

synthesi:s



LEGACY

November 4 – December 16, 2021

Tempelhofer Feld, Berlin

Nancy Baker Cahill

synthesis gallery is pleased to present **Legacy** by **Nancy Baker Cahill**, synthesis' first public art show opening on November 4, 2021, in **Tempelhofer Feld** (Berlin) and on display until December 16, 2021.

Berlin has survived tumultuous change over the past century. The city has a distinct and multifaceted identity characterized by a history of cultural and political division, radical, trailblazing artists, calls for resistance, and an ongoing reshuffling of space and economies within the city. In *Legacy*, an original, animated, site-specific AR drawing in 360°, artist **Nancy Baker Cahill** aims to address the current threats of gentrification and climate change in Berlin while situating these challenges within the larger scope of the city's past, present, and future. Gentrification poses large and small violence to community, to history, to culture and to the city at large. Systemic gentrification has shaped living conditions and human geography of Berlin, seen from the displacement in eastern districts after the fall of the Berlin Wall, to the increased development across the city, heightened in the past decade. Climate change simultaneously will transform the city yet again, causing an urban heat bubble effect, drought, and extreme weather. Certainly, both destabilizing systems have related effects: dismantling social structures and altering the cultural and social environment.

The artwork, originally commissioned by SXSW, illustrates the calamitous forces of dislocation and climate change by animating an abstracted tree as it twists, breaks apart, and coalesces. Formally the drawing transitions from organic bark-like marks, to inorganic, metaphorically urban, glass and mirror fragments.

Using original digital mark making to render organic forms underscores the artist's intention to highlight unnatural developments of all kinds. Accessed via smartphones and tablets, the monumental drawing remains invisible to the naked eye, and leaves no physical trace. *Legacy* emerged from Baker Cahill's intention to realize the synthesis of ideas, technology, and art to transform awareness about the urgent and interrelated effects of inequality and human-centered decision making. The drawing attempts to push new media in uncharted directions, and prompt discoveries related to the (re)evolution of nature, and the accelerated consequences of human intervention and impact.

The exhibition is generously supported by the **US Embassy** in Berlin and is authorized by **Grün Berlin**.

Exhibition dates: November 4 – December 16, 2021

Private tour: [email](#) to register, +49 176 325 10217

Venue: Tempelhofer Feld, Berlin



Legacy is activated on smartphone in the circled yellow area nearby the info pavilion

Before you visit:

- Using wifi, download and open the free **4th Wall app**. Once the app is downloaded, wifi is not required to view the artworks on location.
- When downloading the app, allow all permissions. This will activate the audio components and allow for the full experience of the artworks. 4th Wall does NOT collect any user data.
- The app is compatible with iPhones 6 and above or Androids with ARCore (iOS11 or higher).

How to view the artwork:

- From the entrance in Columbiadamm or Oderstrasse, head west towards the airport hangar. The artwork is located nearby the info pavilion (red mark on the map). Once there, open the app and select "Coordinates" in the app. The app will search for the nearest artwork based on your location and direct you toward the artwork. Remember to look up, down and all around to find the piece!
- Use the camera icons on the right of the screen to record the experience. When prompted, allow 4th Wall to access your photos to save your recordings directly to your camera roll.
- Share your photos and recordings on any social media and tag @4thwallapp @synthesis.gallery

NANCY BAKER CAHILL (b. 1970, USA, <https://www.nancybakercahill.com>) is a new media artist who examines power, selfhood, and embodied consciousness through drawing and shared immersive space. She is the Founder and Artistic Director of 4th Wall, a free Augmented Reality (AR) art platform exploring resistance and inclusive creative expression. Her geolocated AR installations have been exhibited globally and have earned her profiles in the New York Times, Frieze Magazine, and The Art Newspaper, among other publications. Baker Cahill was also included in ARTnews' list of 2021 Deciders. Her work has been internationally exhibited at museums and galleries, including Francisco Carolinum Linz, The Hermitage (upcoming), The Buk-Seoul Museum of Art (SEMA), Honor Fraser Gallery, and König Galerie. Baker Cahill is a TED speaker, an artist scholar in the Berggruen Institute's Transformations of the Human Fellowship, the Art and Creative Technologies Advisor for the XRSI Safety Initiative, and a member of the Guild of Future Architects. She was a 2021 resident at Oxy Arts' 'Encoding Futures,' focused on virtual monuments. In 2021, she was awarded the Williams College Bicentennial Medal of Honor.

synthesis gallery is an immersive blend of technology and art displayed under one roof, showcasing cutting-edge experiences by new wave artists and visionaries through virtual and augmented reality. Founded in New York in October 2017 by George Vitale, the gallery opened its doors to the public in April 2018 in Berlin. Pieces are displayed through different media. Tangible and traditional art forms intermingle with Oculus and Vive headsets. Dedicated to exhibiting internationally renowned, well-established artists alongside emerging ones, since its inception, synthesis has garnered considerable attention in the art scene.

Join the discussion about the exhibition online at:

Instagram: [@synthesis.gallery](https://www.instagram.com/synthesis.gallery)

Facebook: [synthesis gallery](https://www.facebook.com/synthesis.gallery)

Website: <http://synthesis.gallery>

Discord: <https://discord.gg/WjWcqPQtrz>

Clubhouse: [synthesis club](https://www.clubhouse.com/synthesis.club)