I think they are powerful images that inspire thought onwhat we are doing to the earth. As an observer of the oil drum images, I am saddened and emotionally affected by the dark tone,

I don't believe this video or 'performance' was powerful enough to convince individuals who aren't concerned about global warming to care. I think it was very much so preaching to the choir

If this is in regard to Jordan's art (and/or Anthropocene art generally), then the concrete imagery provided by artists can be effective in conveying the massive scale of the effects due to climate change. For example, the "toothpicks" work on Jordan's website provides a mindboggling depiction of how many trees are cut in the U.S. per year simply for use in junk mail (100 million). Once you zoom in and see that a "far away" spot in the canvas still contains a practically uncountable number of toothpicks, the viewer likely experiences a visceral reaction (I did). By eliciting a visceral response, using concrete imagery, using familiar objects, and bringing the statistics down to "human scale", this art can be an effective method for impacting the public by making the problem memorable and forcing the viewer to examine their own consumption (the "Cell Phones" one is great for this).

Blue Man Group

While this is entertaining and will attract a wide audience, I don't think that a little gallows humor and some flashy editing is enough to truly make people understand the importance of climate change or alter their worldview and habits in the extreme way that is necessary to make a difference. This message is very simple and doesn't offer information on the solutions to climate change that science has found. One would probably leave this performance remembering the fun visual entertainment more than their environmental message.

I think what they did with the "Thank you for riding planet earth" was clever and very funny, but I worry that it made climate change into a silly bit instead of a global catastrophe.

the majority of viewers will remember the message that "global climate change is bad" then this is pretty effective. If we instead want the viewer to act such that the problem might be mitigated,

that the problem might be mitigated, this fails (albeit spectacularly).

The Blue Man Group's performance was cool and gives its audience a nihilistic angle to laugh at. It is fatalistic and maybe that could inspire some good thought after the show but as a performance alone it isn't instilling urgency. It is only 2 minutes long and very creative and at its best it displays the themes advocated by the Chris Jordan fan without all of the words and overdone explanation. This would affect the public but the question is whether it can inspire effective action. It raises concern, perhaps, but alone it does little for change.

physics concepts to the public that look cool and interesting. However, it is kind of long and repetitive, and lacks the humor and flashiness of the blue man group's video that might hold public attention for longer.

This I like. It lets
people observe
something. It lets
them form their own
idea. Then it explains
it. Then it draws
parallels to other
phenomena. This
encourages people to
think for themselves

Now looking at how this could impact the public, I am a little less enthused. I think that my dad's reaction is a sign that this was not a flashy or ground breaking demonstration of cool sei-fi stuff. It was a basic demo using basic materials (...BUT IN SPACE...), so it did not grab attention. I think this kind of outreach makes good classroom material in college and maybe advanced high school, but I can't see it catching the public's eye as a stand alone performance.

The physics video was interesting and the astronaut voiceover was a nice touch but it was very repetitive and I wasn't exactly sure what to make of it. Sure the behavior of water droplets is comparable to satellites but why is this so importan and why does he repeat himself for 5 minutes saying nothing new. This would not make an impact on the public and I imagine it would only reach those in physics classes.