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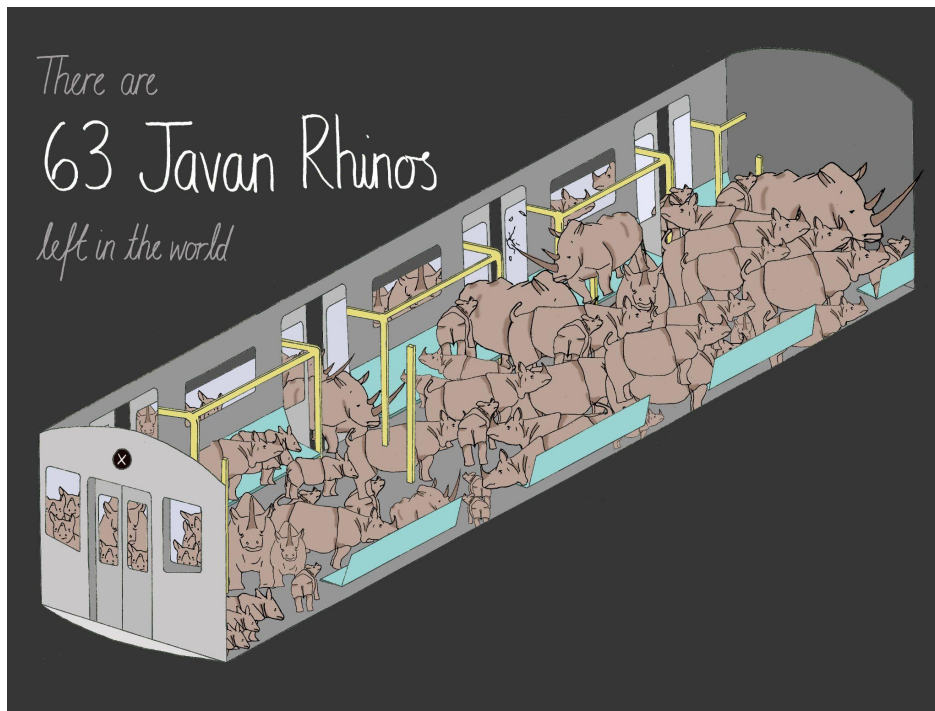


Contemporary Art
Museum St. Louis

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mona Chalabi's *Squeeze* illustrates global impacts on endangered plant and animal species, opening September 9



Mona Chalabi, *Endangered Species On A Train*, 2018. Source: IUCN Red List, 2018. Courtesy the artist.

August 16, 2022 (St. Louis, MO) - The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) presents a new site-specific exhibition by the data journalist, illustrator, and writer Mona Chalabi. In her new work on CAM's Project Wall, the artist visualizes the harsh results of loss of habitat, poaching, and global warming on endangered species. Her work tackles alarming statistics by finding truth in numbers and making that truth easier to digest through her compelling illustrations. *Mona Chalabi: Squeeze* will be on view at CAM September 9, 2022 through February 12, 2023.

Embracing her journalistic background, Mona informs her process with statistics gathered on politics, human rights, demographics, Covid infections, climate change, and many other topics. As the artist puts it, "My job is to take a story and to zoom out and provide context for readers. And the thing that excites me about data is the scale of it. Data gives you a new frame of understanding." For her exhibition at CAM, Mona focuses on endangered species of plants and animals, some of which are so close to extinction that every remaining member can fit on a New York subway car (if they squeeze).

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Hours
10-5 Thu
10-8 Fri
10-5 Sat & Sun
CAM is free. Visit often!



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Mona Chalabi: Squeeze is organized for the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis by Misa Jeffereis, Associate Curator.

The exhibition is generously supported by the Whitaker Foundation, and Nancy and Kenneth Kranzberg.

WHITAKER FOUNDATION

Mona Chalabi (b. London, 1987; lives and works in London) has published work in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *The New York Review of Books*, *New York Magazine*, *The Guardian* and many more. She has written for radio and TV including NPR, Gimlet, Netflix (*The Fix*), BBC (*Is Britain Racist?* Radio 4 and *The Frankie Boyle Show*), and *National Geographic* (Star Talk). As an illustrator her work has been commended by the Royal Statistical Society and has been exhibited at several galleries including the Tate, The Design Museum, the House of Illustration, and most recently the Brooklyn Museum. As a producer and presenter, Mona is one half of the team that created the Emmy-nominated video series *Vagina Dispatches*. She also presented and produced the audio experiment *Strange Bird*. Before she became a journalist, Mona worked with large data sets in jobs at the Bank of England, Transparency International, and the International Organization for Migration. She studied International Relations in Paris and studied Arabic in Jordan.

Related Events

Friday, September 9

Patron and Press Preview 10:00–11:30 am

Member Preview 5:00–6:00 pm

Public Opening 6:00–9:00 pm

For press access on September 9th, RSVP to Samantha Lyons, Communications Specialist, at slyons@camstl.org.

Wednesday, November 16, 6:00 pm

Mona Chalabi: Artist Talk

To schedule a Zoom or phone interview with artist Mona Chalabi or exhibition organizer Misa Jeffereis, Associate Curator, throughout the fall/winter exhibition season, please contact slyons@camstl.org.

About the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis

The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis creates meaningful engagement with the most relevant and innovative art being made today. Founded by civic and cultural leaders in 1980, the Museum transformed from a small gallery into an internationally recognized arts institution, now permanently housed in a flexible, open, and inviting building designed by renowned American architect Brad Cloepfil. CAM's distinct architecture reflects the organization's values and supports a dynamic range of exhibitions, public programs, educational initiatives, and community collaborations. The only museum in the region solely dedicated to contemporary art, CAM is one of the preeminent non-collecting institutions of

its kind in the United States. We are a site for discovery, a welcoming space, free and open to all. For more information, visit camstl.org.

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