

Catastrophe

A Guide to World's Worst Industrial Disasters

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was given to Russia, and no positive outcome from this money has been demonstrated. *The Front Veranda* (1986), a lithograph by **Susan Dorothea White** in the National Gallery of Australia, exemplifies worldwide awareness of the event. *Heavy Water: A Film for Chernobyl* was released by Seventh Art in 2006 to commemorate the disaster through poetry and first-hand accounts.

The film secured the Cinequest Award as well as the Rhode Island “best score” award along with a screening at Tate Modern. Chernobyl Way is an annual rally run on 26 April by the opposition in Belarus as a remembrance of the Chernobyl disaster.

Great Deal of Interest

Cultural Impact: The Chernobyl accident attracted a great deal of interest. Because of the distrust that many people (both within and outside the USSR) had in the Soviet authorities, a great deal of debate about the situation at the site occurred in the first world during the early days of the event.

Because of defective intelligence based on photographs taken from space, it was thought that unit number three had also suffered a dire accident. Journalists mistrusted many professionals (such as the spokesman from the UK NRPB), and in turn encouraged the public to mistrust them. In Italy, the Chernobyl accident was reflected in the outcome of the 1987 referendum. As a result of that referendum, Italy began phasing out its nuclear power plants in 1988, a decision that was effectively reversed in 2008. A referendum in 2011 reiterated Italians’ strong objections to nuclear power, thus abrogating a 2008 government decision.