



Announces 2024-2025 Exhibition Season

Interface Explores Connections Between
Art and the Life Sciences

SAN DIEGO, CA (November 21)

For its 2024 season, the Institute of Contemporary Art, San Diego celebrates the region as a hub of boundary-pushing innovation in both art and the life sciences. ***Interface***, the collective title for the 2024-2025 exhibition season, invites audiences to consider how art can mediate, translate, and expand the relationship between humans and the science of everyday life.

In addition to ICA San Diego's annual *NextGen* exhibition celebrating local emerging talent, the *Interface* season will consist of six exhibitions spread over ICA's two campuses in Balboa Park and Encinitas. As always, admission to the museum is free and ICA hosts free monthly public *C You Saturday!* events with special access to artist talks, exhibition tours, food and music.

Rather than searching for points of intersection between art and the life sciences, the exhibitions that define *Interface* offer an opportunity for continuous exchange. The Winter/Spring exhibitions by Turkish-born, San-Diego based artist **Dr. Pinar Yoldas** (ICA Central) and the Danish art collective **SUPERFLEX** (ICA North) engage in conversations about where the human ends and the non-human begins. The artists' various projects consider how we might build the future in collaboration with other species and imagine a world beyond the Anthropocene.

The second half of the season offers solo exhibitions by **Rafael Lozano-Hemmer**, **Nathalie Miebach**, **Manuel Alejandro Rodríguez-Delgado**, and **Melissa Walter**. For her presentation at ICA North, San Diego-based **Melissa Walter** will interpret the evolution of DNA-identification technology and its influence on the criminal justice system through works on paper and experimental animation. Walter's exhibition will be accompanied by **Manuel Alejandro Rodríguez-Delgado's** first solo museum presentation in the continental US. Through his experimental sculpture, Rodríguez-Delgado assesses the techno-optimism of 1980s America by creating mobile survival systems to navigate the future challenges facing our planet.

In Balboa Park, the ICA Central mezzanine will be the site of celebrated Mexican-Canadian artist **Rafael Lozano-Hemmer's** interactive installation, *Remote Pulse* (2019), which will connect museum visitors to their counterparts at the Centro Cultural Tijuana via the sensation of a virtual pulse. An exhibition by Boston-based **Nathalie Miebach** will occupy the gallery space, and will include woven sculptures and wall installations based on scientific data. Using meteorological, observational, and anecdotal information, Miebach has devised her own visual language to foreground the human relationship to data in her meticulously researched practice.

**The Interface season will
change the way you think →**

SUPERFLEX: *Beyond the End of the World*

January 20 – June 2, 2024 (EP) / January 20 – July 28, 2024 (AP)

ICA / NORTH

C You Saturday! Opening Reception: January 20, 2024



Beyond The End Of The World, 2021. Still image. Photo: SUPERFLEX

The celebrated Danish art collective SUPERFLEX was founded in 1993 by Jakob Fenger, Bjørnstjerne Christiansen, and Rasmus Rosengren Nielsen. Working with an extensive network of collaborators from within and outside of the art world, SUPERFLEX investigates alternative systems of social and economic organization. Over the years their works have taken the form of energy systems, beverages, sculptures, hypnosis sessions, paintings, plant nurseries, contracts, and public spaces.

For their exhibition at ICA San Diego, SUPERFLEX will present works that emphasize interspecies living – a category of SUPERFLEX’s project development that solicits the participation of other species, considering the perspectives of plants and animals. The exhibition will include the two-channel film installation, *Beyond the End of the World* (2021), which offers a mysterious glimpse of a post-Anthropocene future, as well as a site-specific ceramic installation that draws on imagery from the film.



Dr. Pinar Yoldas

February 24 – June 23, 2024

ICA / CENTRAL

C You Saturday! Opening Reception: February 24, 2024



Installation view, Pinar Yoldas: *Metabolizing Plastics* (2022) Yves Tinguely Museum, Basel Switzerland.

Drawing on her background in neuroscience and architecture, artist and UC San Diego Professor Dr. Pinar Yoldas (b.1979 Denizli, Turkey) has built a practice of speculative design that imagines new products, appendages, and creatures in the service of a more compassionate culture. While Yoldas has shown extensively in Europe for nearly two decades, this show will be Yoldas's first solo museum exhibition in the United States. At ICA Central, Yoldas is producing several new projects, including photobioreactor systems that transform algae into a biodegradable plastic alternative. In addition, she will debut *CATGPT*—a companion video to her 2016 work, *The Kitty AI*—that considers the relationship between AI and human creativity.

Yoldas will create an immersive experience that illuminates the connections between technology, creativity, and human desire in contemporary life. “If we ask ourselves what drives technological progress,” Yoldas explains, “we can see that it is as much our collective desires—wealth, longevity, beauty—as it is our collective needs, such as access to clean water, food, and shelter.” This exhibition invites us to consider how desire and emotion can combine with technology to create a more just and compassionate future.





ICA
NEXTGEN 2024

NextGen 2024

July 13 – September 1, 2024

ICA / CENTRAL

C You Saturday! Opening Reception: July 13, 2024

ICA San Diego's annual juried exhibition of recently-graduated artists will showcase the innovative work being produced by emerging artists in San Diego County and northern Baja California.

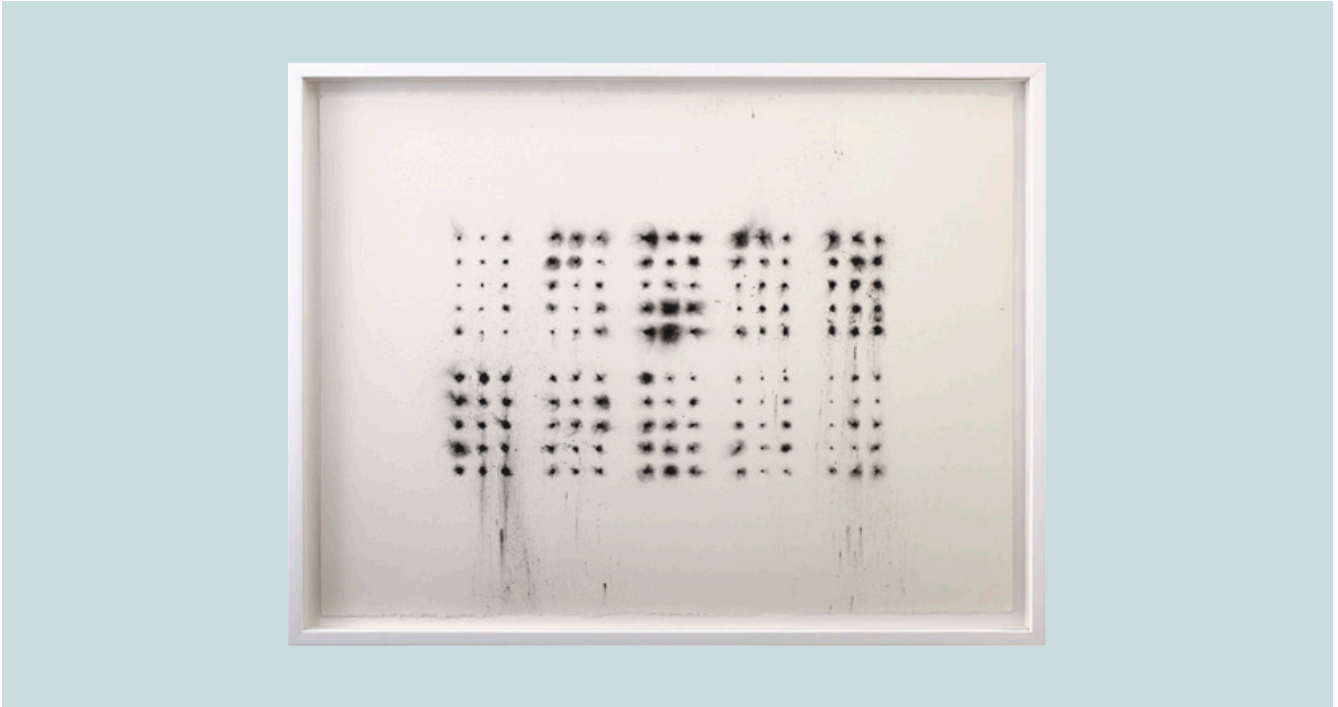


Melissa Walter

August 17 – December 29, 2024

ICA / NORTH

C You Saturday! Opening Reception: August 17, 2024



Melissa Walter, *Autoradiogram 002*, 2021, Charcoal on paper, 24 $\frac{7}{8}$ x 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches

San Diego-based artist Melissa Walter (b.1976, Providence, RI) uses abstraction to translate complex scientific concepts into intimate and accessible visual experiences. In her 2021 series, *The Smallest of Places*, Walter uses charcoal, pastel, and cut paper to illustrate the evolution of DNA identification technology since its introduction in the 1980s.

Walter's grids and flow charts pack a wealth of information into highly detailed yet restrained compositions that illuminate the profound effects this technology can have on increasing equity in the American criminal justice system. At ICA San Diego, Walter will create a site-specific installation of the 100 drawings that comprise *Southern Blot Method*, as well as an experimental animation that conveys the computational processes of DNA analysis as something more familiar.





Manuel Alejandro Rodríguez-Delgado

August 17 – December 29, 2024
ICA / NORTH

*C You Saturday! Opening Reception:
August 17, 2024*

Manuel Alejandro Rodríguez-Delgado, *Jíbaro*, 2023. Wood, plywood, OSB, plastics, various reclaimed electronics, tropical plants gathered from Puerto Rican rain forest. 98 x 24 x 30 inches. Courtesy the artist and the Canary Test.

Puerto Rican-born, New Mexico-based artist Manuel Alejandro Rodríguez-Delgado (b. 1982) utilizes repurposed electronics and discarded materials to craft self-contained survival systems that address the challenges of a planet grappling with an uncertain future. Through his process of speculative invention, Rodríguez-Delgado reconciles the scientific promise of his youth with the urgent climate and energy crises of the present.

Steeped in the futures visualized by *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, the US Space Program, and Puerto Rico's bid to host the 2004 Olympics, Rodríguez-Delgado's work is both an elegy to an unrealized technological utopia and an adaptation of those ideals to present and future challenges. His future-minded innovations include a new font, "Orbital Basic," which reinterprets letters in straight lines only, making it easier to write while wearing a bulky spacesuit. For his exhibition at ICA North – his first solo museum show in the continental United States – Rodríguez-Delgado will present a new installation that combines drawing and collage, alongside new and existing sculpture.

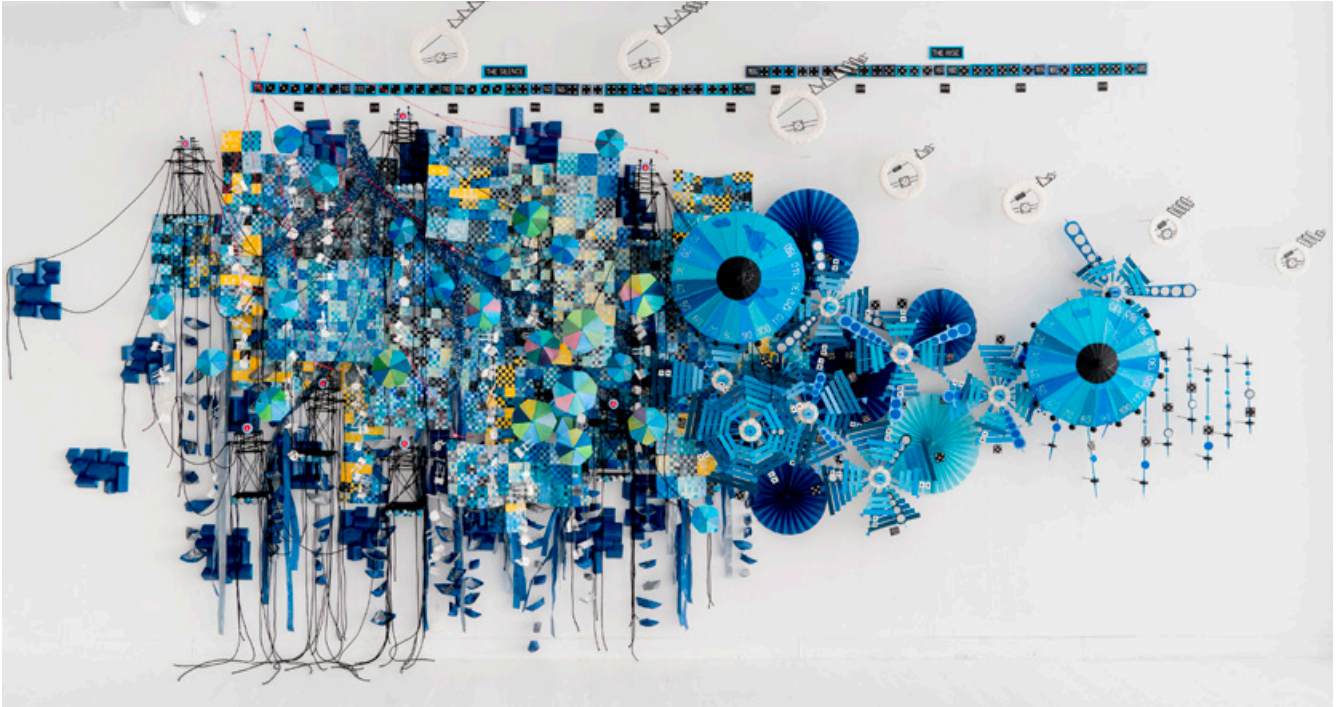


Nathalie Miebach

September 21 – January 19, 2025

ICA / CENTRAL

C You Saturday! Opening Reception: September 21, 2024



Nathalie Miebach, *The Burden of Every Drop* (2018). Wood, paper, rope, data. 17 x 10 x 1 feet. Courtesy of the artist.

Nathalie Miebach (b.1972, Zeven, Germany, lives Boston, MA) foregrounds the human relationship to data in her meticulously researched practice. Using basket-weaving techniques to transform a variety of material into sculpture, wall installations, and 2D weavings, Miebach has devised her own visual languages to describe our reciprocal relationship with data. Each material in a work by Miebach represents a different datapoint, giving form to the human experience of catastrophic events such as hurricanes and the Covid-19 pandemic. She takes an expansive approach to her data sets, incorporating other kinds of information, such as the number of sunny days in a month, her own mask-wearing comfort levels, and tweets from disaster zones to create a more comprehensive –and personal– record of these experiences. For this exhibition –her first in San Diego– Miebach will produce a new sculpture based on California’s recent extreme weather and will work with local musicians to create and perform a score for the work of art –a practice she began in 2009.



Rafael Lozano-Hemmer: *Remote Pulse*

September 21 – January 19, 2025

ICA / CENTRAL

C You Saturday! Opening Reception: September 21, 2024



Rafael Lozano-Hemmer, *Remote Pulse*, 2019.
Courtesy of the artist.

The ICA Central mezzanine will be the site of Rafael Lozano-Hemmer's (b. 1967, Mexico City, lives Montreal) celebrated interactive installation, *Remote Pulse* (2019). Working in collaboration with the Centro Cultural Tijuana (CECUT), we invite visitors to participate in a cross-border activation. Using two identical pulse-sensing stations connected by the internet, visitors to both ICA Central in Balboa Park and CECUT in Tijuana will be able to feel the pulse of a visitor in the partner location if their hands are placed on the sensors at the same time. Each time a visitor touches the sensors, a light flashes on the companion sensor in the partner location, inviting guests there to feel the sensation of another human's pulse. The simple gesture of connecting palm to palm, even virtually, is an incredibly powerful reminder of both our shared humanity and the vast inequities of life on the US-Mexico border.



About the Institute of Contemporary Art, San Diego

ICA San Diego is a platform for experimental art and learning with a mission to question everything. Founded in 2021, yet built on over 100 years of combined experience, our programming is cutting edge yet accessible; daring and thoughtful; challenging and inviting. Our exhibitions, installations, commissions, classes, and workshops reflect ICA San Diego's commitment to engage the issues of the moment and provide a space for the community to come together and consider the world in which we live. ICA San Diego welcomes everyone to gather, learn, question, and experience the new.

ICA San Diego is always free and open to the public. ICA San Diego / Central is located at 1439 El Prado in Balboa Park, and ICA San Diego / North is located at 1550 S. El Camino Real in Encinitas.

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