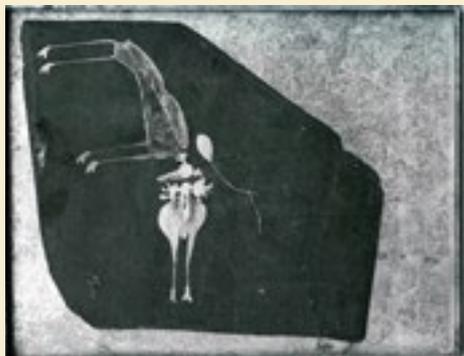


# talc. ART PACK

*Extinct* – environmental art project

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Joseph Beuys (slate showing two elks)



Joseph Beuys: *Das Kapital* (1970-77)



Joseph Beuys, *Rannoch Moor* Scottish Highlands

**Joseph Beuys (1921–1986)** was a German artist who developed an extended definition of art and the concept of “social sculpture”. He claimed a creative, participatory role for the arts in shaping society and politics, leading public debates about environmental issues as part of his artistic practice. Associated with the ecological movement, he was a founding member of the Green Party in Germany.

Beuys visited Scotland nine times. After exploring Loch Awe and Rannoch Moor in 1970, he came up with the idea of planting 7,000 oak trees as part of an artwork, paired with basalt stones, realised between 1982–1987 for the *documenta 7* exhibition in Kassel, Germany. He also started to draw on blackboards with white chalk, which were often included in performances and public debates. Elks or stags appear in many of Beuys’ drawings and represent a spirit guide.

Between 31 October and 12 November 2021, the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26), will be held in Glasgow. To mark this occasion we are preparing a window exhibition at TALC, and we need your participation!

## To participate:

Do some research about animals or plants which are extinct or endangered due to human activity (search tip: “*extinct or endangered animals or species due to humans*”). Choose which one you would love (or would have loved) to see in real life. Create a pencil drawing on white paper and send it (or a photo or scan of your drawing) to us, adding your name and the name of the species you have drawn.

Some examples of extinct species are: the Dodo (extinct since 1690), the Steller’s sea cow (since 1768), the Labrador duck (since 1870), the Rocky Mountain locust (since 1900), the Tasmanian wolf (since 1936), the Deepwater Cisco fish (since 1952), the Hawaii Chaff flower (since 1962), the Golden toad (since 1989), and the St. Helena olive tree (since 2004). There are many others.

Or you can focus on animals currently facing extinction, of which there are also many – [www.nature.com](http://www.nature.com) states “*Humans are driving one million species to extinction*”. The International Union for Conservation of Nature compile a Red List of Threatened Species, which has evolved to become the world’s most comprehensive information source on the global extinction risk status of animal, fungus and plant species. Visit <https://www.iucnredlist.org> to check the extinction risk status of your favourite species, and choose an endangered species to draw. We will then engrave your drawing on a piece of slate, and the whole collection will be displayed in TALC’s window to start a dialogue within the community.