

Il cambiamento climatico

Climate change is increasing the threat of the sea flowing over land in the Netherlands. In Italy, it is just the opposite. There, climate change creates the threat of the land flowing into the sea. But the consequences are the same for both. If we do nothing, we will lose our land to the sea.

In 2009, at the invitation of guest studio CAM (Dieuwke Parlevliet), I was able to work for a few months in her house Casa Amenta Maria in Celleno (Italy). When I hover over Celleno with Google Earth, I see a small light blue area to the right of Celleno, the swimming pool of Casa Amenta Maria. Then, at the bottom of the steep slopes, I can see the dark strands of trees lining streams. These streams are not really visible, so under the foliage of the trees. But they are the creators of this steep relief landscape. During my working period, I walked and filmed a lot along these streams. In 2020, I was again invited to participate in the exhibition event Incontro because of the tenth anniversary of the host studio CAM. Due to corona, this was postponed several times until eventually 2022.

As an artist, I explore the changing landscape and my relationship with it. Increasingly, I make use of factual data about that landscape and my concrete presence in it. Since 1995, I have been observing a drift valley in the dunes of Burgh-Haamstede. Since then, I have participated several times in projects and exhibitions in response to changing landscapes.

The wadden region:

- Into The Great Wide Open Vlieland 2014 <https://www.marinusvandijke.nl/vlieland/start.htm>

- Wad guests Terschelling 2014 - 2016, Schiermonnikoog 2015- 2016 and Helgoland 2016.

<https://imrama.eu/>

- Rising and falling tide Rottumerplaat 2021

<https://www.marinusvandijke.nl/boeken/opkomendtij/rottum.html>

Streams and rivers:

- The Dommel, too good to be true, 2001, Brabant Netherlands.

<https://www.marinusvandijke.nl/indruk/kafttent.htm>

- The Natouze, Vivre Le Lieu, 2014, Burgundy France.

<https://www.marinusvandijke.nl/natouze/natouze.html>

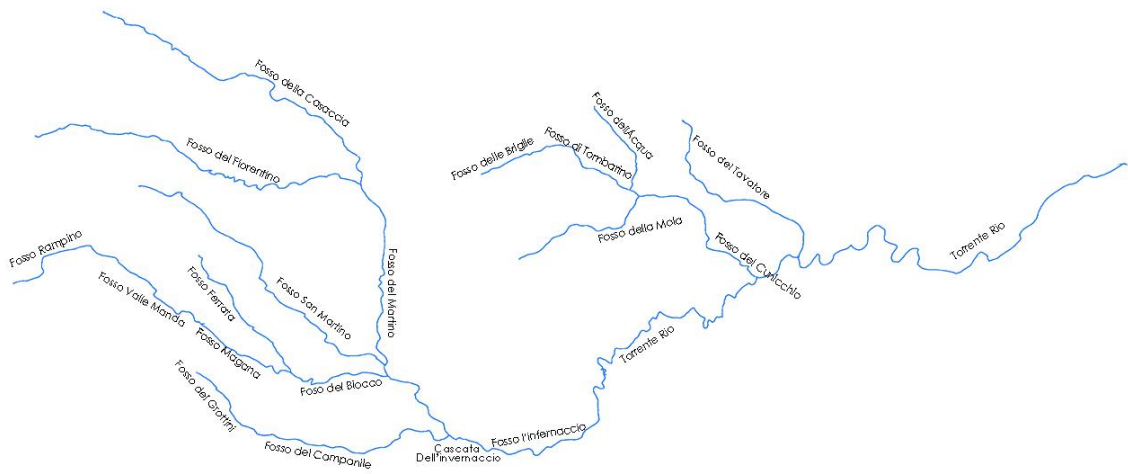
- De Ruiten Aa, brook in view 2.0, 2018-present, Westerwolde Netherlands.

<https://www.marinusvandijke.nl/ruitena/doc.html>

At Incontro, I focused on the effects of climate change caused by the streams in the Celleno area. And on the differences of climate-change effects there in Italy and here in the Netherlands. In Italy, prolonged droughts and sudden heavy rains are increasing the threat, that the land will flow into the sea. While here in the Netherlands, there is a danger, due to sea level rise, of the sea flooding the land. At the same time, I want to make residents aware about the streams and their impact on the environment. I had discovered, that roads, agriculture and residential areas are mainly on the hills and the residents have little relationship or affinity with the streams hidden deep in the valleys.

Last winter, I looked into the structure and history of water systems in the Celleno area on the Internet. As a result, I made a map showing the streams and their names.

I used this map as the basis for making several watercolours and an image in blue transparent plexiglass. The organisers of Incontro had suggested several locations to show your work. My choice fell on the Lavatoie where the stream water still flowed through.



The catchment area of streams around Celleno during wet and dry periods.



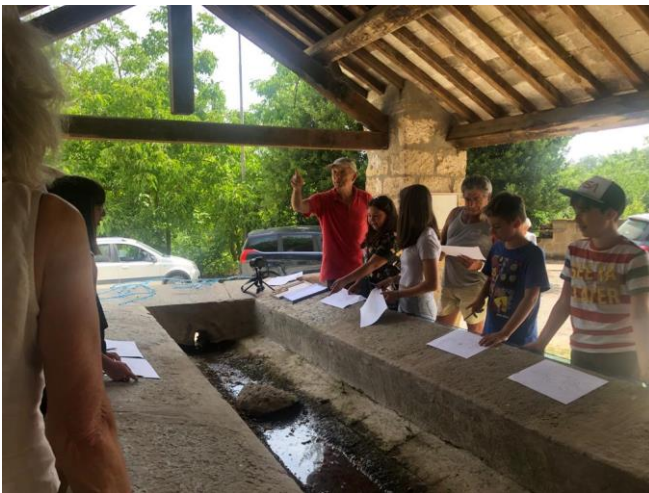


I used the cut-out of the stream pattern as a template to make stream footprints with earth at various places in Celleno, so that people were aware of how and where the streams run around Celleno.





At the Lavatoie, I did a workshop and performance for concerned residents and several youngsters from the local school.



On the map showing the stream courses, I asked attendees to indicate where their homes were located.



With the map of ditch patterns on Schouwen-Duiveland, the area where I live, and the stream course map of the Celleno area, I indicate the differences between the two landscapes and their climate change issues.

In Italian, small streams are called ditches as with us small canals are called ditches. It is nice to see that the pattern of ditches in Celleno and those in my area are very different in shape. The two maps of ditch patterns are shown in proportion to each other in terms of size.



At the end of the workshop, I visualised the threat of the fertile land flowing into the sea through a performance.

Next to the washroom, a cave screened my film *Primavera*, which I made in 2009.



On display in the same space were a number of artists' books I made during my stay in Italy in 2009.



Dare Su about herd shapes on the hills opposite the host studio CAM. I rendered these by making a hole in each sheep. This creates, as you browse, an ever-changing flock patch on the left page.



Gosse di Sudore, is about rendering sweat patterns and came about because I walked the same lap around the hill each time and let the sweat drip off my forehead onto a printed photograph of the local soil. As the ink was water-soluble, increasingly complex shapes and beautiful colours emerged.

The organisers of *Incontro*, together with the Celleno municipality, invited various agencies to participate in a round table discussion, where climate change was also a topic of discussion.



with thanks to:
Comune di Celeno (It), La fondazione d'arte Zeeuws Blauw en Stichting Gerbrandy Cultuurfonds