

Marina Zurkow: *Boil the Ocean* at The Institute of Contemporary Art

Artist-in-Residence Marina Zurkow opens *Boil the Ocean* at The Institute of Contemporary Art, San Diego on November 19th, 2021.

Note to Editors: A press preview is scheduled for Friday, November 19th at 10 am. For details email press@icasandiego.org.



// Artist-in-Residence working on – site.

Marina Zurkow will be working in residence at the ICA San Diego / North gallery and studio in Encinitas.

From November 20th, 2021 - January 30th, 2022 people in San Diego will have the chance to experience her ongoing creative process. People may visit her studio Saturday and Sunday from 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM throughout her residency.

// Immersive experience that builds a powerful connection with the ocean.

San Diego, CA, November 1st, 2021— The Institute of Contemporary Art, San Diego (ICA San Diego) will present its second Artist-in-Residence exhibition, from November 20th, 2021, to January 30th, 2022. The residency exhibition will feature interdisciplinary artist Marina Zurkow (b.1962 New York, USA), marking her first solo exhibition in San Diego.

Zurkow is a conceptual social practice artist whose work dives into humanity's metaphysical relationship with its surroundings. In the exhibition at ICA San Diego / North, Zurkow is changing the conversation around ecology and the ocean. Instead of approaching us as land mammals discussing an aquatic entity, she is asking us for transference, a metamorphosis through which we

can communicate more openly and honestly with our oceans. While diving into our complicated relationship to the oceans we revere, love, and threaten, her exhibition explores humans' symbiotic connections to them as living and breathing entities.

In *Boil the Ocean*, Zurkow has built an immersive space for reflecting on our relationship with the ocean. An island in the center of the space made of locally sourced marine debris and television screens allows visitors to see, smell, touch, and hear the oceanscape while the gallery walls will continuously change and transform as Zurkow adds to the mural throughout her residency. The installation will feature three HD generative video animations addressing issues of marine ecologies. As these animations are continuously and randomly programmed, the work evokes the sense of leaving all temporalities behind, existing before the presence of visitors and continuing their evolution thereafter. The videos come from the series *Oceans Like Us*; the title, as described by Zurkow's gallery in New York, bitforms gallery, "is used as a pun and metaphor to express a desire for the ocean to love us."

The exhibition forces us to reconcile our inability to remove ourselves from the equation of these interactions, while also asking us to metamorphose with the oceans. In getting closer and more affectionate towards them, we might learn to better comprehend and differently guide our views and actions.

Zurkow will invite the audience to slow down and experience the exhibition in a more present and meditative state. Being mindful allows us to discover a deeper connection to art and the oceans. The exhibition reveals new ways of interpreting visual, auditory, and olfactory experiences.

The ICA San Diego is working closely with Californian organizations that focus on marine debris recovery, recycling, and education to both acquire materials for the installation and gain a deeper understanding of their organizational efforts. Visit the [ICA San Diego website](#) and follow us on [social media](#) to learn more about these organizations.

- **Opening Reception** November 19th, 2021.
- Marina Zurkow is in residence from November 20th, 2021 - January 30th, 2022. People may visit her studio from Saturday and Sunday from 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM throughout her residency.
- Exhibition open from Saturday, November 20th, 2021, through Sunday, January 30th, 2022.
- ICA San Diego / North, formerly known as Lux Art Institute.
- Exhibition Opening Hours: Thursday to Sunday, 12 - 5 pm.
- Admission is FREE through our Pay-As-You-Wish initiative.



Related events

Slow down, meditate and rethink our relationship with the ocean.

OOzy: Ocean Thinking and Being (a guided meditation with eyes wide open)

December 12th, 2021 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Join ICA San Diego Artist-in-Residence, Marina Zurkow, for *OOzy: Ocean Thinking and Being (a guided meditation with eyes wide open)*, an artist-led dive into visual thinking and novel protocols of attention. Zurkow's new video work *OOzy* will be our focus as we explore new ways to attend to the world around us.

Zurkow will finish *OOzy* during her residency, and the community will be invited to join, with their yoga mats and an open mind, as Marina takes us on a unique, first-time journey into meditation, audiovisual immersion, and a group conversation.

Soupy Salty Sonic: An Edible Exploration of Fluid Ocean Inner Spaces

by Marina Zurkow & Anna Rose Hopkins

January 23rd, 2022 | 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

First presented as a project of the Guild of Future Architects for the FoodxFilm Festival by The Rockefeller Foundation and in support of Good Food For All and the United Nations Food Systems Summit 2021, *Soupy Salty Sonic* will take place in San Diego in January 2022.

Soupy Salty Sonic (Public event) The public event will be held at the beach and will be open and free to the public. Learn more by following us on social media and signing up for our newsletter.

In collaboration with Anna Hopkins, Zurkow will lead a 'guided auditory and oral meditation' where she will invite the audience to enter different levels of the ocean as their body morphs to become part of the ocean.

Education

The Institute of Contemporary Art, San Diego offers classes and workshops for all ages inspired by our ecology-themed exhibitions. The community is invited to participate in public programs like Art Explorations, Family Day, and What the Heck is Contemporary Art?.

About the artist

Interdisciplinary artist Marina Zurkow builds animations and immersive unconventional public participatory projects centered on humans and their relationship to the environment. Zurkow's work engages audiences using film and video, sculpture, print graphics, and public interventions that create powerfully thought-provoking and contemplative experiences.

Zurkow was born in New York in 1962 and now lives in and works from New York. Recent solo exhibitions of her work include bitforms gallery in New York; Chronus Art Center, Shanghai; the Montclair Art Museum, New Jersey; Diverseworks, Houston. Her work has also been featured at FACT, Liverpool; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington D.C.; and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston amongst many others. She has conducted public engagement programs with Creative Time, New York; LACE, Los Angeles; Montclair Art Museum, New Jersey; The New Museum's Ideas City, New York; Northern Lights.mn, Minneapolis; The Artist's Institute, New York; OISJ Biennial, San Jose, California; Rice University, Houston; Boston University; University of Minnesota, Minneapolis; and Baruch College, New York. Zurkow is a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellow and has been granted awards from the New York Foundation for the Arts, New York State Council for the Arts, the Rockefeller Foundation, and Creative Capital. She is represented by bitforms gallery, NY.

In this Broad Earth of Ours ecology-themed season

The earth remains jagged and broken only to him or her who remains jagged and broken.-Walt Whitman

The inaugural year of the Institute of Contemporary Art, San Diego highlights the theme of Ecology, the study of the environment, as an essential part of humanity, and the interconnectedness of all things. A breadth of artists from different backgrounds inhabit the various galleries across ICA's two campuses in Encinitas and San Diego. The artists-in-residence hail from across the Americas, including the United States, Mexico, and Canada, while our regional artists are situated between Baja California and Los Angeles. They approach the environment from two distinct perspectives, that education and that of action. Art is most associated with sharing an artist's perspective on the world—a form of education via perspective. Yet the dire state of our environment also surges a desire for promoting tangible action.

"We want people to feel like they can connect to the work in ways that challenge what their perceptions are of that work and the world around them" -Andrew Utt, Executive Director.

About the Institute of Contemporary Art, San Diego

Opening September 2021, ICA San Diego is a platform for experimental art and learning with a mission to question everything. A living laboratory of art, ideas, and programs unfold inside its galleries totaling more than 8,000 square feet in Balboa Park, nestled inside 1,200 acres of lush public gardens, and in Encinitas, in 7,000 square feet of exhibition and education spaces on six acres of coastal landscape overlooking the San Elijo Lagoon. Cutting edge but accessible, daring yet thoughtful, challenging, and inviting, the ICA welcomes the community to gather and learn, question, and experience the new. A rotating, continually changing program of exhibitions, installations, commissions, classes, and workshops reflects an organization committed to the future and on the forefront of art and public life. Founded in 2021, yet evolved from over 100 years of combined experience, the ICA is always free and open to the public. The ICA is located at 1439 El Prado in Balboa Park, 1550 S. El Camino Real in Encinitas.

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