



MUSEU
D'ART CONTEMPORANI
DE BARCELONA

In the Open or in Stealth

THE UNRULY PRESENCE OF AN INTIMATE FUTURE

Curated by Raqs Media Collective

► This exhibition **will be a multi-layered site of discovery that explores the concept of a future in which multiple histories and geographies** are placed in dialogue, giving way to a plurality of possibilities and queries by following paths that interlace, entwine and expose relations between objects, feelings and concepts, while simultaneously tracing indeterminate spaces between them.

► A working list of artists includes **Rosa Barba, Jeamin Cha, Mark Chung, Liao Fei, John Gerrard, Geumhyung Jeong, Hassan Khan, Charles Lim, Cristina Lucas, Kabelo Malatsie, Dillon Marsh, Huma Mulji, Mehreen Murtaza, Joe Nishizawa, Nontsikelelo Mutiti, Bahar Noorizadeh, Lucy Parker, Racter, Santiago Ramón y Cajal, Muhannad Shono, Tito Zungu** and including new commissions as the projects by **Rupali Gupte y Prasad Shetty, Bhagwati Prasad, Rohini Devasher, Abhishek Hazra, Ivana Franke, Lantian Xie, Marzia Farhana** will be presented as well as the intervention by the **Raqs Media Collective**.

► An extension of the exhibition will be a **mediation programme** – titled the **21 Personae**– which **will explore the urban fabric of our society through real-life stories of Barcelona's diverse inhabitants**. The project puts the **Museum in dialogue with the city, resulting in a collection of urban chronicles**.

► **Raqs Media Collective** was founded in 1992 by **Jeebesh Bagchi, Monica Narula** and **Shuddhabrata Sengupta**. Artists curators, researchers, editors and philosophical agents provocateurs, the Collective's work addresses connectedness, temporality and plenitude, and places them at the intersection of art, historical enquiry and philosophical speculation.

Title: In the Open or in Stealth **Opening:** October 30, 2018, **Dates:** October 31 – March 17, 2019
Organisation: MACBA Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona,
Curators: Raqs Media Collective: **Shuddhabrata Sengupta, Jeebesh Bagchi** and **Monica Narula**.

In the Open or in Stealth

It is said that we know more about faraway galaxies than we do about the bottom of the oceans on Earth. One could say something similar about our relationship to the future. The distant future can seem more familiar than the deep present. We know it will come, regardless of whether or not we are around to witness it.



John Gerrard

X. laevis

Simulació, 2017. Cortesia de l'artista i Thomas Dane Gallery

A realignment of resources, technologies and energies is taking place in the world right now. The intimation of this emergent ensemble, however, is faint and tangled. These trends, these new realities, are difficult to describe in the familiar languages of concert and conflict, affinity and antagonism, individuality and collectivity. Can tomorrow's blur be a provisionally high-resolution image for here, for now?

Intermittent rebellions, sometimes accompanied by cybernetic suicide or sometimes by rogue algorithm raves, rise in tandem with attempts to exorcise the ghosts that haunt the machinery of capital. This is both commonplace, and it is the news. Different tenses, the present continuous and the future imperfect, are murmuring at each other like long-distance lovers at two ends of a jagged chat line.

Let us eavesdrop on this conversation.

Rooms / Artists

Rosa Barba, Jeamin Cha, Mark Chung, Rohini Devasher, Marzia Farhana, Liao Fei, Ivana Franke, John Gerrard, Rupali Gupte and Prasad Shetty, Abhishek Hazra, Geumhyung Jeong, Hassan Khan, Charles Lim, Cristina Lucas, Kabelo Malatsie, Dillon Marsh, Huma Mulji, Mehreen Murtaza, Joe Nishizawa, Nontsikelelo Mutiti, Bahar Noorizadeh, Lucy Parker, Bhagwati Prasad, Racter, Santiago Ramón y Cajal, Muhannad Shono, Lantian Xie, and Tito Zungu; as well the intervention by the Raqs Media Collective.

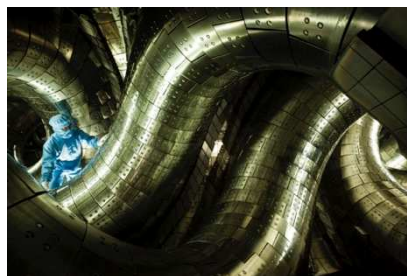
2A_ HUMA MULJI // HIERONYMUS BOSCH // JOHN GERRARD

Every falling wall brings with it the rise of dust. An arc of five centuries keeps a frog afloat—spinning and swirling, periodic spasms in its hind legs. Sighted in a painting by the Atelier of Hieronymus Bosch in 1516, and over two centuries later in etchings by Luigi Galvani from his electromagnetic experiments on those same hind legs, this frog finds itself in the 1992 space mission *Endeavour*—to determine whether it could reproduce in zero gravity. The digital simulation of its captivity in space has us circling around it while it floats very still, continuing to occasionally twitch its legs. There is not a speck of dust in this simulation of the space shuttle, but there is dust from faraway storms that is still far from settled.

2B.1_ BHAGWATI PRASAD // KABELO MALATSIE // GE BA

“All who dwell here are my companions.” The 16th-century tanner-mystic Ravidas, freeing himself from the shackles of hierarchy, invites everyone to roam the palatial halls of bliss as companions. Currents expand between an archipelago of many selves, many kinds of selves, and the cosmos. The invitation reverberates through the “paintings” with rice-glue and fabrics from worn-out jacket collars, pockets, shoe insoles and fragments of calligraphy drawn from within China’s turbulent 1960s. Such energies stitch us to the maverick engineer Sangulani Chikumbutso’s quest for a technology that will harness and produce free and collective energy for all.

2B.2_ JOE NISHIZAWA // RUPALI GUPTA | PRASAD SHETTY



Joe Nishizawa

Inside of the LHD (Large Helical Device), National Institute for Fusion Science, Gifu, Japan
2017. Impressió digital. Cortesia de l'artista i Pacific Press Service

Here an adult is a child is an adult is a child. Hard infrastructure becomes fluid organism, and contained libraries open out into forests of the infinitely strange. What humans create becomes its own mischief and mystery. This is its scale,

this is its time; its potential is its reality. Engulfing, bending, enfolding, these subterranean zones shape their own ecosystems. This is an exoskeleton of the present.

2C_1_LIAO FEI // TITO ZUNGU // MARK CHUNG

An appointment with the sunset creates a “virtual eternity”. Two hurricanes open their eyes from the South China Sea to the East Australian Coast, from the Northern Hemisphere to the Southern. An aerogramme drums up a flight to pierce through the obscene imbalance of forces running this earth. This volatility of living is relayed through screens. Interfaces receive encounters and allow tumultuousness to gather.

2C.2_DILLON MARSH // GEUMHYUNG JEONG // MARZIA FARHANA // CRISTINA LUCAS



Dillon Marsh
Nababeep South Mine, Nababeep, 2014 Dimensions: 50 x 62,5 cm
Cortesia de l'artista i Gallery MOMO Johannesburg

This is not an ordinary love. Extraction congeals, looming large on the landscape. Like an otherworldly platonic form, perhaps a proto-machine, a copper mine in the Northern Cape of South Africa conjures a figure of thought. Organs and machines love each other, generating shock as they infiltrate one another. They fall apart and come together until it is no longer possible to discern organ from prosthesis. This exhausts and propels. A stone shatters a window. A different light enters the unease and decay of a deserted factory building. The economic tumult of the 1980s unsettled neighbourhoods across Liverpool, but it may be that the stone is yet to land. What is rejected returns in force to assert its claim.

2C.3_MUHANNAD SHONO // MEHREEN MURTAZA // CHARLES LIM

There are no ordinary materials. The stone that once shattered a window is now a room flying into orbit. Another waits underneath the oceans, a much larger one, to receive enormous reserves of oil recently extracted from the earth. Life as it may be understood is navigating ghost chambers and ghost materials—they return, they reconfigure, they haunt. A congregation of voices pulses through a low-frequency transmission. The listener stays alert to pick up signals, for transgressive powers, once aborted, can regain potential.

2C.4_NONTSIKELELO MUTITI // HASSAN KHAN // BAHAR NOORIZADEH // ABHISHEK HAZRA



Hassan Khan

Bank Bannister

2010, Llautó Cortesia Galerie Chantal Crousel

From a distance, a talisman. This body possesses a power not visible but certainly present. The currents and crosscurrents it swims against are rarely apparent, but their outcomes and effects are barefaced. The bannister of a bank floats, smoke rises from hashish fields, the enigma of an equation is at work. These conjure realities that are simultaneously calculable and hallucinogenic. They speak of power that works with psychotropic loops and lags; it is delusional but effective, perilous and fragile.

2C.5_LUCY PARKER // SANTIAGO RAMÓN Y CAJAL // ROSA BARBA // JEAMIN CHA

Events arouse phantom bindings. A name blacklisted, an injured nerve, a deteriorating vision, a counterplot for a bullet. They operate in stealth, making occasional appearances; they are almost spectral, but in effect barbed. Much of living lies in navigating phantom presences and working upon them. Through autodidactic persistence, a détour becomes possible.

2D/E_LANTIAN XIE // IVANA FRANKE

Noise and darkness refuse being maligned states. A moving body cracks past the sound barrier, and a curtain of waves, clouds and particles traces a different outline. Noise is a reminder of collisions and their intensity. Darkness thickens the ecology of the mind. Without darkness, there are no stars to see. No alien lives, no galaxies, no premonitions of other worlds. Noise, like darkness, is the moment and its retention. Darkness connects with something out of reach in space and time but which still lies within—like love for someone far away or long gone.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

In the Open or in Stealth

**PRESENTATION OF 'IN THE OPEN OR IN STEALTH.
THE UNRULY PRESENCE OF AN INTIMATE FUTURE'**
BY RAQS MEDIA COLLECTIVE AND HIUWAI CHU

Jeebesh Bagchi, Monica Narula y Shuddhabrata Sengupta, Raqs Media Collective will present 'IN THE OPEN OR IN STEALTH' in conversation with Hiuwai Chu.

Raqs Media Collective was formed in 1992 by Jeebesh Bagchi, Monica Narula and Shuddhabrata Sengupta. The word 'raqs' in several languages denotes an intensification of awareness and presence attained by whirling, turning, being in a state of revolution. Raqs Media Collective takes this sense of 'kinetic contemplation' and a restless and energetic entanglement with the world and with time. Raqs practices across several forms and media: it makes art, produces performances, writes, curates exhibitions, and occupies a unique position at the intersection of contemporary art, philosophical speculation and historical enquiry. The members of Raqs Media Collective live and work in New Delhi, India.

TUESDAY 30 OCTOBER, AT 7 pm Venue: Meier atrium

Free admission. At 8 pm will be the opening of the exhibition. With simultaneous translation
macba@macba.cat Tel: 93 481 33 68

DEBATE/ ENCOUNTERS

21 personae

The programme for 21 Personae includes the same number of encounters with people, places and collectives in Barcelona. Together, they will attempt to transform the meaning and intensity of our experience of the city. It is also an investigation into 'ways of meeting', ways of being and interacting in the city. 21 Personae will run between November 2018 and March 2019, with one encounter every week.

The staging of **21 Personae** in Barcelona extends the curatorial pulse of the exhibition *In the Open or in Stealth* by activating modes of sensing – shifting grounds, dispositional sediments and the potent scenarios of life out into the city. A group of curatorial practitioners associated with MACBA's educational programme have crafted a specific Barcelona, to be expressed on the streets, in the squares, in public spaces and among public secrets.

Directed by: Raqs Media Collective, in collaboration with Aimar Arriola.
Organizing committee (PEI - MACBA's Independent Studies Programme 2017-2018): Héctor Acuña, Laura Arensburg, Emil Becerril, Marianne Blanco, Ricardo Cárdenas, Itxaso Corral, Vatiu Nicolás Koralsky, Julieta Obiols, Christina Schultz and Laura Valencia.

FROM 6 NOVEMBER 2018 TO 27 MARCH 2019

Encounters with people, places and collectives of Barcelona. **Free**

NOVEMBER

- Tuesday 6, at 8 pm: [Encounter in a Squat](#)

- Saturday 10, at 10 am: Exploring Collserola
- Thursday 15, at 5 pm: Feminist, Libertarian and Cooperative Bookshops (I)
- Saturday, 24 November, 12 pm: Ping-pong Game
- Monday 26, at 8 pm: The Invisible Routes of Montjuïc

DECEMBER

- Wednesday 5, at 6.30 pm: The Rebel Neighbourhood
- Sunday 16, at 11.30 am: Route Through Trans Barcelona
- Monday 17, at 8 pm: Food Recycling Route

JANUARY

- Saturday 5, at 8 pm: *Anti-racist Visit to the Columbus Monument*
- Saturday 12, at 11 am: *Feminist, Libertarian and Cooperative Bookshops (II)*
- Friday 8, at 7.30 pm: *Encounter with Graffiti Receptes*
- Saturday 26, at 11 am: *A Physiology of the City*
- Wednesday 30, at 9.15 pm: *Cooperativism in Barcelona*

FEBRUARY

- Saturday 9, at 11 am: *Street Botanography*
- Friday 15, at 7 pm: *Making the Invisible Visible (I)*
- Saturday 23, at 4.30 pm: *The Third Landscape Safari*

MARCH

- Saturday 2, at 11 am: *The Forgotten Barcelona*
- Tuesday 5, at 6.30 pm: *The Living Library*
- Monday 11, at 6.30 pm: *The Future and the Possible*
- Monday 18, at 7 pm: *Turning a Book Into an Oracle*
- Wednesday 27, at 6.30 pm: *Making the Invisible Visible (II)*

GUIDED TOUR/ **LET'S TALK ABOUT...** **'IN THE OPEN OR IN STEALTH'**

In the Open or in Stealth exhibition, curated by Raqs Media Collective, will be a multi-layered site of discovery that explores the concept of a future in which multiple histories and geographies are placed in dialogue, giving way to a plurality of possibilities and queries by following paths that interlace, entwine and expose relations between objects, feelings and concepts, while simultaneously tracing indeterminate spaces between them.

► **10 NOVEMBER, at 6 pm:** *Let's talk about In the Open or in Stealth* with **Hiuwai Chu**, MACBA Exhibitions Curator

► **15 DECEMBER, at 6 pm:** *Let's talk about doing and undoing the intimate and participative science of In the Open or in Stealth* with **Josep Perelló**, physicist, professor at the UB and Head of OpenSystemsUB

Entrada gratuita con **inscripción previa** en: macba@macba.cat Tel: 93 481 33 68

EN FAMÍLIA/ TALLER DE VACACIONES DE NAVIDAD

Taller dirigido a familias con niños y niñas de 6 a 12 años.

Retorno al futuro, progreso al pasado

Aquí y, al mismo tiempo, en otro lugar. ¿Es posible que pasado y futuro coincidan en un mismo tiempo? Imaginar distintas realidades, recordar lo que no ha existido... ¿Y si hiciéramos un viaje circular en el tiempo? ¿Qué pluralidad de posibilidades sobre el ayer o el mañana se nos abriría? Trasladar la tecnología actual doscientos años atrás o llevar el debate de la ecología al año 3000 puede abrir las puertas a un mundo en el que reflexionar sobre la vida de las ciudades y explorar caminos para mejorarlas.

Tomando como punto de partida la exposición de Raqs Media Collective, en este taller crearemos un cómic de ciencia ficción a través de personajes que confluyen en el tiempo, relatos que trazan historias curiosas entre ellos y caminos que se entrelazan en el espacio.

Porque «una línea, como nos enseñan las matemáticas, no tiene necesariamente un final. Es el futuro que avanza, o el pasado que retrocede».

VACACIONES DE NAVIDAD: 24, 26, 27, 28, 31 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2018, 2, 3 Y 4 DE ENERO DE 2019, A LAS 11 h

Lugar: Salas del museo

Precio: 3 € por participante (tanto adultos como menores). Gratuito con carnets Família y Amic.

Informació e inscripció: educacio@macba.cat Tel: 93 412 14 13

EDUCACIÓN/ DESVIACIONES

Actividad para secundaria, bachillerato y ciclos formativos

El hecho de ver la exposición en sentido contrario, prohibir ver las imágenes, alzar la voz en medio de las salas o preguntar al personal de seguridad su opinión sobre las obras expuestas son acciones poco convencionales en una exposición. **Desviaciones es un proyecto que se plantea como alternativa o incluso como anomalía en relación con lo que se espera de una visita guiada convencional.**

Al descubierto o a escondidas, comisariada por **Raqs Media Collective**, se presenta como un yacimiento en múltiples estratos que explora un concepto de futuro en el que dialogan una inmensidad de historias y geografías. Las visitas, diseñadas como un recorrido desviado por la exposición, consisten en una serie de acciones que se escapan a las normas de comportamiento habituales en una institución cultural, con la intención de generar diálogos y conversaciones diferentes a través de la *performance*.

¿Qué pasa cuando alteramos las normas y convertimos el espacio de la exposición en un espacio de relectura, conflicto y conversación y hacemos confluir diversas maneras de ver y sentir? Con *Desviaciones* replantaremos el relato normativo de la institución desdibujando los roles convencionales de espectadores, educadores y artistas.

A cargo de **Jordi Ferreiro**.

Programa

LUNES Y MIÉRCOLES DEL 5 AL 30 DE NOVIEMBRE, A LAS 10 Y A LAS 12 h

Duración de la actividad: 75 minutos

Precio por grupo / clase: 80 €

Actividad para secundaria, bachillerato y ciclos formativos

Inscripción

Es necesario hacer reserva previa enviando un correo electrónico a educacio@macba.cat o bien llamando al 93 412 14 13

#raqsmediacollective



PHOTOS -EXHIBITION www.macba.cat/press/raqs3216



PHOTOS ACTIVITIES www.macba.cat/press/activitats2018

■ MORE INFORMATION AT macba.cat and @MACBA_Barcelona

Segueix-nos a:    #raqsmediacollective

■ MACBA: Plaça dels Àngels, 1, 08001 Barcelona, macba.cat

■ TIMES: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 11 am – 7.30 pm. Tuesdays except public holidays, closed. Saturdays, 10 am – 8 pm. Sundays and public holidays, 10 am – 3 pm.

■ Ticket valid for one month

MACBA Press 934 813 356 / 934 814 717 press@macba.cat

|'internationale

MG+MSUM    M HKA SA L T  



Co-funded by the
Creative Europe Programme
of the European Union