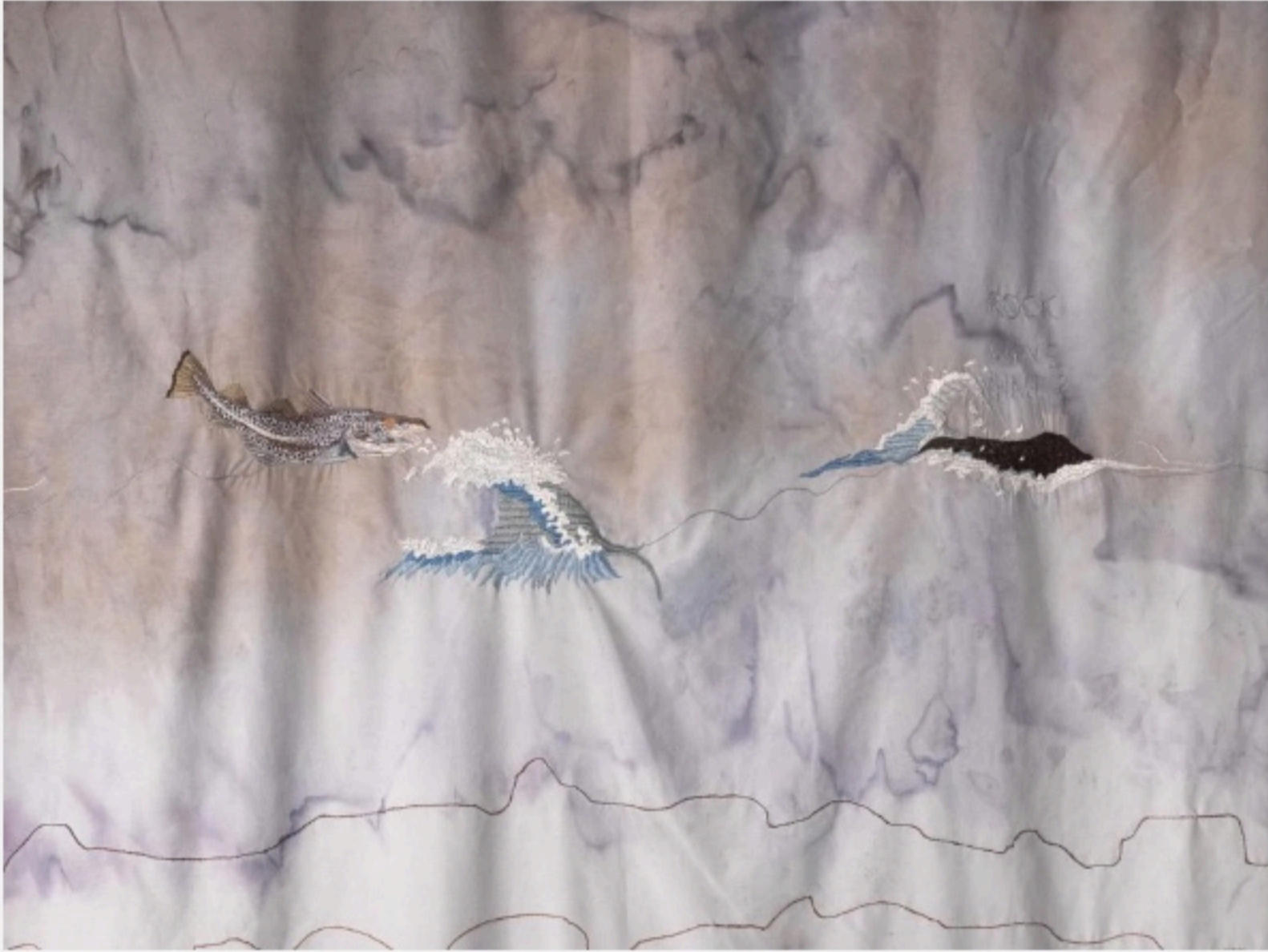


Isa Melsheimer's first solo exhibition in Canada

In her show "The Year of the Whale" hosted at Fogo Island Gallery the Berlin-based artist reflects on our domineering attitude towards the environment.



AUTHOR

Claudia Mandelli

PUBLISHED

16 March 2018

LOCATION

Fogo Island

SHARE



Fogo Island Gallery presented "The Year of the Whale", the first solo exhibition in Canada of Berlin-based artist Isa Melsheimer's work. Curated by Alexandra McIntosh (Director of Programs and Exhibitions of Fogo Island Arts) and Nicolaus Schafhausen (Director of Kunsthalle Wien and Strategic Director of Fogo Island Arts), the show features a series of gouaches on paper and a large-scale embroidered curtain made last fall, when Melsheimer's took part in Fogo Island Arts' international residency program.



"The year of the whale", exhibition opening views, 2018

Isa Melsheimer's works seek to trouble the complex, ever-evolving relationship of humans to the environment, suggesting a rebalancing of power structures and permeable boundaries between species. "Curtain (The Year of the Whale)" (2018), a seven by three-meter hand-dyed and embroidered fabric curtain, depicts the artist's view from Squish Studio - the white, trapezium-shaped building by architect Todd Saunders, sited on a rocky strip of coastline on Fogo Island.

See also in Canada: A tourist centre shaped like a forest



Isa Melsheimer, Nr 438 , 2017, gouache on paper

The layered, multiview-point imagery of the curtain conveys a feeling of the immensity of the ocean, as well as the passage of time, thus criticizing the all-knowing and domineering attitude towards nature typical of the Western tradition. Additionally, four gouaches on paper depict iconic brutalist buildings emerging from dramatic darkened or red-infused skies and encroached by massive sea creatures - a reflection on human structures amidst an environment that is at once threatening and fascinating.



Isa Melsheimer, Nr 437 , 2017, gouache on paper

Opening image: Isa Melsheimer, Curtain, The Year of the Whale, 2018, fabric and thread

Title: The Year of the Whale **Artist:** Isa Melsheimer **Curators:** Alexandra McIntosh (Director of Programs and Exhibitions of Fogo Island Arts) and Nicolaus Schafhausen (Director of Kunsthalle Wien and Strategic Director of Fogo Island Arts) **Gallery:** Fogo Island Gallery **Opening dates:** 9 March - 17 June 2018 **Address:** Highway 334 - Suite 100, NL, Canada