

# ICA INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART SAN DIEGO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Institute of Contemporary Art San Diego presents *Synaptic Sculpture*, Showcasing Work by UC San Diego Professor Dr. Pinar Yoldas

*Exhibition Opens Feb. 24 and Runs Through June at ICA San Diego / Central in Balboa Park*



**SAN DIEGO, Calif.** (February 13, 2024) - The Institute of Contemporary Art San Diego (ICA San Diego) continues to showcase local female artists with *Synaptic Sculpture*, by UC San Diego Professor Dr. Pinar Yoldas, opening on February 24 at its Central location in Balboa Park. This will be Dr. Yoldas' first solo museum exhibition in the United States, having shown exclusively in Europe for nearly two decades. [Synaptic Sculpture](#) will feature new works that tie into ICA San Diego's 2024-2025 exhibition season entitled *Interface* which celebrates the region as a hub of boundary pushing innovation in both art and the life sciences. *Interface* invites audiences to consider how art can mediate, translate, and expand the relationship between humans and the science of everyday life.

"Pinar is deeply attuned to how design and technology both influence and are affected by human emotion. Her work brings high-level scientific concepts and innovation out of the

lab and into the realm of our lived experience,” says Dr. Jordan Karney Chaim, Curator of ICA San Diego.

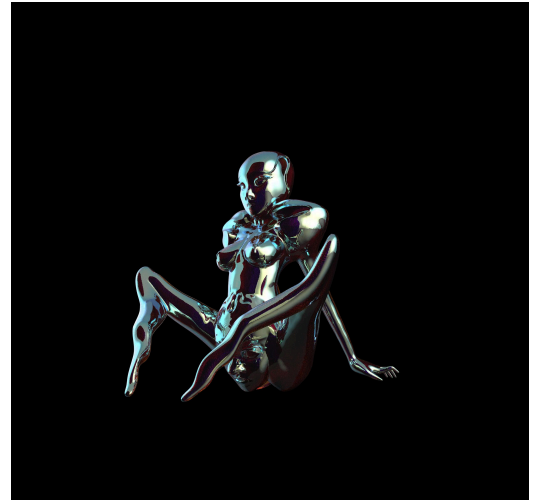
- **Pinar Yoldas: *Synaptic Sculpture***

February 24 – June 23, 2024

ICA San Diego / Central

[C You Saturday! Opening Reception](#): February 24, 2024

Drawing on her background in neuroscience and architecture, Dr. Yoldas has built a practice of speculative design that imagines new products, appendages, and creatures in the service of a more compassionate culture. At ICA San Diego / Central, Dr. Yoldas is producing several new projects that engage all of the senses, including photobioreactor systems that transform algae into a biodegradable plastic alternative. Dr. 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,” Dr. 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.

Images: Renderings of Pinar Yoldas: *Synaptic Sculpture*.

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### **About Interface 2024-2025**

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. ICA hosts monthly public C You Saturday! events

with exclusive access to artist talks, exhibition tours, food and music. Admission to these events and exhibitions are complimentary.

### **About Institute of Contemporary Art San Diego**

ICA San Diego is a living laboratory for expanding the transformational power of art to build vibrant communities. 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. There is no admission fee to visit our exhibitions, and donations are welcome. To help ICA San Diego reduce barriers to contemporary art, visit <https://icasandiego.org/donate/>.

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.