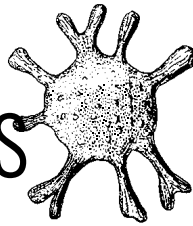


IMMORTAL PLASTICS



In the Permian Period 250 million years ago, dead marine microorganisms accumulated in sediments on the floor of a vast saline sea. Over time, the seas dried out, landmasses moved, and these marine creatures transmuted into hydrocarbons or fossil fuel. In the past century, West Texas' hydrocarbon reserves alone have yielded over 50 billion barrels of oil, and trillions of cubic feet of natural gas.

How and why do we disturb, worship and remain entranced by these long-dead beings? We live under a necrocracy, or the rule of the dead.

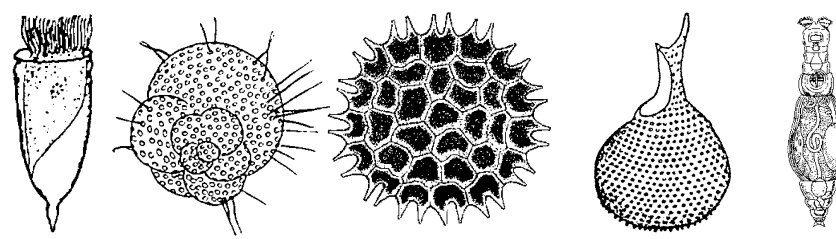
Immortal Plastics (Marina Zurkow and Sarah Rothberg) is part of a larger body of work by Zurkow entitled *Necrocracy*; animations, prints, sculptures, a book, and food tasting events examine our entanglement with hydrocarbons, and the relation between human and geological time.

Immortal Plastics' (IP) Assessment Services determines the depth of participants' relations with hydrocarbons. As trained IP Assessors, Zurkow and Rothberg are available on site to offer participants an exam and petrochemical analysis of their belongings. Participants leave with an itemized receipt and a personal keepsake: a jar of plastic regrind, a stand-in for the total weight of petrochemicals and plastics in their personal belongings. The process requires approximately 15 minutes.

Part performance, part practical assessment, *Immortal Plastics* looks at how petrochemicals are at play in one's life. The project leads with the question "What do hydrocarbons want?" and presents immortality as a hypothetical response. By reflecting on our personal relationships with infinitely scalable and long-lived plastics, preservatives, and inputs, participants may come to appreciate their role as a vehicle of hydrocarbons' immortal pursuit.

Immortal Plastics makes vibrant our relations with tiny long-dead creatures and gives voice to the intimate agents and operations with which we interact.

For more on *Necrocracy*, please go to: www.o-matic.com/play/necrocracy/



From Diatom to Diaper.

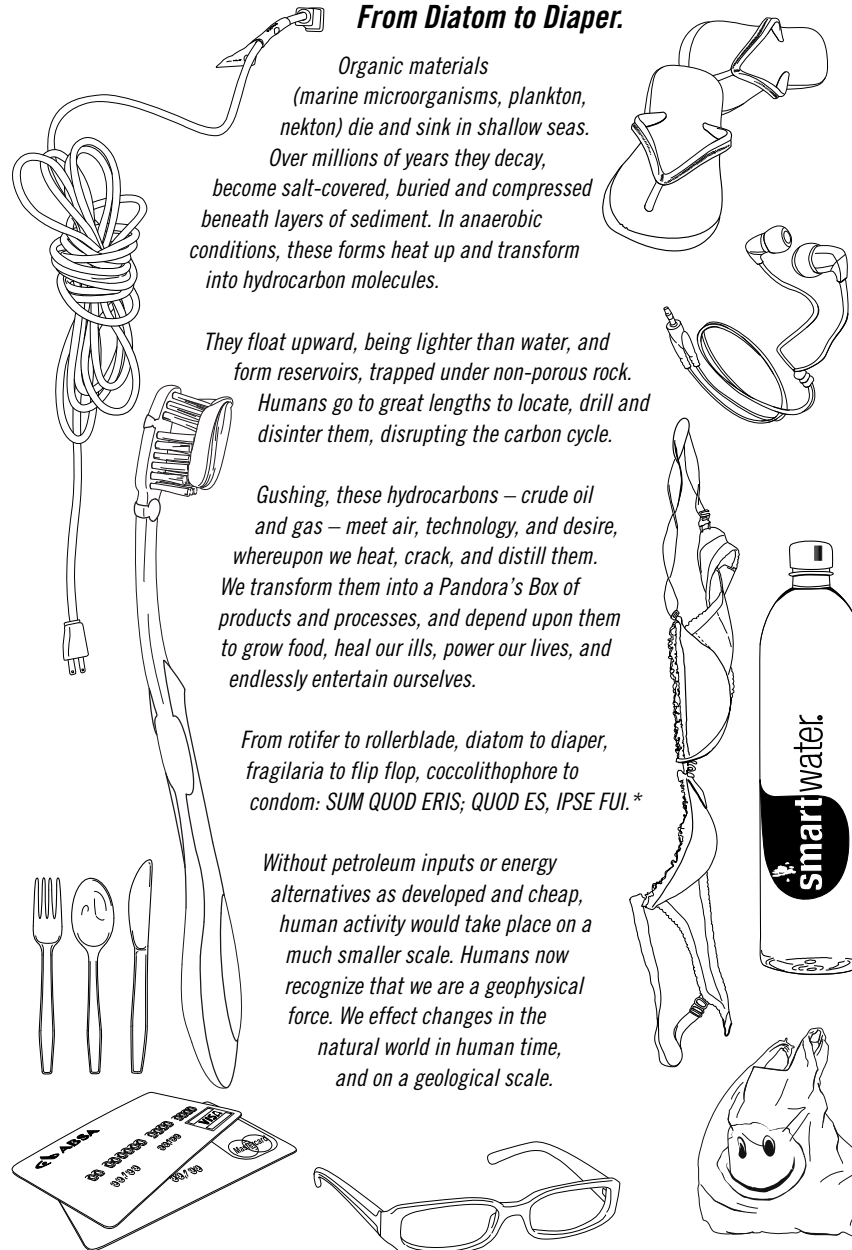
Organic materials (marine microorganisms, plankton, nekton) die and sink in shallow seas. Over millions of years they decay, become salt-covered, buried and compressed beneath layers of sediment. In anaerobic conditions, these forms heat up and transform into hydrocarbon molecules.

They float upward, being lighter than water, and form reservoirs, trapped under non-porous rock. Humans go to great lengths to locate, drill and disinter them, disrupting the carbon cycle.

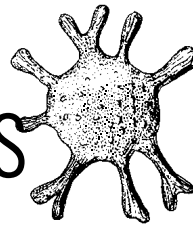
Gushing, these hydrocarbons – crude oil and gas – meet air, technology, and desire, whereupon we heat, crack, and distill them. We transform them into a Pandora's Box of products and processes, and depend upon them to grow food, heal our ills, power our lives, and endlessly entertain ourselves.

*From rotifer to rollerblade, diatom to diaper, fragilaria to flip flop, coccolithophore to condom: SUM QUOD ERIS; QUOD ES, IPSE FUI.**

Without petroleum inputs or energy alternatives as developed and cheap, human activity would take place on a much smaller scale. Humans now recognize that we are a geophysical force. We effect changes in the natural world in human time, and on a geological scale.



IMMORTAL PLASTICS



INTAKE PROCEDURE:

Intake, weighing, & documentation take **approximately 15 minutes**.

1. ARTICLE ASSESSMENT

Place all of your plastic articles into the bin. If you are unsure if your item is plastic, consult with one of the IP Assessors. We will make an inventory of all articles for your RECEIPT.

Articles might include: Lotions, cosmetics, combs; food packaging, water and soda bottles; eyeglasses, hair bands; phones, ear buds, iPads; wallet and contents.

2. CLOTHING ASSESSMENT

Through a series of questions and/or checking tags, the IP Assessor will help you determine the PETROCHEMICAL COMPOSITION of your clothing.

Petrochemical materials in clothing include: Nylon, polyester, elastic, synthetic rubber, acrylic, spandex, rayon, kevlar, among others. They may be found in: Outerwear, shoes, socks, scarves, underwear, backpack or bag, etc.

3. ITEMIZATION AND DOCUMENTATION

IP Assessor will ITEMIZE your articles and PHOTOGRAPH them.

4. MEASUREMENT

IP Assessor will place articles or equivalent weights on the balancing scale to WEIGH them. Once weighed, your items will be returned to you, with the equivalent weight in PLASTIC REGRIND, labeled with your information (regrind materials are crushed, post-industrial (pre-consumer) units of pure plastic types* destined to be recycled into new products).

5. RECEIPT and ARCHIVE

Your receipt will be finalized and given to you. We will photograph your PLASTIC REGRIND and RECEIPT.



PETROCHEMICAL SELF-ASSESSMENT FORM

USE THIS FORM TO DETERMINE THE PETROCHEMICAL CONTENTS OF YOUR PERSON. THESE INCLUDE MOST PLASTICS, COLORANTS, LUBRICANTS AND SOLVENTS, AND AMMONIA. ASSESS CLOTHING, POCKET CONTENTS, WALLET, BAG, VEHICLE, STROLLER ETC.

PLEASE:

1. Check all that apply.
2. Use blank spaces for additional items.
3. Add up the total number of applicable items and enter your SCORE.
4. Return form: take photo of completed form and email to: petrochemsurvey@o-matic.com
Replies will be tabulated and forms posted at: www.o-matic.com/neocracy/selfassessment.html

Name: _____		City/State: _____		Email: _____		Date: _____	
HEALTH <input type="checkbox"/> pharmaceutical drugs <input type="checkbox"/> hand sanitizer <input type="checkbox"/> aspirin, advil <input type="checkbox"/> vitamin <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ BODY/ HYGIENE / BEAUTY <input type="checkbox"/> toothbrush (handle) <input type="checkbox"/> toothbrush (bristles) <input type="checkbox"/> toothpaste <input type="checkbox"/> sunscreen <input type="checkbox"/> false eyelashes <input type="checkbox"/> mascara <input type="checkbox"/> vaseline <input type="checkbox"/> lipstick <input type="checkbox"/> deodorant <input type="checkbox"/> hard contact lenses <input type="checkbox"/> hair dye <input type="checkbox"/> band-aid <input type="checkbox"/> joint replacement cement <input type="checkbox"/> dental filling <input type="checkbox"/> dentures <input type="checkbox"/> plastic surgery dermal filler <input type="checkbox"/> comb <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ PROTECTION <input type="checkbox"/> goggles <input type="checkbox"/> bullet-proof vest <input type="checkbox"/> Glock pistol <input type="checkbox"/> rifle cartridge <input type="checkbox"/> tyvek suit <input type="checkbox"/> gas mask <input type="checkbox"/> condom <input type="checkbox"/> blister pack <input type="checkbox"/> umbrella <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____	CLOTHING <input type="checkbox"/> nylon shell jacket <input type="checkbox"/> puffy coat <input type="checkbox"/> underwear <input type="checkbox"/> brassiere <input type="checkbox"/> diaper <input type="checkbox"/> bridal veil <input type="checkbox"/> lycra leggings <input type="checkbox"/> nylon stockings <input type="checkbox"/> rainboots <input type="checkbox"/> workboots <input type="checkbox"/> sneakers <input type="checkbox"/> flip-flops <input type="checkbox"/> vinyl raincoat <input type="checkbox"/> flocked costume <input type="checkbox"/> fetish wear <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ ACCESSORIES <input type="checkbox"/> eyeglasses <input type="checkbox"/> grocery tote <input type="checkbox"/> vinyl bag <input type="checkbox"/> backpack <input type="checkbox"/> hard shell attaché/suitcase <input type="checkbox"/> wallet <input type="checkbox"/> cosmetic case <input type="checkbox"/> artificial nails <input type="checkbox"/> nail polish <input type="checkbox"/> rubber gloves <input type="checkbox"/> synthetic hair extensions <input type="checkbox"/> wig (base) <input type="checkbox"/> pacifier <input type="checkbox"/> produce bag <input type="checkbox"/> grocery bag <input type="checkbox"/> temporary tattoo <input type="checkbox"/> wristwatch <input type="checkbox"/> key chain <input type="checkbox"/> neck pillow <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____	ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> acrylic paint <input type="checkbox"/> crayon <input type="checkbox"/> plastic toy <input type="checkbox"/> Barbie doll <input type="checkbox"/> binoculars <input type="checkbox"/> ear buds <input type="checkbox"/> portable speakers <input type="checkbox"/> over-the-head headphones <input type="checkbox"/> jewel case <input type="checkbox"/> audio cable <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ OFFICE SUPPLIES <input type="checkbox"/> rigid packing material <input type="checkbox"/> tyvek mailers <input type="checkbox"/> rubber band <input type="checkbox"/> plastic thumbtack <input type="checkbox"/> DVD <input type="checkbox"/> CD <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ COMMUNICATIONS <input type="checkbox"/> cell phone <input type="checkbox"/> smart phone hard case <input type="checkbox"/> smart phone silicone case <input type="checkbox"/> keyboard <input type="checkbox"/> laptop hard case <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____	COMESTIBLES <input type="checkbox"/> sippy cup <input type="checkbox"/> take-out container <input type="checkbox"/> plastic fork, knife, spoon <input type="checkbox"/> styrofoam coffee cup <input type="checkbox"/> coffee cup lids <input type="checkbox"/> soda bottle <input type="checkbox"/> water bottle <input type="checkbox"/> nalgene bottle <input type="checkbox"/> food storage container <input type="checkbox"/> milk jug <input type="checkbox"/> food plastic wrap <input type="checkbox"/> crystal meth <input type="checkbox"/> hamburger <input type="checkbox"/> American cheese <input type="checkbox"/> cake mix <input type="checkbox"/> chewing gum <input type="checkbox"/> apple (waxed) <input type="checkbox"/> tobacco <input type="checkbox"/> dog food <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ TOOLS <input type="checkbox"/> hand tool <input type="checkbox"/> flashlight lens <input type="checkbox"/> power tool <input type="checkbox"/> rope <input type="checkbox"/> bike tire <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____	POWER <input type="checkbox"/> credit card <input type="checkbox"/> car battery <input type="checkbox"/> electrical cord <input type="checkbox"/> phone charger <input type="checkbox"/> fertilizer <input type="checkbox"/> votive candle <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ MISCELLANEOUS <input type="checkbox"/> antifreeze <input type="checkbox"/> plexiglass <input type="checkbox"/> inflatable raft <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____			

YOUR TOTAL SCORE _____