

# Anne-Karin Furunes

*"Water, water everywhere  
nor any drop to drink"*

Samuel Taylor Colebridge, *The Rime of the Ancient Marine*, 1834

Kongsbreen, Svalbard, Norway 2003.  
Longitude:12.90093,  
latitude: 78.92.92104,

2019

Triptych, each panel 370 x 300 cm  
Painted and perforated PVC-canvas  
Based on a photograph taken May 2003  
by Mikael Westh Hammer  
Norwegian Polar Institute, Tromsø

The photograph is taken in 2003 and shows the rapidly increasing carving of the glacier in Northwestern Svalbard.

Anne-Karin Furunes works often with portraits found in different archives. She experiences the calving scene in Kongsbreen as a portrait of this particular glacier. This is something that we unfortunately are familiar with all over the globe.

*"I used canvases when I first started to experiment with the perforation technique. It meant taking something off instead of adding paint onto the canvas. I started to use this technique in 1992, and at that time the option to create these works digitally did not even exist. Furthermore, this manual process – working hands-on with hole punchers and a hammer – is actually a crucial part of the process. Making each hole by hand has a slow, meditative rhythm*



*that guides my working process. It is about cutting holes in the canvas and "destroying" the textile material while simultaneously building up a new image. It was and is a part of the process both formally and conceptually. In the beginning, I was interested in photo albums as well as any other photographic material from the past. It was connected to trying to understand how we see this archive material today. It was questioning memory and the way it continuously changes and has to be reconstructed. The glacier picture echoes this same process. I keep on piercing by hand when working on canvas, and here I have painted dots in different colours and used a special pvc material that tolerates being out in the open. When doing outdoor works, I also use metal plates. My goal is that the perforated images "breathe" with the space, the light and the viewer."*

Anne-Karin Furunes has studied both architecture and art. She has exhibited her works since 1994 in Norway and in the other Nordic counties. She has also shown in Germany, Canada, Australia, Italy and USA. Furunes has made several large-scale public works e.g. the Nasjonaltheater train/underground station in Oslo 1996. She has been professor at the Fine Arts Academy since 2000. Anne-Karin Furunes lives in Sjørdal Norway.

Curator Elena Povelatto, Galleria Traghetto  
Installed by Kalle Eriksson

17 April - 24 November, 2019  
Spazio Thetis - Venice, Italy

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