



photo: Lars Jan

LARS JAN / EARLY MORNING OPERA *HOLOSCENES*

“Lars Jan’s ambitious human aquarium project probes the connection between the powers let loose by climate catastrophes and our mundane everyday activities.”

– NOW Toronto

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HOLOSCENES is a large-scale performance-installation that embodies the trauma of flooding and examines our relationship to water. An elevator-sized aquarium is filled and drained as performers adapt their everyday behaviors to water levels—i.e. taking a nap, reading the newspaper, selling fruit at a market. *HOLOSCENES* weaves the story of water—rising seas, melting glaciers, intensifying floods and droughts—into the patterns of the everyday and in doing so offers a portrait of our collective myopia, persistence, and, for better and worse, adaptation.

HOLOSCENES' impact is deepened by commentary from docents about climate disaster and human empathy, and a newsprint “broadsheet” with scientific statistics. Each presenting site is our partner in organizing public conversations that link local environmental concerns to *Holoscenes*, stimulating forward- and collaborative thinking around climate change and our relationship to water—and to one another.



Holoscenes is produced by MAPP International Productions, in partnership with Early Morning Opera. It is co-commissioned by the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts.

Holoscenes has received generous support from the Surdna Foundation, The Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, The National Endowment for the Arts, The MAP Fund (a program of Creative Capital supported by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation), Awesome Without Borders, the Panta Rhea Foundation, the New York State Council on the Arts with support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and many individual donors. Additional research and critical residency support has been provided by Scotiabank Nuit Blanche (Toronto), EMPAC/ Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (Troy, NY), and the Center for the Art of Performance (CAP) UCLA (Los Angeles, CA). *Holoscenes* is co-commissioned by the John & Mable Ringling Museum of Art and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts.

For more information: MAPP International Productions
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⋮ **Durational Performance Installation,**
⋮ **8-12 hours**
⋮ **Open Availability**

produced by **mapp international** productions

artist biographies



photo: Max Gordon

LARS JAN is a director, writer, visual artist, and the founding artistic director of Early Morning Opera (EMO), a genre-bending performance + art lab whose works explore emerging technologies, live audiences, and unclassifiable experience. He is the son of émigrés from Afghanistan and Poland.

While living in Kyoto, Jan trained and performed as a Bunraku puppeteer under Abe Hidehiko, designated an “Intangible Cultural Treasure” by the Japanese government. He has since developed projects in Afghanistan, Germany, Ukraine, Poland, Haiti, Canada and the US.

Jan has received multiple commissions from the Whitney Museum and developed his recent projects with major commissioning and residency support from the Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center (EMPAC). His works — including ABACUS, HOLOSCENES, and TIME — also have been presented by The BAM Next Wave Festival, Sundance Film Festival, REDCAT, Hammer Museum, Symphony Space, Kirk Douglas Theatre, Ringling Museum of Art, MDC Live Arts, Pasadena Museum of California Art, Toronto Nuit Blanche Festival, and Portland Institute of Contemporary Art’s TBA Festival.

His work has been supported by multiple awards from the NEA and Center for Cultural Innovation; MAP Fund; Rauschenberg Foundation; Adam Mickiewicz Institute; Surdna Foundation; NEFA’s National Theatre Project; NPN’s Creation Fund; New York State Council on the Arts; and the Sherwood Award. He has spoken at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Performa, and the 92nd St. Y, and held residencies at the MacDowell Colony, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, Princeton Atelier, CalArts, and the Center for the Art of Performance at UCLA, where he was an inaugural artist-in-residence.

In January 2016, an exhibition of HOLOSCENES-related video works will open at the Istanbul Museum of Modern Art, and Jan’s most recent performance, The Institute of Memory (TIME), will be presented by the Under the Radar Festival. He is a TED Senior Fellow.

HOLOSCENES COLLABORATORS The *HOLOSCENES* team includes Geoff Sobelle (choreographer and core performer); Eric Lin (technical director); Larry McDonald (hydraulics); Pablo N. Molina (computer programmer and lighting design); Irina Kruzhilina (costumes/props); Nathan Ruyle (sound); Anne Saunders (performer), as well as scientific advisors from arts/climate consortium PositiveFeedbackUSA at Columbia University: Dr. Robert Chen, Center for International Earth Science Network; Dr. Kevin Ochsner, Social Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory; and Sabine Marx Center for Research on Environmental Decisions.

MAPP International is recognized for producing the work of artists who tackle complex subject matter, experiment with form, and push the cultural conversation forward in society. Through performances, interactive dialogues, and community-based events, MAPP On Tour offers an unparalleled experience of live art, facilitates a vibrant exchange of ideas, and forges meaningful connections between artist and audience.

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