Preface

This special issue focuses on a crisis that will change our world even more than the crisis that we are fighting at the moment through a nearly global lockdown. Sarah Sutton begins her article by describing how American students are refusing to safe for retirement – they do not think they will ever get to this point in life. The apathy stands in great contrast to the enormous energy, the Swedish activist Greta Thunberg has been able to mobilize through school strikes for the climate since august 2018. The present Covid-19 crisis has overshadowed the climate issues in the museum field, but there is no doubt that this will be a significant task for museums in years to come.

The articles in this issue spring from the international workshop *Curating Climate - Museums as contact zones of climate research, education and activism* that took place in Oslo, Norway on the 28th and 29th October 2019. About 70 museum professionals, scholars, artists, and other stakeholders gathered for two days to share experiences and ideas on assuming the curating climate in a museum environment. The workshop was hosted by the Natural History Museum in Oslo and organized by the Curating Climate Collaboratory. The workshop venue was Tøyen Hovedgård, a historic building located in the Botanical Garden in Oslo. The garden belongs to the University of Oslo's Natural History Museum, which was at the time building its climate museum: *Klimahuset* (The Climate House Oslo).

Over two days, the climate museum field was explored and expanded through 4 keynote addresses and 20 presentations of diverse initiatives, museum projects, academic research and artistic practices. In six different sessions, the presenters and participants discussed sustainability, loss and hope, museum collections and displays, climate change communication, aesthetics and activism, environmental justice and multi-stakeholder environments.

The articles from the participants represent diverse ways to examine “curating climate” in a museum environment. The authors share their experiences, insights and analysis revealing the complex, multi-layered processes of curating climate. They also deliver very concrete suggestions on how museums can be trustworthy institutions that can transform the feeling of powerlessness and apathy to hope and action.

Read them and do something!

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