



Still from Susan Schuppli, *Arctic Archipelago*, digital HD video, 2021

The Ocean

28.08.—
31.10.2021

With Trond Ansten/Kåre Aleksander Grundvåg, Ei Arakawa, Sol Calero, Nina Canell, Em'kal Eyongakpa, Peter Fend, Fragment, Ina Hagen, Ayesha Hameed, Alma Heikkilä, INTERPRT, Susanne Kriemann, Giulia Mangione, Hans Ragnar Mathisen, Yuri Pattison, Willem de Rooij, Tabita Rezaire, Jorge Satorre, Bea Schlingelhoff, Susan Schuppli, Allan Sekula, Wolfgang Tillmans, Elin Már Øyen Vister, VUMA, Takako Yamaguchi, Explorations in Ocean Space II – Vest Land North Sea Blueprints (Bergen School of Architecture, teachers: Nancy Couling, Vibeke Jensen, Julia Morrisson) and selected documents and materials



Over centuries, the city of Bergen has been largely defined by its relation to the sea. Situated on the Norwegian coast, halfway between the fishing grounds of Northern Norway and continental Europe, this relationship has been crucial for the development of the city

Wolfgang Tillmans,
The State We're In, A, 2015.
Courtesy Galerie Buchholz,
Berlin/Cologne/New York.

through trade, industry, the transport of goods, and exchange with the European continent and other parts of the world. The city has developed into an international trading hub and is today one of the most important cities for the oil industries and maritime research.

"The Ocean" at Bergen Kunsthall uses these diverse relationships to the sea as a starting point for an international exhibition with 25 artists, research projects and an extensive events programme. With some of the artist's projects taking place in public spaces, the exhibition takes the city as a topic, but also as an arena in which art can initiate public discussions. The future of the oceans has become one of the most pressing issues today due to intensification of human activities. Public works, research projects and performances will be presented both in the main exhibition at the Kunsthall and

Nina Canell,
Installation view: 57th
Venice Biennale, 2017
Photo: Andrea Rossetti.



in the surrounding mountains, the harbour, museums and the city itself.

The exhibition in the galleries of Bergen Kunsthall presents new projects and important historical works – photographs, sculptures, paintings, video and sound installations – that map out the ways in which artists deal with questions of the ocean today. Using specific locations and fragments of history, the exhibition investigates larger topics, such as the extraction of natural resources, the global circulation

of goods, colonial histories and ocean life, as well as their impact on our everyday reality. The projects map the field of conflicts that connect to the topic of the sea: as a work place, as unknown terrain and natural resource, as a field of power relationships, ecological disasters and touristic longing. The exhibition functions as a starting point for a visit to the works in other locations, as a self-planned tour through some of the hidden aspects and areas of the city.



Yuri Pattison
sun (set) provisioning, 2019
Courtesy the artist and
mother's tankstation, Dublin

New works include a bronze monument for feminist evolution by Swiss artist Bea Schlingelhoff, a multi-screen film installation about Svalbard by Susan Schuppli, and digital seascape sunrises rendered by environmental data from Yuri Pattison. The collective VUMA presents an audio app that guides visitors to sites of colonial history in Bergen. Together with students at the

Bergen Architectural School (BAS), Bergen Kunsthall produced an atlas of regional maritime industries. The exhibition includes seminal artworks dealing with oceanic themes, such as Allan Sekula's *Fish Story* and Elin Már Øyen Vister's atmospheric sound installation from Røst in Northern Norway.

Throughout the exhibition period, a dense programme of public events, including talks, film screenings and workshops, will expand the topics of the exhibition discursively. Events include a performance during the opening day by Ei Arakawa, in which water from Fukushima will meet the ocean in Bergen, a talk programme with artists and researchers featuring Cooking Sections and Sara R. Yazdani, among others, a film series screened in collaboration with Cinemateket Bergen, the temporary radio station Radio Hope and Dreams by Elin Már Øyen Vister, and a participatory project on disappearing ocean industries by the architecture office Fragment.

Events

Online Opening Ceremony / Sat 28 Aug 12:00 /

Venue: Online

Opening Day / Sat 28 Aug 13:00 – 20:00 /

Open exhibition with free admission

The Ocean Artist Talks / Sat 28 Aug 14:00 /

Venue: Bergen Kunsthall & Online /

With participating artists and guests

Ei Arakawa / Per Kirkeby & Iwaki /

Ocean's Temporal Visit / Sat 28 Aug 17:00 /

Venue: Per Kirkeby sculpture *Bergen*,

Thormøhlens gate / Nygårdsgaten, Florida, Bergen

The performance by acclaimed artist Ei Arakawa creates a meeting point of water from Fukushima, the artist's home town in Japan, and the ocean in Bergen. In a participatory, ceremonial act, the performance will make a temporary water circuit around a public monument by Per Kirkeby.

Zoom: Allan Sekula, Noël Burch /

The Forgotten Space, 2010 / Tue 7 Sep 18:00 /

Venue: Cinemateket Bergen / Film screening

Radio Hopes and Dreams / 10.9. – 16.9.2021 /

With Amber Amblett, Elin Már Øyen Vister, Hanan Benhammer, Karen Werner, Magdaléna Manderlová, Margrethe Kolstad Brekke and guests / Venue: Local FM radio and online stream in collaboration with Lydgalleriet, Bergen.

Radio Hopes and Dreams is a mobile, artist-run radio station and laboratory initiated by Elin Már Øyen Vister and Margrethe Kolstad Brekke in 2014. During the exhibition, the radio station will broadcast four days of extensive programme revolving around climate change, ecological grief, biodiversity, and social and environmental justice. The broadcast springs out from Øyen Vister's jubilee exhibition "Soundscape Røst 2010–2020" at Lydgalleriet, Bergen.

Fragment: What we made by the sea / Thu 16 Sep 18:00 /

Venue: Under Puddefjordsbroen, Møhlenpris

Public Conversation. The port cities disappear. It has been a long time since ropes and barrels were made in cities. It is also a long time since dock workers could afford to live here. A series of conversations staged by the architecture office Fragment around a mobile salt boiler asks about the transformation of cities and the knowledges of the past and the future.

Zoom: Thinking Water / Tue 21 Sep 18:00 /

Venue: Cinemateket Bergen / Short film programme

Plattform: Ina Hagen / Sat 2 Oct 14:00 /

Venue: Bergen Kunsthall & Online / Talk

Plattform: Sara R. Yazdani / Wed 6 Oct 20:00 /

Venue: Bergen Kunsthall & Online / Talk

Serpent Rain (2016) / Thu 7 Oct 20:00 /

Venue: Bergen Kunsthall / Film screening and talk
with Arjuna Neuman, Denise Ferreira Da Silva and VUMA
(Sheila Feruzi and Christa Mako Teigen)

Cooking Sections – When [Salmon Salmon [Salmon]] /

Tue 12 Oct 18:00 / Free / Venue: Online

Salmon is usually thought of as “salmon pink”. Today this farmed fish should be grey, but synthetic pigments added in their feed make them the desired salmon colour, changing the tones of their flesh. This lecture performance by Cooking Sections is part of their ongoing project CLIMAVORE that explores the relationship between our diet and the climate emergency and seeks to redress our assumptions around food production and consumption. Cooking Sections were established in London in 2013 by Daniel Fernández Pascual and Alon Schwabe. They have been nominated for the 2021 Turner Prize.

Plattform: Liquid Commons –

Who Owns the Ocean? / Sat 23 Oct 14:00 /

Venue: Bergen Kunsthall & Online Discussion

Fragment: What we made by the sea / Thu 28 Oct 18:00 /

Venue: Bergen Kunsthall & Online / Book presentation and conversation

Sol Calero Pavillion Programme

Visit our second site Casa Isadora during the warm autumn days in Byparken, just in front of Bergen Kunsthall. Casa Isadora is a site-specific tropical pavilion by Venezuelan artist Sol Calero. The pavilion is one of the public artworks shown as part of the "The Ocean". It invites for reading and relaxation and will be used for smaller events during the exhibition.

ABOUT BERGEN KUNSTHALL

Bergen Kunsthall is a centre for contemporary art and presents exhibitions and events by international artists. Landmark is our vibrant strand of live events that includes concerts and club nights. We organise a broad range of learning activities and debates that are open to everyone. Established initially as Bergens Kunstforening in 1838, the Kunsthall is based in an early functionalist building designed by the architect Ole Landmark in 1935, with gallery spaces, a café and a bookshop. Bergen Kunsthall is supported by the Ministry of Culture, the City of Bergen and Vestland County.

BERGEN KUNSTHALL

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