

# AGATHE'S ARK

*A positive apocalypse*  
from New York's hottest  
ART BRIDE

WHEN ORSON WELLES announced the apocalypse over the radio in 1938, his description of the Martian invasion was so frighteningly believable that it sent listeners into a panic. Anyone who believed the online video invitation to the March performance and installation by emerging art star Agathe Snow would, however, be right to be relieved. For the invitation to *No Need To Worry, the Apocalypse Has Already Happened...when it couldn't get any worse, it just got a little better* at James Fuentes' newly reopened gallery, Snow collaged film, cartoon and news footage into a chilling video short depicting New York City destroyed by a flood. Snow's version is less biblical allegory and more Al Gore-like scientific-reality warning, but the new society she imagined is far from frightening. On the contrary, the floods provide the lucky few survivors with the opportunity to create a utopia, which she allowed guests to test-drive for the five-week performance. Snow's show centred around a room-sized whale cadaver created from a painted tarp, industrial cloth, rope and mesh, presented as the sole safe space for survivors. In Snow's construct, the flood washed away the underpinnings of the capitalist economy, just as everyone feared would happen with Y2K. Survivors had to barter for their survival. The show became the locus for a fresh young society helped by the high creativity quotient of its citizens, including Agathe's husband, Dash Snow. For her upcoming Berlin show, Snow will recreate the aftermath of another disaster, albeit one of a smaller scale – New York's recent steam-pipe explosion – using common materials recovered from disuse. Ana Finel Honigman

*I Don't Know But I Been Told, Eskimo Pussy is Mighty Cold* is at Peres Projects, Berlin, from September 29-November 3. [www.peresprojects.com](http://www.peresprojects.com)  
Right: *Whale* by Agathe Snow. Photography by Takahiro Imamura



