



INTANGIBLE

A VOICE FOR WILDNESS AND WONDER

FALL 2022
SIGURD OLSON
ENVIRONMENTAL INSTITUTE
NORTHLAND COLLEGE



Zaria Forman working on Disco Bay, Greenland, April 22nd, 2017



ETHEREAL MAJESTY



*Danco Island, Antarctica, November 24 2015, 60 x 96 inches,
soft pastel on paper, 2019*

The drawings featured on these pages were inspired by visits I made to Antarctica, Greenland, and the Perito Moreno glacier in Los Glaciares National Park, Argentina.

Glaciers may seem far away and removed from our everyday lives, but they impact all living beings on Earth in numerous ways. They are Earth's cooling system, helping to regulate global temperatures. They cover about 10% of the planet's surface, and contain roughly 75% of the world's freshwater supply. And an estimated 90% of them worldwide are melting.

Standing in front of Perito Moreno glacier was humbling. Remote landscapes never cease to amaze me, but what made my experience with Perito Moreno unique was the infrastructure and topography at its face that made it the most accessible glacier I've seen. Directly across from the front of the glacier, where cracks and groans sound every few seconds and massive ice chunks calve into the lake almost constantly, is a peninsula I traversed for hours. Normally the dangers of being that close to a glacier face are too great a risk since calving events are unpredictable and potentially deadly. But the peninsula provides protection and up-close access, granting a dynamic

IMAGES COURTESY OF THE ARTIST, ZARIA FORMAN



Zaria Forman working on Lincoln Sea, Greenland, 82° 32' 30.3036"N 59° 54' 50.3814"W, July 24th, 2017

view of the glacier's seracs—towering, glowing blue ice chunks reflecting and refracting light in infinite ways as I shifted my angle between the sun and the ice.

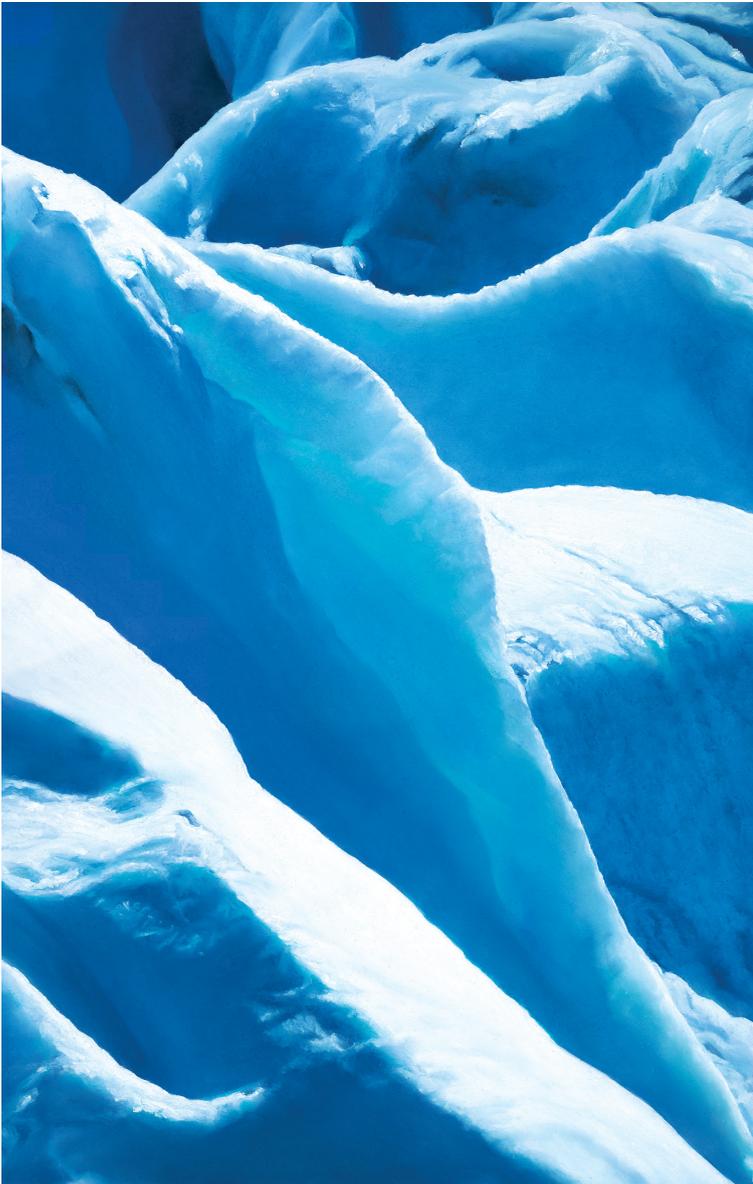
Perito Moreno was actually one of the few glaciers in the world that was still growing, until recently. The melting glacier ice worldwide has frightening potential consequences for the global climate system. James Hansen, the legendary NASA scientist who warned Congress about climate change back in 1988, predicts that if we don't cut carbon dioxide emissions, melting ice will raise sea levels by six to fifteen feet this century.

Many of us are intellectually aware that climate change is our greatest global challenge, and yet the problem may feel abstract, the imperiled landscapes remote. I hope that the scale of my drawings and their degree of realism will transport

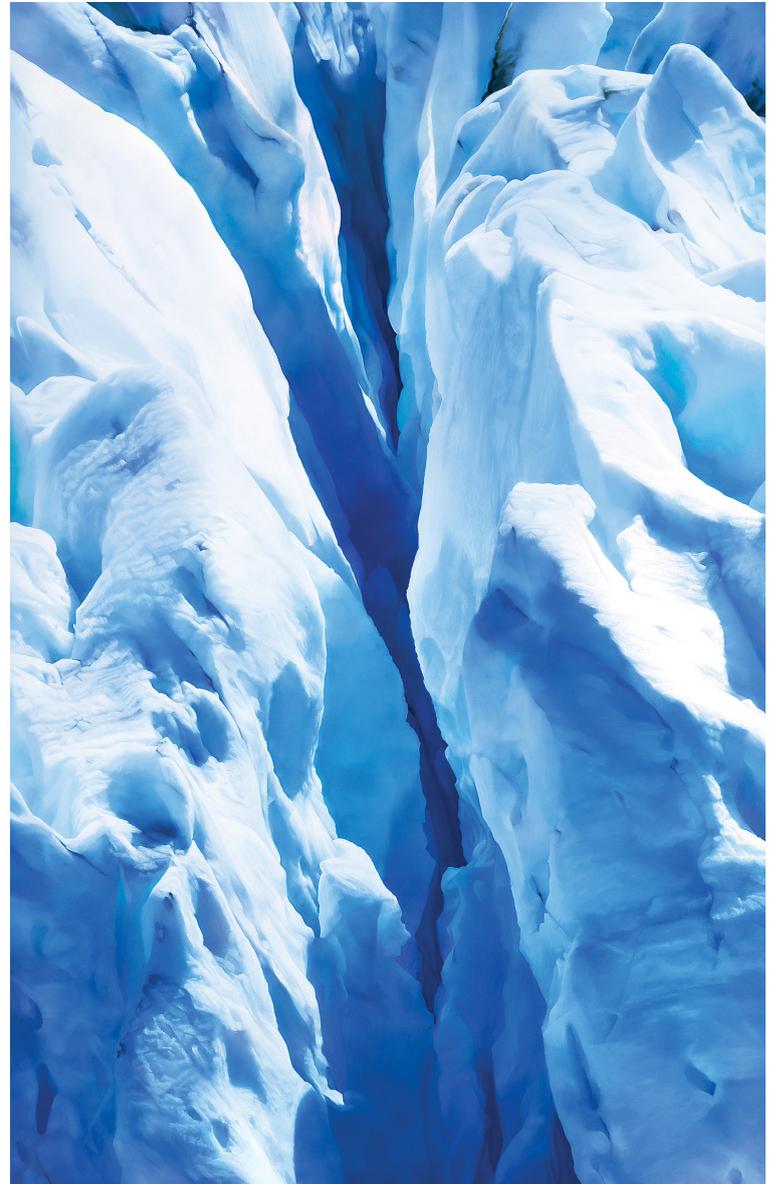
you to these distant, fragile landscapes, emulating the overpowering experience of being beside a glacier. If you can experience the majesty of these places, you will fall in love with them as I have. When you love something, you want to protect it.

We need to see ourselves as part of a movement in which every moment counts. To do so, I think we need to visualize not just what we will lose, but what we can still save.

Zaria Forman documents climate change with pastel drawings and travels to remote regions of the world to collect images and inspiration for her work. As an undergraduate, she studied studio art at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York, and at Studio Art Centers International in Florence, Italy. Her art is now exhibited worldwide, and you may follow her at Zariaforman.com.



Perito Moreno Glacier, Argentina No. 6, December 13th 2018, 25 x 16.5 inches, soft pastel on paper, 2018



Perito Moreno Glacier, Argentina No. 10, December 13th 2018, 82.75 x 50 inches, soft pastel on paper, 2018



Whale Bay, Antarctica No.2, 50 x 75 inches, soft pastel on paper, 2016



Zaria Forman working on Whale Bay Antarctica No. 4