

## **THE ANTHROPOCENE ATLAS OF GENEVA (TAAG)**

**HEAD – Genève, Geneva School of Art and Design**

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**Project Director:** Gene Ray (gene.ray@hesge.ch)

**Junior Researchers:** Aurélien Gamboni, Janis Schroeder, Kate McHugh Stevenson

### **Informed consent form for participants and interviewees of the Research Project**

#### **The Anthropocene Atlas of Geneva (TAAG)**

You are being invited to give an interview for *The Anthropocene Atlas of Geneva (TAAG)*, a research project of HEAD – Genève, Geneva School of Art and Design. TAAG has been approved and is sponsored by the Swiss National Science Foundation.

You will be invited to share your knowledge, experiences and personal views and feelings about human-caused global environmental change and about your practical, professional or everyday responses to it. Your interview will be recorded on digital video and later edited. Editing will consist of the selection of interview excerpts relevant to the research; all parts of the interview not selected will be deleted at the completion of the TAAG research project, on December 1, 2018. After the video is edited and excerpts selected, you will be given an opportunity to decide whether or not you wish to share the interview with the public on the TAAG project website. The information sections of this form will explain in detail how interviewees will be identified and how the interviews can be viewed by the public. After your video is edited, one or more members of the TAAG research group will meet with you again, to show you the edited interview and to show and explain to you the TAAG project website. If you approve of the interview at that time, it will be published and archived on the TAAG website, where the public can then access and view it. Your participation in the research project is wholly voluntary. You are free to end your participation at any time, with no risks or disadvantages. No part of your interview will be made public without your permission, which you may voluntarily give later, on a separate Publication Permission Form. On the Informed Consent Form you are now reading, you are being asked if you agree to give this interview for the specified purposes of this research project.

Please take your time in reading the information below before you sign this form, and please ask the TAAG researchers present if anything is unclear, or if you would like more information about the research project. You may also contact the TAAG Project Director, Gene Ray, directly by the email above, at any time, about any aspect of this research project.

#### **Description of the Research**

“Anthropocene” is a new term now being used by scientists, scholars, artists, journalists and, increasingly, by members of the general public. The term refers to a growing public awareness about the many ways in which human societies are altering the planet: these alterations include climate change, global warming, rising sea levels, melting glaciers, the loss of local plant, animal and insect life, ocean acidification and forms of pollution. The interdisciplinary research project TAAG documents and studies how people are responding to these changes, for example in the work that they do, and how they may be carrying their awareness into their everyday lives. TAAG interviews scientists, artists, activists and citizens from diverse professions who are willing to share their awareness and concerns about planetary change. It also documents and studies interactions between humans and non-human beings impacted by the changing environment (such as the official horse chestnut tree of the City of Geneva, the budding of which announces the ever earlier arrival of Spring; or lichens in the Botanical Gardens and Herbarium, whose thriving or disappearance are accurate indicators of air pollution).

The TAAG research is focused on the city and region of Geneva. Interviews and other research findings

(such as photographs of landscape features or other non-human beings or objects) will be gathered in an online archive accessible to other researchers and the general public. The homepage of the TAAG project website will open on a map of the Geneva region. For each interview or object, a dot will mark an approximate location on this map. These dots will be visible when a visitor to the website clicks on a thematic category relevant to the interview (for example, "climate change," "biodiversity" or "energy and resources"). Passing the cursor over each dot opens a box that identifies the interviewee by name and affiliated institution or group, if any. Clicking on the dot opens a new page with all the selected excerpts from the video interview. There, the interviewee is again identified by name and affiliated institution or group. All the interviews and collected research findings, along with a Glossary of keywords and extensive notes about the research process, together make up *The Anthropocene Atlas of Geneva*.

TAAG is being carried out by a group of four researchers (all identified by name at the top of this document) at HEAD – Genève, Geneva School of Art and Design. This research group is supported by an international Advisory Research Group consisting of fourteen scholars, artists and researchers whose names and affiliations can be found on the TAAG website; before the website has gone online, they will gladly be shared with you on request. TAAG is an interdisciplinary artistic research project; it has borrowed and combined established methods of research from the social sciences and critical humanities, in developing its own methods and forms for sharing its research findings. These methods are discussed in more detail on the TAAG project website. This research will be actively conducted until the end of 2018, by which time the form and contents of the TAAG website will be completed. Until then, the website will expand continuously, as new interviews, writing and visual documentation are added by the researchers.

The aim of this research is to contribute to the ongoing public understanding and evaluation of socially generated global environmental change. Its work is done in continuous dialogue with the work of other research communities and networks studying the implications of planetary change. The unique contribution of the TAAG project follows from its local focus; TAAG documents responses of people and non-humans in one city and region, Geneva, over the two-year duration (2017-2018) of the project.

### **Consent Check List**

- I have read the information above about the TAAG research project, a project of HEAD – Genève, Geneva School of Art and Design that is sponsored by the Swiss National Science Foundation, and I have been given a copy of this document.
- I understand that I am being asked to give my consent for an interview for the TAAG research project, and that in this interview I will be asked to share my knowledge, experiences, and personal views and feelings about human-caused global environmental change.
- The purpose and context of this interview have been explained to me, and I have had the opportunity to ask questions and discuss the details with one or more of the TAAG researchers.
- I understand that this interview will be digitally filmed and later edited for publication on the TAAG research project website, that editing will consist in the selection of interview excerpts relevant to the research, and that parts of the interview not selected will be deleted at the completion of the TAAG research project, on December 1, 2018.
- I understand that after editing, one or more TAAG researchers will contact me again and review with me the edited interview, as well as show and explain to me the TAAG online website, so that I can see how the public can access and view my interview.
- I understand that I will have the right to accept or reject the use of any of the selected excerpts, and that I will be asked to read and sign a separate Publication Permission Form before my interview or any parts of it go online and are shared with the public.
- I understand that interviews published on the TAAG website are usually identified by name, by affiliated institution or group, and by an approximate location on a map of Geneva, but that I may decline to be identified by name, affiliation or location, and that my name, affiliation and

location will only be published with my approval, which can be given on the separate Publication Permission Form when I review my interview after editing.

- Once I have given my consent on this form by signing below, I understand that I still have the right to end the interview at any time, without disadvantage to myself and without having to give any reason, and to ask that my participation not be used in this research; in that case all recordings of my interview already made will be deleted.
- I hereby fully and freely consent to give a recorded interview for the TAAG research project.

<i>Participant's name:</i> (BLOCK CAPITALS)		
<i>Participant's signature:</i>		<i>Date:</i>
<i>Researchers' names:</i> (BLOCK CAPITALS)		
<i>Researchers' signatures:</i>		<i>Date:</i>

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### **Publication Permission Form Authorizing the Research Project *The Anthropocene Atlas of Geneva* (TAAG) to Publish Online an Edited Interview**

In this form, you are invited to give your permission for TAAG to publish online, on the TAAG research project website, the edited video interview you have previously given to TAAG researchers.

*The Anthropocene Atlas of Geneva* (TAAG) is a research project of HEAD – Genève, Geneva School of Art and Design; TAAG has been approved and is sponsored by the Swiss National Science Foundation. The project was explained in detail on the Informed Consent Form presented to you before your video interview. If you have any questions about the project, please do not hesitate to ask the TAAG researchers present.

Your video interview has now been edited by the TAAG research group, all four of whom are named at the top of this document. The editing process has selected excerpts of the interview relevant to the research. TAAG would like to publish the edited video interview on the TAAG project website. The TAAG researchers present will show you the edited interview and will show and explain to you the TAAG project website, so that you can see how the public can access and view your interview.

Your decision to give your permission for the online publication of your interview is wholly voluntary. You may decline this permission at any time, without any disadvantages and without having to give any explanation. Should you decline publication, the digital recordings of your interview will be deleted, to ensure that they will not be shared with the public or used in any way by the research project.

Please take your time in reading the information below before you sign this form, and please ask the TAAG researchers present if anything is unclear, or if you would like more information about the research project. You may also contact the TAAG Project Director, Gene Ray, directly by the email above, at any time, about any aspect of this research project.

#### **Description of Online Publication**

TAAG has designed a website to share with the public its research project about responses to human-generated global environmental change in the city and region of Geneva. This website archives the video interviews given to TAAG researchers by local scientists, artists, activists and citizens from diverse professions who are willing to share their awareness and concerns about planetary change. All the interviews and collected research findings, along with a Glossary of keywords and extensive notes about the research process, together make up *The Anthropocene Atlas of Geneva*. The aim of this research is to contribute to the ongoing public understanding and evaluation of socially generated global environmental change. The website and all its contents are openly accessible to other researchers and to the general public. In this context, the "online publication" of your edited interview means that it will be digitally uploaded to the TAAG website, and that, once there, the public can access and view your interview freely.

The homepage of the TAAG project website will open on a map of the Geneva region. For each interview or object, a dot will mark an approximate location on this map. These dots will be visible when a visitor to the website clicks on a thematic category relevant to the interview (for example, "climate

change,” “biodiversity” or “energy and resources”). Passing the cursor over each dot opens a box that identifies the interviewee by name and affiliated institution or group. Clicking on the dot opens a new page with all the selected excerpts from the video interview. There, the interviewee is again identified by name and affiliated institution or group. The TAAG researchers present will show and explain to you how the public will be able to navigate the website and to access and view your video interview. You may ask for further information at any time.

The TAAG research project is publically supported and has been undertaken for purposes that are recognized to be scientific and scholarly, and not commercial. In order to share the findings of the TAAG project as widely as possible with other communities and networks of scientific, scholarly and artistic researchers, those findings are published online. Once the findings are published online, others scholars and researchers can access them and can consider and cite them in their own research. Scholars and researchers who do so are required to follow accepted standards for full and accurate attribution and citation. For example, a scholar writing a book or article about responses to planetary change may find it relevant to describe the TAAG project and quote part of an interview; he or she would then need to attribute the quoted words, by name, to the interviewee in question, as well as cite the TAAG project website as the online source of the published interview.

In order to encourage good practices of full attribution without discouraging the free sharing of research findings and knowledge, all the contents of the TAAG website have been placed under a *Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License (CC-BY-NC 4.0)*. Under this license, the contents of the TAAG website can be freely shared so long as full attribution is given and any modifications are clearly identified as modifications; this license also specifies that none of the contents of the TAAG website may be used for commercial purposes. The TAAG researchers present will have a copy of this license; if you have any questions about it, they will be glad to give you a copy and to explain it in more detail.

#### **Publication Permission Check List**

- I have read the information above about the TAAG research project, a project of HEAD – Genève, Geneva School of Art and Design that is sponsored by the Swiss National Science Foundation, and I have been given a copy of this document.
- I understand that I am being invited to give my permission for the digital interview I have given previously now to be uploaded to the TAAG project website, where it can be viewed by other researchers and the general public.
- I understand that my interview has been edited into selected excerpts relevant to the research, and the edited interview has been shown to me.
- I understand that my interview will be published online on the TAAG project website, and this website has been shown and explained to me by one or more TAAG researchers.
- I understand that my permission for the online publication of my interview is wholly voluntary, that I am not obligated to give my permission and that I may decline it at any time without any disadvantage and without having to give any explanation.
- I understand that I may decline to give my permission for the online publication of any part of my edited interview.
- I understand that if I decline to give my permission for the publication of any part of my interview, the digital records of those parts of my interview will be deleted to ensure that they will not be used in any way by the research project or shared with the public.
- I understand that interviews published on the TAAG website are usually identified by name, by affiliated institution or group, and by an approximate location on a map of Geneva, but that I

may decline to be identified by name, affiliation or location, and that my name, affiliation and location will only be published with my approval, by my signature on this form.

- I understand that all the contents of the TAAG project website, including my published interview, will be covered by a *Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License (CC BY-NC 4.0)*, and the terms of this license have been explained to me by TAAG researchers to my satisfaction.
- Once I have given my permission for the online publication of my interview by signing below, I understand that I still have the right to withdraw this permission at any time until the completion of the TAAG research project on December 1, 2018.
- I understand that after December 1, 2018, the TAAG research project will continue as an online archive that can be accessed by the public but which will no longer be changed.
- I hereby fully and freely give my permission for the online publication of my edited video interview on the TAAG project website.

<i>Participant's name:</i> (BLOCK CAPITALS)		
<i>Participant's signature:</i>		<i>Date:</i>
<i>Researchers' names:</i> (BLOCK CAPITALS)		
<i>Researchers' signatures:</i>		<i>Date:</i>