

FRIEZE New York Solo presentation

CHARLES AVERY

May 9 - 12, 2014

GRIMM is proud to announce a solo presentation by Charles Avery at Frieze New York.

Since 2005 Charles Avery (1973, Oban – Scotland) has been describing an imaginary island in the form of drawings, sculptures, objects, films and texts. Every feature; from its topology to its cosmology, flora and fauna to its social practices, embodies a philosophical proposition, problem or solution.

Recently Avery turned his attention to one of the most striking locations on the island, a municipal park in its capital city of Onomatopoeia, known as the *Jadindagadendar*. This public garden is formed not from living botanical specimens, but rather from artificial trees, flowers and shrubs, which the island's inhabitants understand as a refutation of nature, and an expression of human will.

To step inside it would be to pass from the familiar to the unfamiliar, from one world to another.

In other works presented at Frieze New York Avery explores one of the main industries on the island; The extraction, processing and export of kelp.

There are all different sizes of kelp gathering operations. The big-timers have their own boats, and crane the kelp onto the dock in large nets. At the other end of the spectrum there are those subsistence workers, their numbers swollen by itinerants, who traipse the shoreline with old supermarket bags, trying to eke a living.

All comes through the *Kelp Bailing Station*, where it is dehumidified, compressed, and bound into bails, for wholesale to industry, a major use being the extraction of minerals used in the production of glass.



Charles Avery, *Untitled (View inside the kelp bailing station)*, (2014) | detail

Charles Avery (1973) born in Oban, Scotland lives and works in London. The first most comprehensive presentation of The Islanders project, *'The Islanders: An Introduction'* was exhibited at **Parasol Unit Foundation for Contemporary Art**, London in 2008 and toured to **The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art**, Edinburgh and **Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen**, Rotterdam in 2009. Other solo presentations include the exhibition, *Onomatopoeia, Part 1*, which was exhibited at **EX3 Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea**, Florence in 2010 and toured to **Kunstverein Hanover** and **Frac Ile-de-France/le Plateau**, Paris in 2011. Recent solo exhibitions include *'New Works from the Islanders Project (Concerning the Qoro-qoros, the Jadindagadendar and the Eternal Dialectic)'*, **GRIMM Gallery** in Amsterdam (2012); *'It Means It Means'*, **Galerie Perrotin** in Paris (2013); *'It Means It Means'*, **Pilar Corrias** in London (2013). In February 2015 Avery will show at the **Tai Pei Biennale** and he will have a solo exhibition at **GEM, Museum for Contemporary Art** in The Hague, Netherlands

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Charles Avery, *Untitled (Tree No. 4 for Jadindagadendar)*, (2013)

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