

OCEAN SIZE

ZARIA FORMAN



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In August 2012, I led an Arctic expedition up the NW coast of Greenland. Called “Chasing the Light”, it was the second expedition the mission of which was to create art inspired by this dramatic geography. The first, in 1869, was led by the American painter William Bradford.

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Francois Lebeau



OCEAN SIZE



Francois Lebeau

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My mother, Rena Bass Forman, (who was a photographer) had conceived the idea for the voyage, but did not live to see it through. During the months of her illness her dedication to the expedition never wavered and I promised to carry out her final journey.

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OCEAN SIZE

Matt Johnson



Matt Johnson

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I have begun a series of drawings inspired by this trip. Documenting climate change, the work addresses the concept of saying goodbye on scales both global and personal. In Greenland, I scattered my mother's ashes amidst the melting ice.

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I think the idea for this journey was one of the biggest gifts she ever gave me. The trip has set me on a path that keeps me feeling connected to her, and I am grateful for that. I have used a few of her photographs (from our first trip to Greenland together in 2006) to reference for my drawings. The thousands of negatives she left behind offer a wonderful tool for me to continue to collaborate with her.

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Francois Lebeau





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Drawing for me is often meditative. I get easily lost in the colour, form and shape of the intimate details. I often listen to audiobooks while I work. Listening to a story will keep me focused on the drawing far longer than music or silence. I always use my palms and fingers to move the pigment around on the paper - it has just always been the method that came naturally to me. I used the same technique for my Giselle series which is quite different from my landscapes, although I also implemented a few tools and charcoal pencils for the finer details.

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Francois Lebeau





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“ Most human beings are drawn towards water in one way or another. It makes up more than 75% of our bodies, and covers most of the Earth’s surface. We need water to survive, but we also gravitate towards it’s beauty- the respite, shimmer, and movement it adds to a landscape. Water provides me with an endless amount of inspiration as it constantly changes, taking on new forms from one moment to next. There will always be more for me to learn about the methods with which water can be conveyed in pastel, and I enjoy that never-ending challenge. ”

