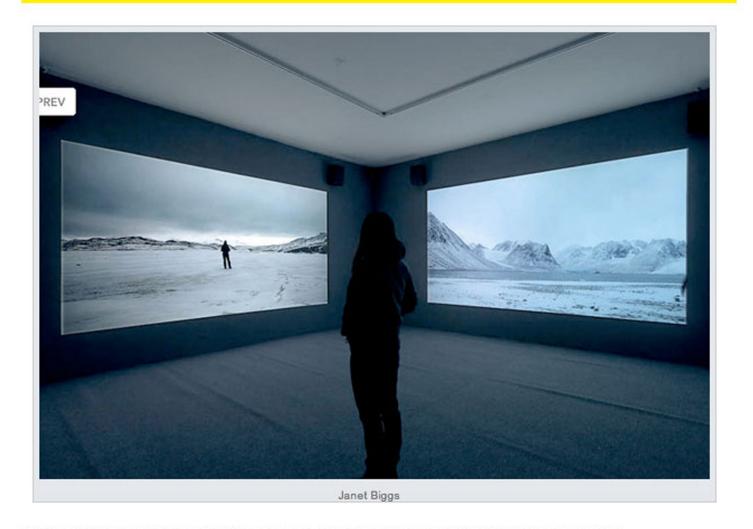


IN PRAISE OF OTHER WORLDS: YOUR CURATED ART CRAWL



Janet Biggs: Somewhere Beyond Nowhere at Smack Mellon

Selected for the Arctic Circle residency program in 2009, Biggs was brought to Svalbard, an archipelago between Norway and the North Pole, where there's midnight sun, polar winter, and a population just short of 3,000. Somewhere Beyond Nowhere, befittingly installed in a darkened room, pours forth the extremity of isolation with a two-channel video installation. Referencing the failed (and tragic) expeditions of nineteenth century polar explorers, in addition to notes from her own journal, Biggs accompanies the visual magnitude of place/space with wistful narration, underlining the "destabilizing" force of nature and solitude. This one's for wanderers. Part of the Brooklyn/Montreal Exchange; through February 24.