

**Artforum**, December 2019  
**BEST OF 2019** selected by SUSANNE PFEFFER

## SUSANNE PFEFFER

Susanne Pfeffer is the Director of the Museum MmK Für Moderne Kunst in Frankfurt, where she organized the current exhibition "Museum" as well as a recent survey of the artist Cady Noland. For the German Pavillon at the 2017 Venice Biennale, she curated Anne Imhof's *Faust*, which was awarded the Golden Lion.



Christopher Kulendran Thomas, *Being Human*, 2019, glass, aluminum, steel, HD video projection (color, sound, 25 minutes). In collaboration with Annika Kuhlmann. Installation view, Schinkel Pavillon, Berlin. Photo: Andrea Rossetti.

Christopher Kulendran Thomas in collaboration with Annika Kuhlmann: *Being Human* (Schinkel Pavillon, Berlin)

Shown in the "Ground Zero" exhibition at the Schinkel Pavillon in Berlin, *Being Human* revolves around a human rights dilemma in Sri Lanka and beyond: Only sovereign states have the power to guarantee human rights, yet by exercising this supposedly humanitarian power, such states impose their will on other countries. Perhaps, Thomas and Kuhlmann suggest, the fundamental problem lies in the very question of what it means to be human. Their ambiguous answer is expressed as a (biographical) walk over Sri Lanka's parched fields and a visual reflection on the manifestations of contemporary art in the world's exhibition halls.