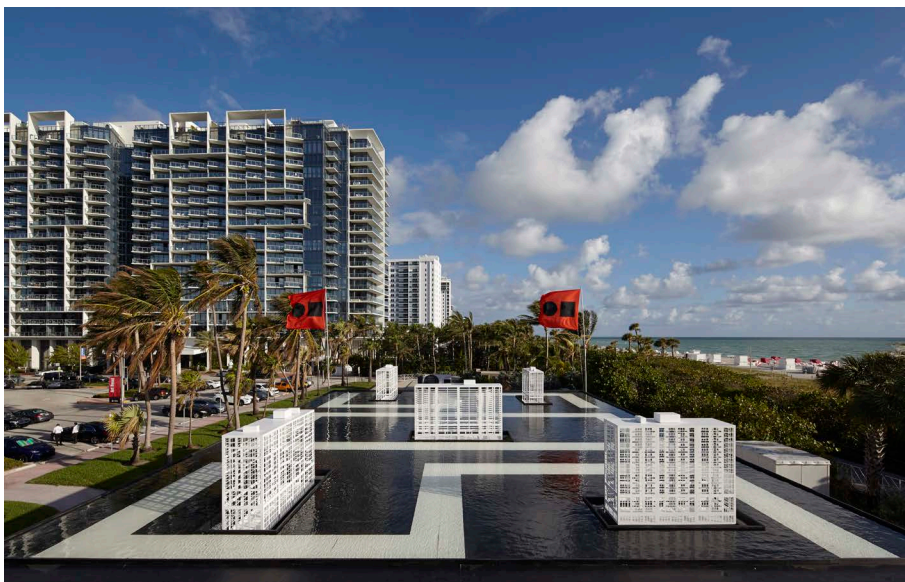
Artist, director, writer, and activist, Lars Jan is known for visually striking, genre-bending performance and installation works exploring emerging technologies, live gatherings, and unclassifiable experience. With his performance + art lab Early Morning Opera, Jan's original works—including *Holoscenes*, *The Institute of Memory (TIme)*, and *Abacus* – have been presented by the Whitney Museum, Sundance Film Festival, BAM Next Wave Festival, Hammer Museum, REDCAT, Toronto Nuit Blanche Festival, Ringling Museum of Art, Pasadena Museum of California Art, ICA Boston, and Istanbul Modern, among others. In June 2017, *Holoscenes*, his climate change-themed installation featuring a massive aquarium sculpture and twelve tons of moving water, created a sensation in Times Square. As the winner of the 2017 Audemars Piguet Art Commission, Lars exhibited a large-scale kinetic pavilion on an acre of beach front during Art Basel Miami Beach this past December. He will stage Joan Didion's seminal essay *The White Album* in winter 2018 in New York and Los Angeles. Lars is the son of émigrés from Afghanistan and Poland, on faculty at CalArts, and a TED Senior Fellow.

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Slow-Moving Luminaries
Installation at Art Basel
Miami Beach, 2017



Photos: Benoit Pailley and Audemars Piguet

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Luminary, South Beach
Lightbox
72 x 72 x 1 inches
Edition of 3 + 1AP
2017

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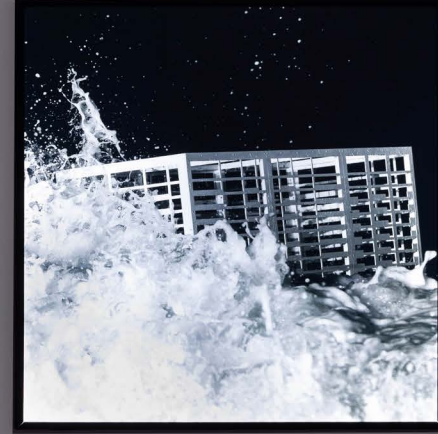
Luminary, Point Dume
Lightbox
72 x 72 x 1 inches
Edition of 3 + 1AP
2017

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Luminary, Genko-an
Lightbox
72 x 72 x 1 inches
Edition of 3 + 1AP
2017

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Slow-Moving Luminaries,
Point Dume
Seamless loop,
single-channel video
with media player
3min 20sec
4K resolution
Edition of 5 + 1AP

LARS JAN LUMINARIES



Slow-Moving Luminaries, View
Seamless loop, single-channel video
with media player
12min
Edition of 10

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Holoscenes / Bed,
New York , 21:20
Archival pigment print
45 x 42 inches
Edition of 8 + 2AP
Framed
2018

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Holoscenes / Cleaning,
Abu Dhabi, 21:06
Archival pigment print
45 x 42 inches
Edition of 8 + 2AP
Framed
2018

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Holoscenes / Newspaper,
Toronto, 03:24
Archival pigment print
45 x 42 inches
Edition of 8 + 2AP
Framed
2018

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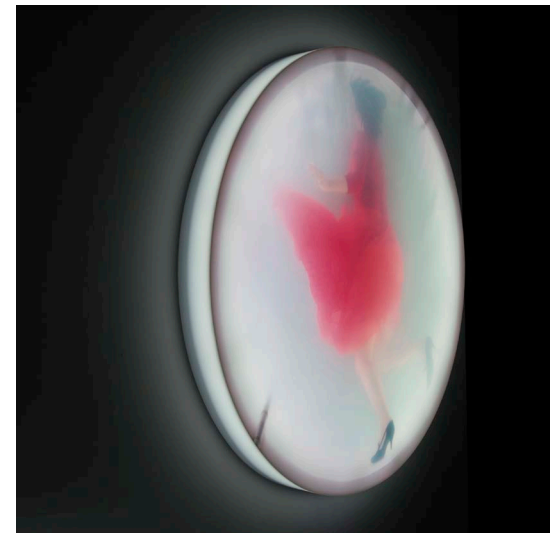


Luminary, 1
Powder-coated
aluminum, rivets,
(waterproof) LED neon
79.75 x 84 x 28 inches
Edition of 2 + 1AP

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Charleston, after
Duratrans print,
custom circular,
frameless acrylic
light box, LEDs
36 inch diameter
/ 3 inch
depth
Edition of 3
2014

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Untitled
Duratrans print,
custom circular,
frameless acrylic
light box, LEDs
36 inch diameter
/ 3 inch
depth
Edition of 3
2014

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Phone
Duratrans print,
custom circular,
frameless acrylic
light box, LEDs
36 inch diameter
/ 3 inch
depth
Edition of 3
2014

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EDUCATION

- 2005-2008 MFA in Directing and Integrated Media,
California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA
1996-2000, BA in Performance Studies and English
Literature, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA

EXHIBITION (selected)

- 2018 LUMINARIES, Solo Exhibition, Charlie James
Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2017 SLOW MOVING LUMINARIES, solo, Art Basel Miami
Beach, FL
2017 HOLOSCENES / Quaternary Suite videos, group,
Ibrida Festival, Forli, Italy
2016 HOLOSCENES / Anthropocene Suite videos, solo,
Fowler Museum @UCLA, Los Angeles, CA
2016 HOLOSCENES / Quaternary Suite videos, 'Til it's
Gone, group, Istanbul Museum of Modern Art,
Turkey
2016 HOLOSCENES / Quaternary Suite videos, ikonoTV,
Berlin, Germany
2016 HOLOSCENES / Quaternary Suite, TED Conference,
group, Vancouver, Canada
2015 HOLOSCENES / Quaternary Suite, solo, Pasadena
Museum of California Art, Pasadena, CA
2015 HOLOSCENES / Quaternary Suite videos, solo,
Artisphere, Arlington, VA
2012 ABACUS multi-channel videos, group, Utah Museum
of Modern Art, Salt Lake City, UT
2009 ANODE ACCEPTANCE CATHODE CONCESSION, solo, The
Fine Arts Building, Los Angeles, CA
2006 LOS ANGELES, CITIES exhibit, group, Venice
Architectural Biennale, Italy

PERFORMANCE (selected)

- 2018 (upcoming) THE WHITE ALBUM, BAM Next Wave
Festival, NY, NY
2018 (upcoming) THE INSTITUTE OF MEMORY (TIme),
Sibiu International Theatre Festival,
Romania
2018 (upcoming) THE INSTITUTE OF MEMORY (TIme),
Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San
Francisco, CA
2018 (upcoming) THE INSTITUTE OF MEMORY (TIme),
Mostra Internacional de Teatro de Sao Paulo,
Brazil
2017 THE INSTITUTE OF MEMORY (TIme), Institute of
Contemporary Art, Boston, MA
2017 HOLOSCENES, Times Square Art & World Science
Festival, New York, NY
2017 THE INSTITUTE OF MEMORY (TIme), On the
Boards, Seattle, WA
2016 THE INSTITUTE OF MEMORY (TIme), Boska
Komedia Festival, Krakow, Poland
2016 HOLOSCENES, NYU Arts Center, Abu Dhabi, UAE
2016 HOLOSCENES, London's Burning Festival,
England
2016 THE INSTITUTE OF MEMORY (TIme), Under the
Radar Festival, New York, NY
2015 HOLOSCENES, MDC LiveArts in association with
Art Basel, Miami, FL
2015 THE INSTITUTE OF MEMORY (TIme), Portland
Institute of Contemporary Art TBA Festival
2015 ABACUS, Summerhall, Edinburgh Fringe
Festival, Edinburgh, Scotland
2015 THE INSTITUTE OF MEMORY (TIme), REDCAT, Los
Angeles, CA

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- 2015 HOLOSCENES, John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, Sarasota, FL
- 2014 HOLOSCENES, Nuit Blanche Festival, Toronto, Canada
- 2014 ABACUS, BAM Next Wave Festival, Brooklyn, NY
- 2014 MAKANDAL, Guggenheim Museum, Works & Process Series, New York, NY
- 2014 ODYSSEY OF THE ODYSSEY, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA
- 2013 ABACUS, Live Arts Exchange Festival, Los Angeles, CA
- 2012 ABACUS, Sundance Film Festival, Park City, UT
- 2012 ABACUS, REDCAT, Los Angeles, CA
- 2012 TAKES, 3 Legged Dog Art & Technology Center, New York, NY
- 2011 A SUICIDE BOMBING BY INVITATION ONLY, Hi-Lite Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2010 MAKANDAL, Little Haiti Cultural Center, Art Basel Miami, Miami, FL
- 2010 ABACUS, Filament Festival, Experimental Media & Performing Arts Center, Troy, NY
- 2010 TAKES, Philadelphia Live Arts Festival, PA
- 2010 A SUICIDE BOMBING BY INVITATION ONLY, The Whitney Museum, New York, NY
- 2009 ABACUS, New Original Works Festival, REDCAT, Los Angeles, CA
- 2005 SAT ON A WALL, The Whitney Museum, New York, NY
- 2016 Center Theatre Group commission, Los Angeles, CA
- 2016 Laboratory for Environmental Narrative Strategies @ UCLA commission, Los Angeles, CA
- 2016 YBCA:100 Fellow, San Francisco, CA
- 2013-2016 TED Senior Fellow, New York, NY
- 2015 NEA award, Washington, DC
- 2015 NEFA NTP award, Boston, MA
- 2015 USArtists International award, Maryland
- 2014 NEA award, Washington DC
- 2014 National Performance Network Creation Fund award, New Orleans, LA
- 2014 Adam Mickiewicz Institute commission, Warsaw, Poland
- 2014 Robert Rauschenberg Foundation grant, New York, NY
- 2014 Surdna Foundation grant, New York, NY
- 2013 New York State Council on the Arts commission, New York, NY
- 2013 NEA award, Washington DC
- 2012 MAP Fund grant, New York, NY
- 2011 Investing in Artists award & ARC grant, Center for Cultural Innovation, Los Angeles, CA
- 2011 TED Global Fellow, Edinburgh, Scotland

AWARDS + FELLOWSHIPS (selected)

- 2017 Audemars Piguet Art Commission, Art Basel Miami Beach, FL
- 2016 Brooklyn Academy of Music commission, Brooklyn, NY

RESIDENCIES (selected)

- 2016 Artist-in-residence, Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito, CA
- 2016 Artist-in-residence, ArtsBrookfield, Los Angeles, CA
- 2015 Artist-in-residence, Clarice Smith

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Performing Arts Center, College Park, MD
2014 Artist-in-residence, Lower Manhattan
Cultural Council, Process Space, NY, NY 2013-2014
Artist-in-residence, Center for the Art
of Performance at UCLA, Los Angeles, CA
2013 Artist-in-residence, Experimental Media &
Performing Arts Center, Troy, NY
2013 Guest artist, Adam Mickiewicz Institute,
Malta Festival, Poznan, Poland
2010 Artist fellow, The MacDowell Colony,
Peterborough, NH
2009 Artist-in-residence, Experimental Media &
Performing Arts Center, Troy, NY
2009 Artist-in-residence, Maggie Allessee National
Center for Choreography, Tallahassee, FL
2005 Artist-in-residence, Kabul University Film
Department, Kabul, Afghanistan

SPEAKING (selected)

2017 Art Basel Miami Beach, 'Artist Talk | Natural
Disasters - Whose Crisis is it?' with Isaac
Julien
2017 Wesleyan University, 'Autopsy of a Performance
that isn't Dead Yet,' Middletown, CT
2016 Yale University, 'Dramaturgies of Transmedia
Directing,' New Haven, CT
2016 NYU Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
2016 YBCA 100 Summit, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts,
San Francisco, SF
2016 Under the Radar Symposium, 'Assembly Required:
New Media, New Dramaturgies'
2015 Performa, 'Paradiso: Performing the Renaissance,'
NY, NY

2015 Pasadena Museum of California Art, Artist
Talk,
Pasadena, CA
2015 The Idea Center, Miami-Dade College, 'The
Technology of Holoscenes,' Miami, FL
2014 Performance Studies Working Group & Master's
Tea, Yale University, New Haven, CT
2014 Stony Brook University Sustainability
Studies Program, 'Ecological Aesthetics,'
NY, NY
2013 Metropolitan Museum of Art, 'How Artists and
Scientists Collaborate,' NY, NY
2012 Sundance Film Festival / New Frontier, 'Is
This Thing On?,' Park City, UT
2011 Radar L.A. Festival, 'Visual Performance,'
Los Angeles, CA
2011 New Media Working Group, University of
California Berkeley, Artist Talk, Berkeley,
CA

BIBLIOGRAPHY (selected)

Prestige, 1/11/18, Feature, "Miami Beach Dazzles
with Slow Moving Luminaries"
The Art Newspaper, 12/8/17, Feature, "Lars Jan:
Making Waves at Miami Beach"
Blouin Artinfo, 12/8/17, Feature, "Lars Jan's
'Slow-Moving Luminaries' at Art Basel Miami 2017"
artnet, 12/8/17, Feature, "Multimedia Artist Lars
Jan's Meditative Beach Installation Aims to Slow
Down the Frenetic Pace of Art Basel"

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Architectural Digest, 12/5/17, Feature, "This Artist Aims to Make the Biggest Waves at Art Basel Miami Beach"

The Telegraph, 12/2/17, Feature, "Art Basel Miami: Audemars Piguet brings the complexity of watchmaking to the art world"

Financial Times, 12/1/17, Feature, "Planetary Plea for Help"

Artsy, 11/29/17, Feature, "Miami Is Under Water in This Artist's Haunting Vision of the Future"

New York Times, 6/6/17, Review, "Scuff, Patter, Chug, Poke, Swim: Expanding Definitions of Dance"

USA Today, 5/31/17, Feature, "Why a 12-ton water tank is in the middle of Times Square"

Creators Project / Vice, 6/2/17, Feature, "Aquatic Climate Change Performance Art Takes Over Times Square"

The Guardian (UK), 8/29/16, Feature, "HOLOSCENES: Lars Jan's 3,500 gallon warning to humanity"

Art Pulse Magazine, 6/16, Cover Feature, "Lars Jan: Holoscenes"

New York Times, 1/11/16, Review, Critics' Pick, "Lars Jan's 'The Institute of Memory (TIME)' is a Search for Identity"

Miami Herald, 12/1/15, Feature, "Art Basel: MDC Exhibit Provokes Thought on Sea-Level Rise" Around Town

Arts & Culture Magazine (Florida), 12/15, Cover Story, "Holoscenes"

New York Times, 12/4/15, Feature, "In Performance Art, A Climate Change Tale"

Los Angeles Times, 2/18/15, Review, "Flood Waters Make Statement in 'Holoscenes' at Museum of California Art"

Creators Project / Vice, 2/12/15, Feature, "Lars Jan is Building Human Aquariums in Florida"

LA Magazine, 1/27/15, Review, "Artist Lars Jan Puts the Life Aquatic on Display"

IDN Magazine (Hong Kong), 11/14, Feature. "Maximalism: Lars Jan"

Bomb Magazine, 9/23/14, Interview: "Lars Jan & Geoff Sobelle"

NOW Magazine (Toronto), 8/2/14, Cover Story, "Holoscenes"

My Modern Met, 8/14/14, Feature, "Everyday Acts Performed Underwater as if Earth was Submerged"
Globe and Mail (Toronto), 3/21/14, Feature, "The instants that sparked the ideas"

Interview Magazine, 2/2012, Interview, "Inventing the Abacus"

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Indiewire, 1/25/12, Op-Ed, “New Frontier Presenter Paul Abacus Doesn’t Exist. Here’s Why.”

LA Times, 1/25/12, Interview, “Influences - Early Morning Opera’s Lars Jan”

Mediated, 1/2/12, Interview, “Interview with Lars Jan”

The Awl (Brooklyn), 4/21/10, Review, “A Suicide Bombing By Invitation Only’ at the Whitney Museum”

Modern Painters Magazine, 9/08, Feature, “Introducing Lars Jan”



Holoscenes, installation view, Times Square, New York, 2017