

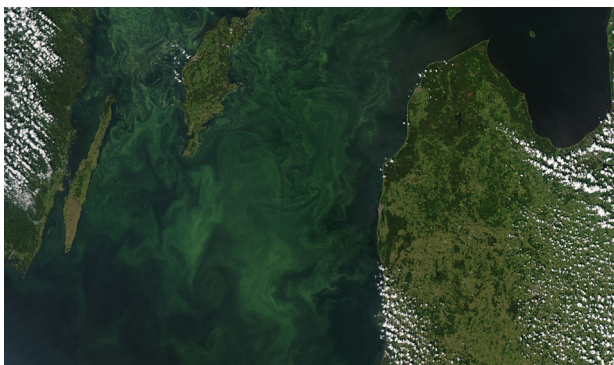
DEAD ZONE

collaboration with Dere Gum

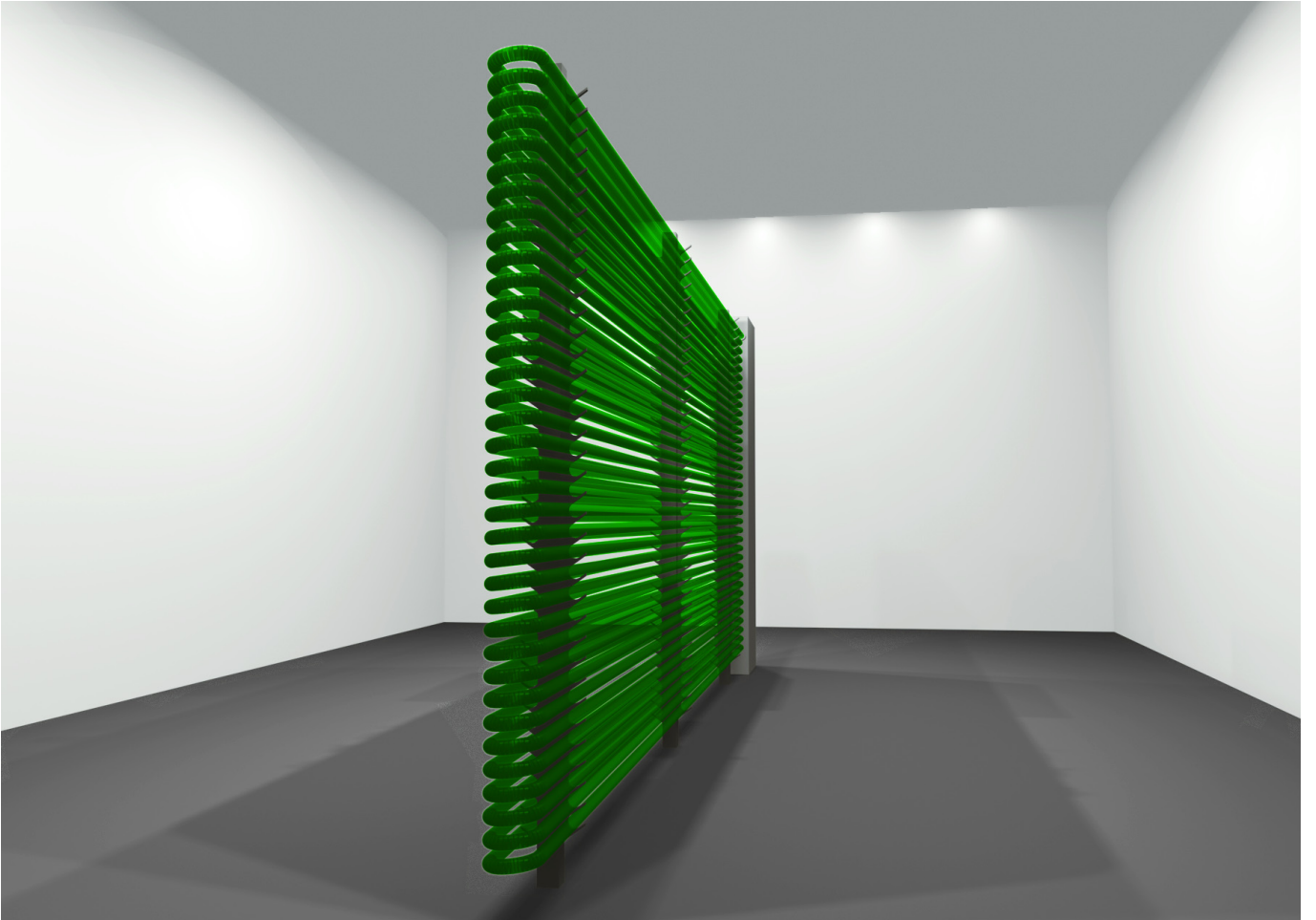
Dead zone proposes to artificially recreate the homonymous natural phenomenon normally provoked by algal blooms. These are caused by a rapid increase in the concentration of phytoplankton in a water system. In a dead zone the oxygen is consumed by the algae and all superior forms of life disappear and toxins are created. Paradoxically the phytoplankton is one of the main producers of oxygen. Mainly made up of blue-green algae, the first organism to use photosynthesis 2,8 billion years ago, it is greatly responsible for the development of the oxidizing of the atmosphere, permitting the expansion of life on earth.

By artificially reproducing a natural phenomenon in a container-object using living and evolving matter, as where it a laboratory of research on the natural phenomenon *Dead zone* makes use of scientific territory and raises our awareness of a strange reality, evoking its potential danger.

The form emulates a tubular reactor, as a reference to a scientific domain and for the maximum efficiency in using light and to permit the circulation of the water. The work uses artificial lightning, artificial seawater and an inoculant containing cells of phytoplankton collected in the closest available zone of algal blooms.



a satellite image from the Baltic Sea (NASA) and an image from an algalbloom in Chaohu, China, photo by AFP/Getty Images



Dead zone, simulation of the project