



Montessori: The Glass Classroom
Eamon O'Kane
NORWEGIAN SCULPTORS SOCIETY, OSLO, NORWAY
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www.eamonokane.com

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Wooden structure, plexi-glass, wooden blocks, foam tiles, vinyl
map, posters, video; dimensions variable
Installation views, 2020



The Glass Classroom

In his exhibition at the Norwegian Sculpture Society in Oslo, artist Eamon O’Kane installed a new interactive installation of wooden objects alongside visualisations of climate activity where children could interact, build and draw their own thoughts in relation to their own values and perceptions about climate change.

The work is a development of O’Kane’s The Froebel Studio which was inspired by the legacy of Fredrich Froebel the inventor of the Kindergarten and a predecessor to Montessori.

The work is also inspired by the famous educationalist Maria Montessori, especially her Glass Classroom at the Panama Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco in 1915. For 4 months of the fair’s run, 30 young children attended school in a glass-walled Montessori classroom, providing an intimate view of the new educational model that was quickly catching on among American educators and parents.

The Glass Classroom uses physical bricks on maps to explain weather, climate, simple meteorology and topography, as well as the way meteorologists build and develop models to look into the future.

















