



# vertical clouds

three channel video, six channel audio

## vertical clouds

three channel 4k video, stereo  
Video installation for three projectors and four loudspeakers

Jens Lüstraeten 2022/24

Camera / Editing: Jens Lüstraeten  
Sound / Music: Johanna Jellici /Jens Lüstraeten

**vertical clouds** describes in aesthetically exaggerated images the incipient echo of what for decades was considered the cornerstone of our Western thinking and aspirations. Industrial progress, based on the ruthless exploitation of natural and human resources. The consequences are now visible everywhere.

In the aftermath, even toxic conditions, which were usually preceded by a promise, are being glorified.

The identity-forming power of images plays a decisive role in this. The change that is now urgently required is also difficult to convey credibly due to the decades of media fetishization of industry and capital.

In 2019, the Energy Transition Act was passed, according to which the conversion of the blast furnaces of the remaining steelworks in the Ruhr area from coal to hydrogen technology is to be subsidized with €8 billion from federal funds.

The discharge towers and the areas surrounding them form the stages for the video work „vertical clouds“.

The work shows a present state which has already been agreed on to be the past.

It thematizes reverberation and change as well as the seductive power of images when used for certain purposes. At the same time, just like the majestic glacier or the beautiful contrails, the icons of progress are also undergoing a change in meaning and perception. (shift)

The music for vertical clouds is a corporation between composer Johanna Jellici and Jens Lüstraeten. It consists mainly of deep modular sounds, basses, feedback loops and whispering voices.

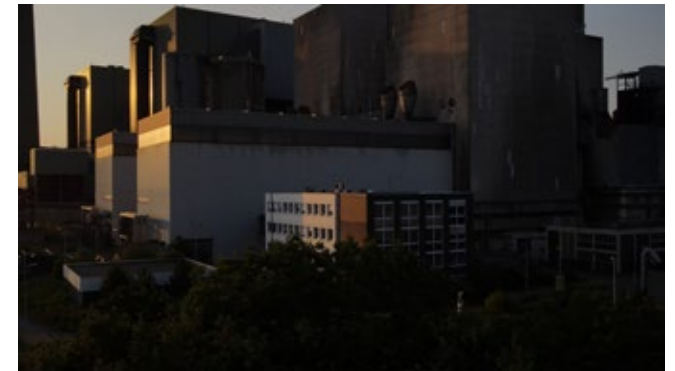
In parts, it enters into an affirmative connection with the images, in others it counters what is depicted, denying access. The result is an atmospheric sound structure that never completely encloses but also does not completely counteract the seduction.

The suggestive phrases whispered now and then throughout the work are quotes taken from political speech, shareholder meetings, and social prophets.

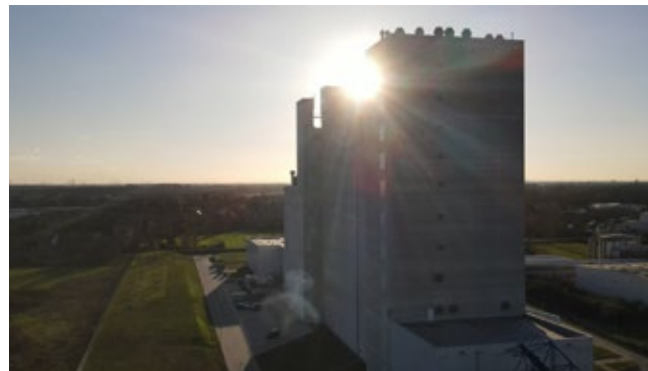
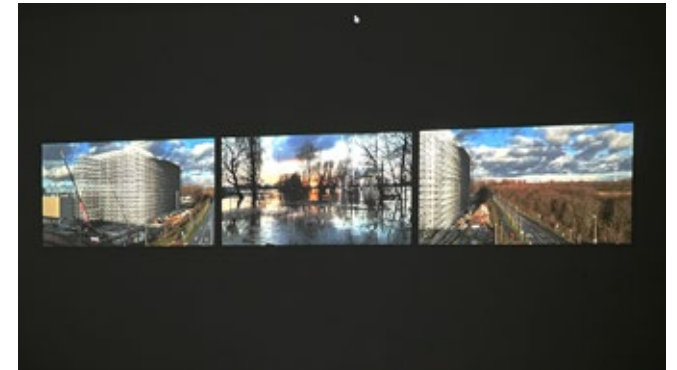
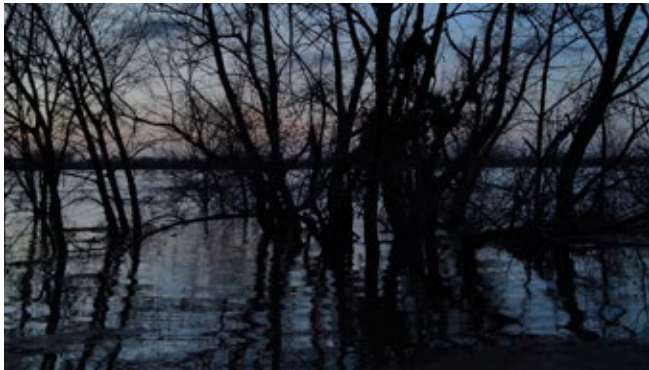
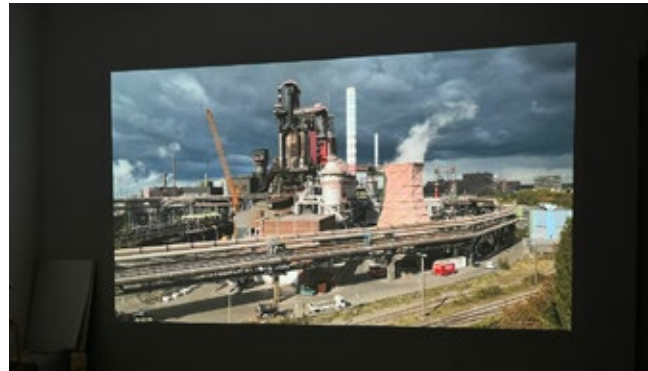
Jens Lüstraeten 2024

please find the complete film here:

**<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/912846013>**



**vertical clouds,** Filmstills



**vertical clouds,** Filmstills, Installationsansichten



#1 black iceberg



#3 Stille HKM



#4 der blaue Himmel



#5 blade runner





#7 Sauerstoff