

Artwork Transcript

Deluge by Hilary Jack

Red Text - Top line of artwork:

>>> JANUARY 2023: Met Office issues 98 flood warnings across the UK after heavy rain results in widespread flooding

>>> FEBRUARY: Libya is hit by disastrous storms. Two dams collapse consuming the city of Derna. Death toll could reach 18,000. Buildings and infrastructure severely damaged, farmland and livestock lost

>>> MARCH: UK Meteorologists declare March to be the wettest month in 40 years

>>> APRIL: Flash flood event occurs in Fort Lauderdale Florida, 25.6 inches/650 mm of rain falls within 12 hours. Buildings engulfed

>>> MAY: three days of extreme rain submerges central Greece destroying roads, causing power failure and landslides. 22 people lose their lives, 36,000 people displaced

>>> JUNE: Torrential rain in London overwhelms drainage system. The deluge causes surface water flooding. 24 boroughs impacted. Basements of homes and businesses flooded. Cars stranded, Tube Stations closed causing widespread travel disruption

>>> JULY: Record breaking heat and storms in Vermont USA bring flash flooding damaging thousands of homes and businesses

>>> AUGUST: Extreme weather causes chaos on Yorkshire coast leaving roads impassable in seaside resorts

>>> SEPTEMBER: Heavy rainfall leads to severe flooding in Manhattan. Subways flooded and cars abandoned

>>> OCTOBER: Red Warnings issued as gale force Storm Babet hits Europe and the UK. Scotland and Northern England battered by 115 mph winds. 200mm of rain falls in Aberdeenshire, Dundee, Perth and Kinross. Transport routes affected

>>> NOVEMBER: Storm Ciarán hits Europe. 200mm of rain falls over 24-hours in Italy causing catastrophic flooding and landslides. A state of emergency is declared with 21 fatalities and damage to infrastructure estimated at over 2 billion euros

>>> DECEMBER: Storm Gerrit hits the UK. Hundreds of flood warnings issued. Trains, ferries and flights cancelled. 27,000 properties left without power. Cars are stranded in South London after biblical rainfall. Firefighters rescue people in dinghies. More weather warnings to come

>>> JANUARY 2024: Storm Henk brings severe rain and gale force winds to the UK. Thousands face travel disruption over New Year after unprecedented flooding on many routes including the Eurotunnel. All trains in and out of London cancelled. 300 flood warnings issued. Huge swathes of farmland are left underwater. Farmers warn of food shortages as winter crops are ruined

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>>> FEBRUARY: Intense rain and flooding ravage seventeen provinces in Ecuador. Emergency services are overwhelmed

>>> MARCH: Meteorologists say that the UK, Southern France, North America, Kenya, Central Asia, Japan, much of the Arabian Peninsula, Madagascar and parts of South America and Australia experienced exceptionally high rainfall

>>> APRIL: In the United Arab Emirates a deadly storm hits Dubai. Commuters are stranded, 1,200 flights cancelled. 20 people killed. Scientists state global heating has made record breaking rainfall 40% heavier

>>> MAY: An extreme weather warning is put in place in Rio de Janeiro as 88,000 people are forced to leave homes. Many missing feared dead. Governor Eduardo Leite announces "This is the biggest climate catastrophe we have ever faced"

>>> JUNE: New data shows that the UK had record breaking rainfall since data began in 1836. Scientists and meteorologists state human induced climate change is to blame

>>> JULY: Deadly tropical Storm Beryl brings 165 mph winds to Caribbean and USA causing widespread destruction and severe flooding. A state of emergency declared. Scientists state that hot ocean temperatures caused by burning of fossil fuels make extreme storms more likely. In India massive floods sweep through Bangladesh and Nepal killing scores and displacing millions in an earlier than normal start to the monsoon season. In the Philippines Storm Gaemi wreaks havoc. A capsized tanker in Manilla causes huge oil spill

>>> August: Deadly tropical storm Debby causes historic rainfall and flooding across the USA moving from Florida up the East coast and towards Canada. A new tropical storm developing in the Atlantic is likely to hit land in the coming days

/// ENDS ///

Blue Text - Bottom line of artwork:

>>> In the Era of the fourth sun, Tlaloc, the ancient Thai god of rains, announces the destruction of the world with a flood as humans are wicked. One devout couple Tata and Nena are chosen. The god of rains instructs them to hollow out a great tree to use as a boat and to take with them two ears of corn to feed themselves and eat nothing else. Against the rain god's wish they catch and eat a fish. In anger Tlaloc turns them into dogs. The dogs then usher in the era of the Fifth sun

>>> In the year 698 a great Vietnamese deity chooses to destroy all the evil in the world with a great flood. He keeps three chiefs safe up in heaven. The deity sends rain to flood and cleanse the world of evil. The floods subside and the

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deity sends the chiefs back to the earth with the gift of a buffalo to farm the land. When the buffalo dies, gourds grow from its nostrils. The gourds are cut open with a hot skewer and from them human beings emerge and create a new society

>>> In 1000 BCE Zeus, king of the gods, angry at the excesses on earth, resolves to destroy all life by flood. Prometheus warns his son Deucalion of the flood and he constructs a large chest ; he and his wife sail in it to dry land on Mount Parnassus. The gods order them to cast out clay stones from the earth. The stones grew into a new human race;

>>> In 2,000 BCE In Vedic lore, Matsya a giant fish, who is an avatar of Vishnu, speaks to the pious King Manu and warns him of a coming flood to destroy all the land. The fish tells him to build a huge boat and take his cattle and possessions on board. When the deluge comes, the fish steers Manu to a mountaintop where he releases his cattle. A beautiful woman, the goddess Ida, rises from the waters and together they become the genitors of the human race

>>> In 2700 BCE The ancient Mesopotamian high God Enil is angered by noisy humankind and decides to destroy all life with a flood. The great sage Utnapishtim is warned of the plan and builds a huge circular ship, loading on board his possessions, family, craftsmen and all the beasts in the field. The epic rains flood the earth. After seven days and nights the storm subsides and the boat reaches dry land. Utnapishtim releases a dove, a swallow and a raven. Then he releases all their animals. Enil proclaims Utnapishtim as a god. He and his family settle at the Mouth of the Rivers and they build a new society together.

This is written in stone in the Sumarian Epic of Gilgamesh

>>> In 2300 BCE God saw that the earth was corrupt and violent and He decides to destroy what he has created and return the earth to its pre-creation watery state. God instructs a righteous man named Noah to build a huge ark out of Gopher wood, take his wife and sons and fill it with two of all living creatures. The floodgates of Heaven open. Rain falls for forty days and forty nights and all life perish except Noah and those with him in the Ark. The waters subside and Noah sends forth a dove to seek dry land. Noah and his family build an altar and make a sacrifice. God promises Noah eternal life and that He would never again destroy life by flood. The Book of Genesis

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