

What I did this week

- Class
  - Created the recycled wave art with [what was artists name]
- Book
  - Read the Great Delusion
- Theatre
  - Saw Ocean Filibuster

### Reflection on Ocean Filibuster

I went to see Ocean Filibuster on Friday, and really quite enjoyed the work. It was a particularly refreshing way of presenting a problem, almost a comedic method that didn't quite let you forget the scale of the problem we are facing. I feel as if most pieces of art that tackle problems such as the destruction of the ocean are very serious and make the audience feel down and guilty and have no other emotions, and this often puts off the audience - making them want to distance themselves from the problem as it is mentally easier for them. This often leads to people wanting to ignore the problem rather than deal with it as they are made to feel guilty about it on top of any effort they put in to enact change that creates such little impact that it almost seems as if their effort is futile.

Ocean Filibuster approached the problem of the destruction of the ocean in a comedic manner - particularly one that makes fun of humans and almost dehumanizes humanity while personifying the ocean and making the ocean seem more human than humanity. The play finds a good way of not targeting us, the audience, and making us feel too guilty. The humans in the play are essentially what we, as a society, could end up becoming - not what we are. This helps us to enjoy the comedy making fun of the human head of state, not feeling attacked ourselves, all while ensuring that the idea that we need to change so that we don't end up like this in the future stays in the audience's head.

I also really liked how often the 4th wall was broken - with members of the audience involved, actors in the audience as well as the interactive intermission (although I think the intermission didn't have a very clear direction, it was a very cool idea nonetheless). This break helped remind the audience that you are involved in the play, that this is not just an act, it involves you and your decisions as well. However, I did think that some of the acts were slightly confusing and with no direction - such as the whale calls. I feel like it would have been much more effective to show just how much human activity affects their communication, not just having the odd jet ski that doesn't really change anything overall.

All in all, Ocean Filibuster was a truly amazing experience, and a very refreshing one. It used comedy and visual effects extremely well to convey a mix of emotion and facts. It does a very good job in making the audience continue to think about the topic after the play, however I think a slightly larger emphasis on things society should work on would make the message even stronger.