



Science Fiction(s)
If There Were a Tomorrow
30 March 2023 to 9 January 2024

Quotes from the curatorial team

Jonathan Fine, Director of Weltmuseum Wien:

“In light of the climate crisis and other challenges, we are all wondering where do we go from here. In the Weltmuseum Wien we can see how people in different countries are seeking answers to this question.”

Ute Marxreiter, guest curator

“Narratives of the conquest of space promise the solution of humanity’s problems through technology. They ignore the fact that many of these narratives are also a continuation of colonial ambitions.”

Claudia Augustat, curator at Weltmuseum Wien

“Without healing and the coexistence with other beings, there will be no future worth living on Earth for human beings.”

Stella Asimwe, education

“For the first time, the cultural education department at the Weltmuseum Wien helped develop an exhibition from the very beginning and included interactive stations for different age groups and a family-friendly approach.”

Tobias Mörike, curator at Weltmuseum Wien

“That colonized cultures would die out and museums would have to preserve their remains are founding myths of ethnological museums. At their beginning is the denial of a future for these cultures.”

Quotes from the artists:

Cara Romero, enrolled citizen of the Chemehuevi, Santa Fe & Chemehuevi Valley Indian Reservation, USA

“In an Indigenous future, we take our past with us. We remember that while life and culture is always changing, some things are ever-permanent.”



Andy Everson, K'ómok and Kwakw̓ak̓'wakw, Comox, British Columbia, Canada
"We are hungry for justice and will persist until it has been met."

Ryan Singer, Diné (Navajo), Tuba City and Albuquerque, USA
"As a Diné (Navajo) artist I find it important to tell stories that are personal and that also affect my Indigenous brothers and sisters. I also experienced the generational trauma firsthand from my immediate and extended family. This painting for me is a way to voice my opinion about the subject in a subtle way using Star Wars characters to send a message out to the world, that these issues need to be discussed and no longer swept under the rug."

Kadu Xukuru, Xukuru People, Escada, Pernambuco, Brazil
"The problem of white women and men is not understanding nature as a coexisting part of themselves, seeing the Earth only as a source of profit, when in fact the Earth is our mother and our home."

Kunumi MC (Owerá & Angry Duo), Guarani, Krukutu, São Paulo, Brazil
"We Guarani have always existed and for over 519 years, we have resisted. Natives born in the land Brazil. Since the fifteen hundreds we have been at war. Our people have been oppressed and decimated for not allowing them to enslave us. They have ignored our science, our technology, and thousands of years of knowledge about the forest."

Leeroy New, Manila, Philippines
"Filipino culture has been diluted under layers of colonization, and a lot of its original narratives have been relegated to folklore and superstition. This is where the importance of bringing these stories to the forefront lies."

Fara Peluso and Hüma Utku, Italy, Turkey
"With the current pace of industrialization around water ecosystems, living machines can tell stories of destruction, like the algae bloom that causes aquatic life forms to suffer."

Wilfred Ukpong, Nigeria
"I am interested in exploring the speculative dimensions that boldly draw on the aesthetic concept of science fiction and most importantly Afrofuturism – the cultural movement that conjures otherworldly visions out of everyday Black/African experience."

Elizabeth LaPensée, Anishinaabe, Métis und Irish, Great Lakes region, Michigan and northern Ontario (Sault Ste. Marie), USA and Canada
"Our stories share science. So, too, can our stories be shared through technology. My greatest hope is to show ways in which our ways of knowing can be experienced through design."



Uýra, Manaus, Amazon, Brazil

"It's another world we need, and it can't have the management of the same old staff. Art helps us imagine – and that is profoundly powerful."

Nicholas Galanin, Lingít und Unanga̋, Lingít Aani, Sitka, Alaska, USA

"In borrowing from an Indigenous aesthetic, the image projects settler claims to Indigenous culture into the future."

Ekow Nimako, Fante (Ghana), Toronto, Canada

"[My work] represents an uninterrupted, uncooped narrative of Black civilizations that seeks to reclaim histories, reconcile ancestral traumas, and imagine liberated futures for all African peoples."