

OCEAN OPTICS XXIV

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<https://oceanopticsconference.org>

Wednesday, October 10

Poster Session 3

16:00–18:00

Poster 63

GLAZ: WHERE OCEAN COLOR MEETS ART

“Glaz” is a Breton word for the indeterminate shade between green and blue, the colour of the sea in Brittany. Glaz is also used to describe the colour of plants. Glaz is the title of both the 2017 exhibition at Frac Bretagne and one major artworks of Nicolas Floc’h: a green productive painting that produces the colour blue. The Pièce « Glaz » shows a photobioreactor where micro-algae are cultivated. For Glaz, it contains a phytoplankton, a cyanobacteria (*Synechococcus*). Blue pigment called phycocyanin is extracted from the algae and applied to the walls of the south gallery of the Frac Bretagne. For “Gulf Stream”, neon tube drawing reproduces the twists and curves of the Gulf Stream. Starting on the lower left, the flow follows the contours of Florida, before crossing the Atlantic and working its way up towards the north on the right, where it meets Europe. The white neon (natural light tone) is positioned on top of the blue pigment of Glaz applied to the wall. A sound pièce, « The Colour of Water », Productive Sound Painting, introduce words by Hubert Loisel. Hubert is a specialist in the analysis of the colour of the ocean and is recorded talking about monochromy, surface, strata, light, and transparency. He also discusses the absorption of colour, pigments, shades, reflection of light, and production. This pictorial vocabulary is linked to the ocean, where the colours visible to the human eye or satellites convey information about primary production, that is to say the evolution of life in the ocean.

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