

best of
2008Best of 2008**In no particular order: 2008 in review**

What are the best and most inspiring artworks that you've seen - or read or heard - this year?

Twenty-two pieces from 2008 that we and our colleagues felt deserve another mention as representing something unique. From public art to poetry, theatre to video, they are works from all over the world that in some way confront the universal idea of ecology. Optimistic, pessimistic, lyrical or bold, what this list underlines is that there is now a gathering body of work which encounters the realities of the modern world.

Take a look. And let us what you think were the key works of 2008 by making a comment below.

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***Barakhambha in 2008* by Navjot Altav, 48°C Public.Art.Ecology, 12 - 21 December 2008, Delhi**

"We tend to concentrate on the artists, but it's important to first to mention people like Pooja Sood, the artistic director and curator of this project. There are some people with amazing tenacity that just make things happen and Pooja Sood is one of them. She genuinely wants to engage with people. This was a place that had just been affected by terrorism. You couldn't move for metal detectors. But it still went on. This video piece by Navjot Altav was one of the best pieces there. In a really busy street Altav created these three big video screens. On two of the screens, two people are talking about the metro scheme they were building in Delhi, and about the changing environment. You might get a rickshaw driver taking about how it's going to ruin his livelihood next to an economist who thinks this is going to work. Or someone from an environmental charity next to an anthropologist. The scale of it was just right, so people were drawn to the screen, fixated by it. And then, every now and then, you notice yourself on the third screen. There was a camera there, filming the people who were watching. So you became implicated too. It was a very local work but one you could apply anywhere in the world."

Michaela Crimmin, RSA Arts & Ecology