

Assemblage. The Anthropocene

By Michael G. Smith

assemblage - a work of art made by grouping found or unrelated objects

What is entangled: Greenland and its milleniacompressed ice sheet threetimesmore expansive than Texas twomilesthick at its thickest: Bangladesh and its young millions living lives at typhoonfearing sea level: the sun hasn't ramped up its radiative output: still, manycenturyold blue ice melts and dumps chillliquidwater into the ocean: this a responsive act within Earth's Seuratdotscanvas: our sole human stimuli (one act play?) like this: we are college freshman let loose in the dorm hooked on carbon drugs: jail time to pay (execution a possibility): psychologists saying most can't see beyond tomorrow: it is not the ocean's habit to stop circulating warm waters: but unchill and chill different things and circulations change: poletopole migrating numbers down by seventy-five percent, Rufa Red Knot now *Threatened* (smell the *Endangered* fire in the approaching distance): hunger-challenged: sustenance-needed mussels and mid-Atlantic fourhundredmillionyearold spawning horseshoe crabs' along the poletopole journey: shells dissolving: roll vanishing off the tongue: notice Earth's café's disjointed art is cojoined: what can unravel unravels in the blink of a geologic eye: atmosphere and waters: the air becoming ohsocomfortable in its newwarm skin; the seas, becoming ohsocaressing with rising carbonic acid levels: their dissolving waters piling higher and higher: uncommonbecomingcommon floods hitched together with the Red Knots that were, I having been given:permitted forty lines like ladder rungs above rising sea levels to attampt a bit of saving: the poles SOS in this age of extra-large gas tanks, overflowingshoppingcarts in long lines in superstores, neverfullcarts in internet shops: *Who* thinks of walking emptyhanded everywhere handsopeninggreetingmouthssspreadingconservation?: this a calling out: only one one-character word will suffice.