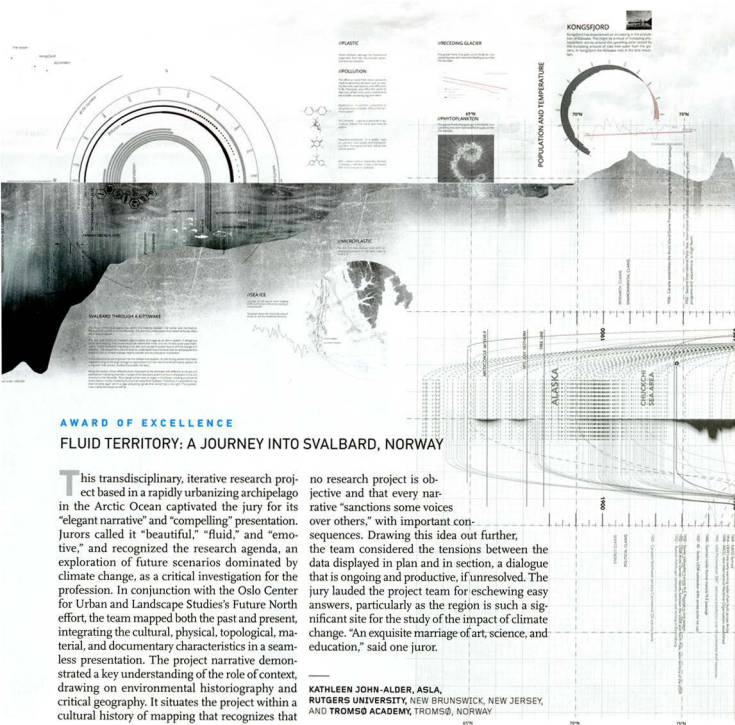


ASLA / PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

RESEARCH



This transdisciplinary, iterative research project based in a rapidly urbanizing archipelago in the Arctic Ocean captivated the jury for its “elegant narrative” and “compelling” presentation. Jurors called it “beautiful,” “fluid,” and “emotive,” and recognized the research agenda, an exploration of future scenarios dominated by climate change, as a critical investigation for the profession. In conjunction with the Oslo Center for Urban and Landscape Studies’s Future North effort, the team mapped both the past and present, integrating the cultural, physical, topological, material, and documentary characteristics in a seamless presentation. The project narrative demonstrated a key understanding of the role of context, drawing on environmental historiography and critical geography. It situates the project within a cultural history of mapping that recognizes that

no research project is objective and that every narrative “sanctions some voices over others,” with important consequences. Drawing this idea out further, the team considered the tensions between the data displayed in plan and in section, a dialogue that is ongoing and productive, if unresolved. The jury lauded the project team for eschewing easy answers, particularly as the region is such a significant site for the study of the impact of climate change. “An exquisite marriage of art, science, and education,” said one juror.

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