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Antarctica #2 by Daniel Beltrá © 2007, courtesy of Catherine Edelman Gallery, Chicago and the artist

## **Press Release**

Oakland, CA: In "Footing the Bill: Art and Our Ecological Footprint (2020)," Art Works for Change continues its efforts to inspire dialogue and effect change through contemporary art. The exhibition addresses critical environmental issues, including climate change, plastic pollution, wildlife conservation, and humanity's opportunity to transform our future through alternative energy and sustainable design.

First introduced on Earth Overshoot Day 2015, "Footing the Bill: Art and Our Ecological Footprint" is an immersive online museum experience with deep-zoom viewing of stunning images, blog-style content, and virtual tours featuring works from 39 invitation-only artists, including Alexis Rockman, Ed Burtynsky, Mary Mattingly, Thomas Hirschhorn, Fred Tomaselli, and Cai Guo-Qiang. Each artist in the exhibition presents a unique visual story of our delicate relationship with the natural world.

The exhibition also features virtual "tours" created in partnership with some of the world's leading environmental organizations, offering their global perspective on issues of sustainability and conservation.

Each artwork in the exhibition is paired with a series of pledges that encourage individuals to take action in their own lives to reduce their environmental impact. Visitors can adopt one or more pledges that they can share, along with an image of the artwork that inspired them, on Facebook and Twitter (#EndOvershoot and #OneEarth).

"Footing the Bill: Art and Our Ecological Footprint" addresses the urgent need to live sustainably within the Earth's finite resources, and is part of the organization's ongoing effort to increase awareness and inspire active engagement around environmental issues.

## About Art Works for Change:

Art Works for Change strives to harness the transformative power of art to promote awareness, provoke dialogue, and inspire action. We address issues of serious concern—human rights, social justice, gender equity, environmental stewardship, and sustainability—in creative, inspiring, and ultimately positive ways. Our museum-quality exhibitions are amplified by local programming and global partnerships, forming a crucible where artists, museums, advocacy organizations, and local community unite as a collective force for change.

## About Partnering Organizations:

**Earth Day Network** works year-round with thousands of partners worldwide to broaden, diversify and mobilize the environmental movement. Earth Day Network leads environmental campaigns, promotes green economic policies, educates the public and energizes communities to secure a healthy future for themselves and their children.

**Global Footprint Network** is a research organization that is changing how the world manages its natural resources and responds to climate change. Since 2003, they've engaged with more than 50 nations, 30 cities, and 70 global partners to deliver scientific insights that have driven high-impact policy and investment decisions. With their network, they're creating a future where all of us can thrive within our planet's limits.

**The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)** is an international nonprofit environmental organization with more than 3 million members and online activists. Since 1970, their lawyers, scientists, and other environmental specialists have worked to protect the world's natural resources, public health, and the environment.

**Oceana** is the largest international advocacy organization focused solely on ocean conservation. With its science-based campaigns, Oceana seeks to win policy victories that can restore ocean biodiversity and ensure that the oceans are abundant and can feed hundreds of millions of people.

For more information, please visit <u>www.artworksforchange.org</u>