

Press Release

Ocean Earth Development Corporation, OEDC
"CHASE SCENE"

February 20 - March 13, 1999
Opening Saturday, February 20, 1999
6:00 - 8:00 PM

**IF YOU TRY TO MAKE REALITY OUT OF ART, PEOPLE
REPRESENTING PROPERTY WILL CHASE AFTER YOU.
BUT THAT'S WHEN YOU STEP UP THE PRESSURE:
YOU CHASE AFTER THEM.**

Starting in 1982 with its global network TV broadcasts of hotspots seen by satellite, such as the Falklands and (then) Beirut, Ocean Earth has been chasing after those who try covering up the truth, or--more serious--keep us depending on dangerous mineral fuels. Since 1992, with bold initiatives of the French Ministry of Culture and Public Works, Ocean Earth has been accumulating the know-how and engineering to do what everyone says must be done but nobody gets out of line enough to do: set up a materials base for a society that yields no pollution.

The concepts all come from Art, for example earthworks, Beuys' performance works, Acconci's under-history lessons. Then the concepts are fleshed out and made... real... with scientific research. Result: a bunch of written agreements with officials in New Zealand and Montenegro to rush headlong into the post-pollution era. In NZ, an ocean pocket; in Montenegro, 8,000 km².

Now we must chase after the investors who see a future in this work. Even among us there is a race: will we breakthrough first in the Balkans, or around Antarctica? Or will we end cooperating most with brand-new builders of submarines in Scandinavia, called Viking Industrial Group? And what of the Japanese scientists?

The show opens with rebuttals to some of the people who try to make history follow their script instead. WHO CHASES WHOM?

Ocean Earth Development Corporation, headed by Peter Fend, here active as a convergence of efforts by: George Chaikin (satellite observation), Joan Waltemath and Taro Suzuki (interviews), Eve Vaterlaus (structures), Jee Won Kim (design), Jeff Koo and John Garrison (models), Nana Onishi (installation), Colleen Fitzgibbon (logistics), Jan Hovo (Norway agent), Heidi Mardon (NZ contract-holder), Peter Fikaris (gov. liaison), Julia Fischer (charts), all cyberlinked via Thing.Net. Balkan projects made possible with an Artslink Grant. Naval architecture by Marc Lombard, with Tokyo Atopic Site funds.