An Aqueous State



Janusz Wrobel

Exhibition Preface

Curiosity, the universal trait of the human mind, accelerated our cognitive abilities and making tools that placed us at the top of "our world." History shows that its companion is a sense of invincibility which can undermine common sense or rational judgment. Thus, as societies, we swung between civilizational glories and their failures. Troubled separating myths and biological life requirements, we overlook the inherent limits of ecology, resources, and energy.

It is within these frames that we discover our individual interests and relationships. What I saw as overlooked had attracted my attention. I studied world's molecular scales. And the use of photography in science applications to visualize the reality of the invisible scale. Choosing art practice allowed me to contemplate openly my conclusions. A frame to integrate cultural aesthetics with the science-based understandings of biophysical world processes.

My tripolar view of reality emerged from this practice. The self, with the attention enhanced by what I had already seen, experienced, and interpreted as the outcome. Then, the autonomous, time established evolutionary biophysical processes. And finally, the current human practices interacting with these processes.

That what outlines this project.



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Exhibition Statement

Human maturity is a trait defined by stability of living environment and trusted relationships anchoring our daily lives. Yet in our complex world, this pursuit can unwittingly harden into a cocoon or an echo chamber, dulling the perception of subtle truths.

Allow yourself to consider your body's cellular life, the smallest units in it, each empowered by energy gradients, constantly relying on energy flow and its transformation. Ten's trillions of them, even more microorganisms that our body wouldn't work without. All cooperating within the complex processes inside each of us. Yet outside our consciousness. And so, the myriads of other processes in the outside world, with the wide range of scales and impacts. Once, the long-held mysterious wisdoms were called "the ways of nature."

Being rooted in urban ecology, I felt a need for new frames of reference. To connect with what was culturally referred to as the Web of Life. What I encountered, however, had been formalized already as the science laws by the past few generations, enabling the rise of industrial societies. What puzzled me might be the greatest paradox of modern civilization: its reluctance to apply finding of science and history, perceiving what's around us. Blindness to the natural world's depth and its silent wisdoms.

My work might serve as a window into their individual contemplations.

The asymmetrical shape of the water molecule, its polarity, allows my brain to function. To empower my body, to allow my brain to say it and to define what to say. The molecule thermal storage capacity keeps my body in its livable, narrow range of thermal conditions.

The most mysterious is my cognition. My predecessors modelled its capability through their interactions of social ecologies with their environments. Experiencing the destructive furry of water, and its life nursing properties. The behaviour named later by science as the measure of disorder, or entropy. And yet, my years of study world's molecular properties went without seeing how they, or water molecules, shaped the world I inhabit. An abstraction until there is none in my home water taps.

Another paradox I ignored was the time requirements for nature's evolutionary processes. An abstraction, not the reality of living.

So, I became a practicing collector of reflective thoughts about wider world I inhabit now. Leaving shapes, forms, and colours behind, along my unhinged emotions. Finding solace by swimming with the full moon in evening waters, thoughts flickering like fireflies.

I am, after all, Water, and I came from the stars.



Reef



Cold Front



From Here and Now #2



Western Shore



Grassy Reef #3



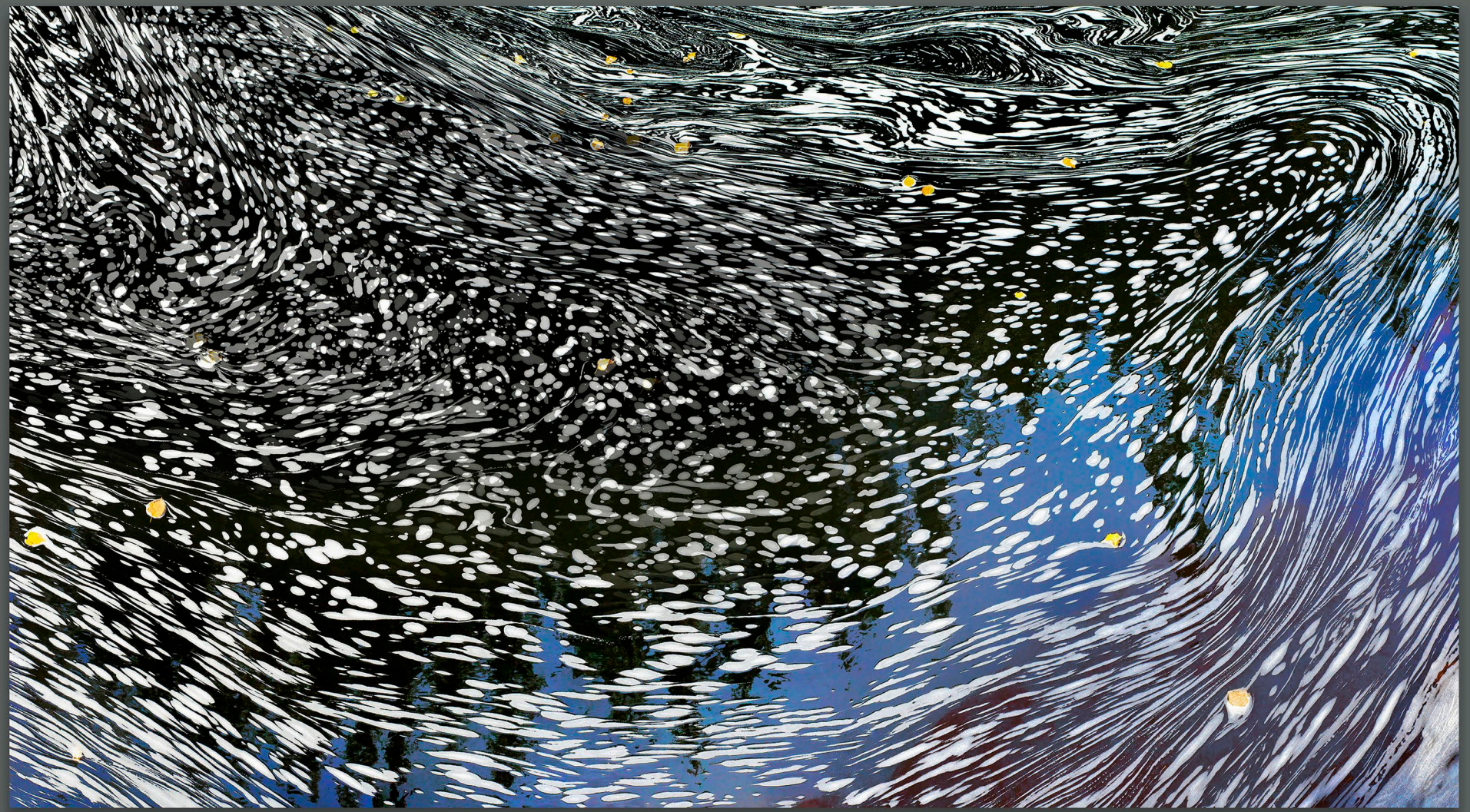
Misty Morning Bog



Foggy Dawn



Frosty Dawn



Current Study #2



Ebb and Flow

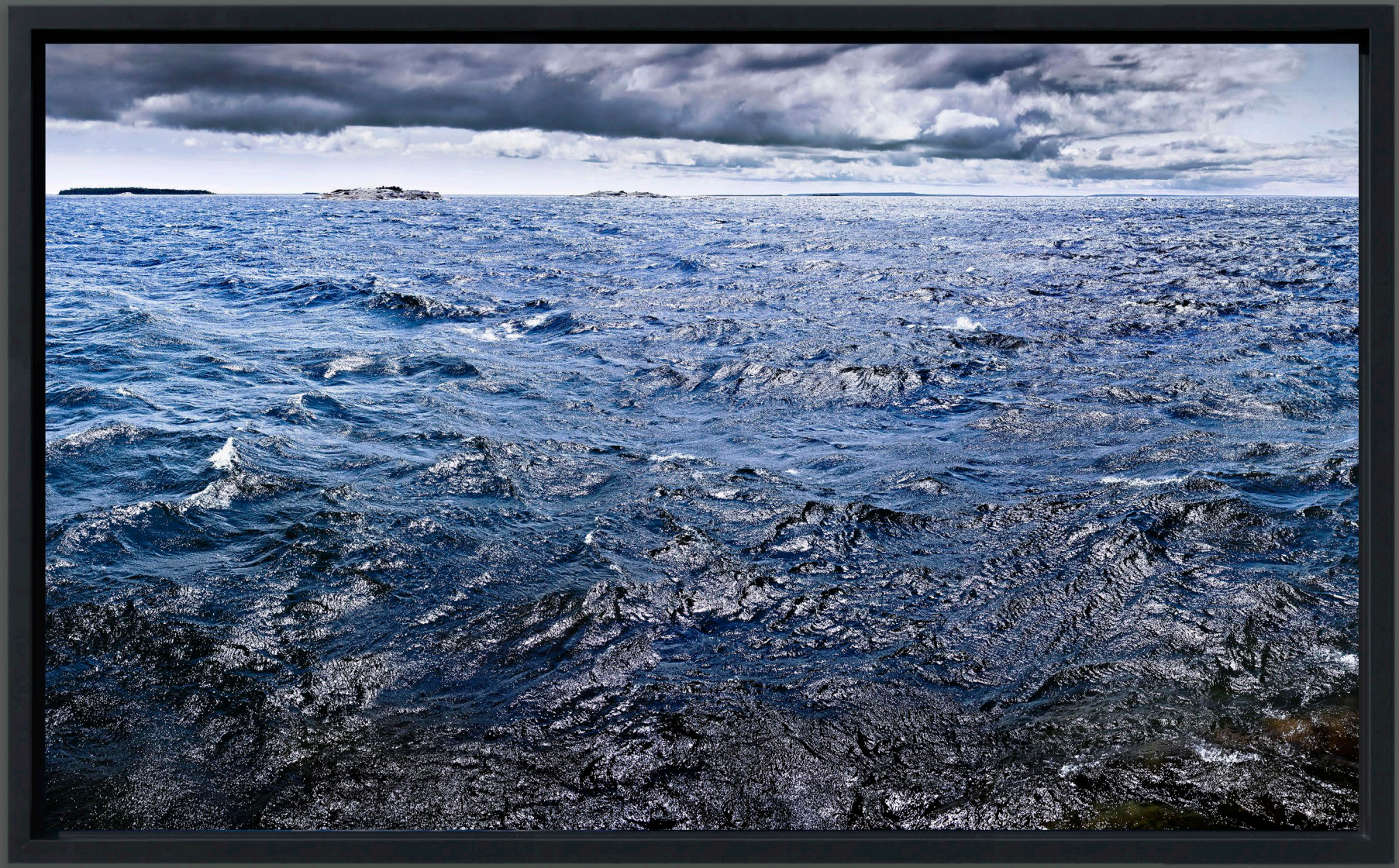




Sweet Water Sea



Superior Flow (Mural)



Turbulence



Continuum

Image List

Page 01 - Western Winds	2010	Edition 09	Up to 40″ wide
Page 03 - 03-An Aqueous State	2009	Edition 09	Up to 50″ wide
Page 05 - Reef	2011	Edition 06	Up to 40″ wide
Page 06 - Cold Front	2010	Edition 09	Up to 66″ wide
Page 07 - From Here and Now #2	2011	Edition 09	Up to 60″ wide
Page 08 - Western Shore	2014	Edition 06	Up to 60″ wide
Page 09 - Grassy Reef #3	2011	Edition 09	Up to 60″ wide
Page 10 -Misty Morning Bog	2008	Edition 09	Up to 56″ wide
Page 11 - Foggy Down	2010	Edition 03	Up to 36″ wide
Page 12 - Frosty Dawn	2012	Edition 09	Up to 52″ wide
Page 13 - Current Study #2	2012	Edition 09	Up to 66″ wide
Page 14 - Ebb and Flow	2012	Edition 09	Up to 76″ wide
Page 15 - Georgian Bay Evening #2	2020	Edition 01	Up to 70″ wide
Page 16 - Sweet Water Sea	2013	Edition 09	Up to 80″ wide
Page 17 - Superior Flow	2016	Edition 09	Up to 96″ wide
Page 18 - Turbulence	2017	Edition 06	Up to 52″ wide
Page 19 - Continuum	2011	Edition 09	Up to 60″ wide

Supplementary Notes

- The limited edition is shown in total size–plus one artist's proof.
- The image printed standard is pigment ink set on the archival quality substrate.
- Other image finishing options available as a subject of the exhibiting concept.
- Also available for 4K or 8K supplementary screen presentation.
- All other details, please contact me at your convenience.