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Drinking Set No. 4 Beer tumbler - "Beautiful Numbers"

design: Stefan Sagmeister, 2021

"Short term media like Twitter and cable TV news create an impression of a world out of control, with democracy in peril, ubiquitous conflicts and an overall outlook of doom through global warming. But if we look at developments concerning the world from a longer perspective - the only sense making way - many aspects concerning humanity seem to get better.

This series of glasses depict data visualizations of environmental developments from the past years that are either neutral or positive. I feel we are in much better shape to enact further improvement from a positive point of view rather than one of imminent disaster. I myself am of much more use to my surroundings when I'm doing well: When I'm depressed I wind up staying numb and doing nothing." Stefan Sagmeister
The series consists of eight variations of beer tumbler of drinking set no.4 from 1856 decorated with Illustrations by Raxenne Maniquiz.

DECORS



Amount of stuff used by the average person in the UK per year:

top: 2001 15 tons
bottom: 2013 10 tons



Greenhouse gases are caused by:

Clockwise from bottom left:
Live stock: 5.5%
Energy: 13%
Deforestation: 15%
Industry: 29%
Buildings: 18%
Transport: 16.5%
Various others: 3%



Number of countries who signed the Kyoto Protocol:

From left to right:
2000: 31 countries
2005: 157 countries
2010: 192 countries
2015: 193 countries



Percentage of world population without access to clean water:

From top to bottom:
1990: 25%
1995: 21%
2000: 18%
2005: 15%
2010: 12%
2015: 9%



Number of countries who signed the UN Climate Change Convention:

top left: 2000 184 countries
top right: 2003 187 countries
mid left: 2006 188 countries
mid right: 2009 193 countries
bottom left: 2012 195 countries
bottom right: 2015 197 countries



Percentage of worldwide marine protected areas:

top: 2016 9%
bottom: 2017 11.5%



Share of important biodiversity sites that are protected:

top left: 2000 33%
top right: 2009 43%
bottom: 2018 45%



Pledges for the Green Climate Fund:

top left: Sweden \$ 0.5 billion
bottom left: USA \$ 3.0 billion
top right: Austria \$ 0.03 billion
below: Switzerland \$ 0.1 billion
below: Norway \$ 0.25 billion
below: Germany \$ 1.0 billion
below: France \$ 1.0 billion
bottom right: UK \$ 1.2 billion