



Press Release: "Water Stories" Exhibition
at BioBAT Art Space

"WATER STORIES" ARTISTS AND SCIENTISTS PROVIDE A WINDOW INTO URBAN WATERWAYS *✦

Contemporary Art & Marine Science Inspire Audiences to Become Citizen Scientists
at the Brooklyn Army Terminal



Caption: *Estuary of the Echoes Project* -
Collaboration between IEC and Yoko Shimizu
Image credit: Yoko Shimizu

EXHIBITING ARTISTS

Anne Holl nder, Arantxa Araujo, Christopher Lin, DB Lampman, DLX Design Lab, Edrex Fontanilla, Elizabeth H naff, Heather Parrish, Keren Anavy, L onard Rousse, Nathan Kensinger, Ranjit Bhatnagar, Sara Kost  , Sarah Nelson Wright, Seth Wenger, Yan Shao, Yoko Shimizu

CURATED BY

Elena Soterakis

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Interstate Environmental Commission, The United States Environmental Protection Agency, BioBAT Inc., University of Tokyo, New York University, SUNY Downstate, the New York Economic Development Corporation

EXHIBITION DATES

June 8, 2024 – May 3, 2025

VENUE

BioBAT Art Space,
Brooklyn Army Terminal, Building A, Ground Floor
140 58th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11220

GALLERY HOURS

Saturdays 12 – 5 PM
& by appointment at info@biobatartspace.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 8, 2024 – May 3, 2025

BROOKLYN, NY — BioBAT Art Space is thrilled to announce the opening of *WATER STORIES*, an innovative exhibition that invites audiences to immerse themselves in the historical legacies, poetic essence, and ecological significance of water. Curated by Elena Soterakis, the exhibition runs from June 8, 2024 to May 3, 2025 at the Brooklyn Army Terminal in Sunset Park.

As Climate Change and increased urban flooding from storm events draw our attention to the coastline, *WATER STORIES* takes a powerful step towards focusing the viewer's attention on the watery world we can't see. This curation takes you into the other-worldly visuals of underwater ecosystems and feels like a private tour of fascinating aquatic neighborhoods that lie just beyond the shorelines of our city. The artworks invite visitors to dance with algae, take a murky cinematic dive into the Gowanus Canal, listen to music composed by bacteria gathered from the harbor, and take a virtual reality walk along vulnerable Staten Island coastlines.



WATER STORIES includes work by NYC artists Nathan Kensinger and Scope Collective that includes Dr. Elizabeth Hénaff from NYU, as well as featuring international collaborations with Japanese-Austrian artist and researcher Yoko Shimizu and Tokyo University. The exhibition includes a year-long series of water-themed public events and STEAM Educational Programs. These events aim to foster meaningful dialogue around the stories and experiences of water, deepen our connection to local waterfronts, cultivate reverence for the natural world, and strengthen bonds with global waterfront communities.

WATER STORIES results from a groundbreaking Art-Science collaboration between New York's Bio Art Gallery, BioBAT Art Space, the Interstate Environmental Commission (IEC), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Housed in the cavernous and historic halls of the Brooklyn Army Terminal with its iconic NY harbor views, *WATER STORIES* invites audiences to immerse themselves in multi-sensory installations and interactive artworks, encouraging a reflective journey that underscores the critical importance of water in all our lives.



BioBAT ART SPACE

Established in 2019, this artist-run non-profit gallery is uniquely embedded within BioBAT Inc., a biotech research center at the historic Brooklyn Army Terminal in New York City. BioBAT Art Space fosters a vibrant nexus of art and science, catalyzing creative experimentation through large-scale exhibitions, artist residencies, STEAM educational programs, and cultural events.

BioBAT Art Space highlights the transformative potential of integrating art, biology, and technology. By championing interdisciplinary collaboration, BioBAT Art Space seeks to address critical global challenges, demonstrating the arts' vital role in pioneering innovative, sustainable solutions for the 21st century.



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)

The Environmental Protection Agency is a federal agency of the United States government tasked with environmental protection matters. Their mission is to protect Human Health and the environment.



BioBAT INC.

BioBAT is a partnership between the Research Foundation for SUNY, Downstate Health Sciences University, and the New York City Economic Development Corporation. BioBAT's mission is to foster the growth of the life sciences industry and create jobs, offer research and manufacturing space to biotechnology and related companies and engage the broader community through entrepreneurship, workforce development, and educational programs.



NEW YORK CITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (NYCEDC)

The mission of NYCEDC is to encourage economic growth in each of the five boroughs of New York City by strengthening the City's competitive position and facilitating investments that build capacity, generate prosperity and catalyze the economic vibrancy of city life as a whole.



INTERSTATE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (IEC)

Founded in 1936, is a tri-state water and air pollution control agency serving New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. IEC is committed to protecting, conserving, and restoring the environment in the Interstate Environmental District, particularly in the area of water quality. The IEC receives financial support from the EPA under an Assistance Agreement.



BROOKLYN ARMY TERMINAL (BAT)

BAT is the premier affordable hub for modern industrial businesses, entrepreneurs, and working families in NYC. Located on the Sunset Park waterfront in Brooklyn, BAT provides manufacturers with the tools and space they need to grow and succeed.

BioBAT Art Space is located in the Brooklyn Army Terminal in Sunset Park, Brooklyn. Accessible by New York City Ferry from DUMBO and Wall Street Pier 11 (South Brooklyn and Rockaway lines) and by MTA from the 59th Street stop on the N and R trains.

WATER STORIES opens June 8, 2024, and runs through May 3, 2025.

Featured Artists: Anne Hollænder, Arantxa Araujo, Christopher Lin, DB Lampman, DLX Design Lab, Edrex Fontanilla, Elizabeth Hénaff, Heather Parrish, Keren Anavy, Léonard Rousse, Nathan Kensinger, Ranjit Bhatnagar, Sara Kostić, Sarah Nelson Wright, Seth Wenger, Yan Shao, Yoko Shimizu.

Partner organizations: Interstate Environmental Commission, The United States Environmental Protection Agency, BioBAT Inc., University of Tokyo, New York University, SUNY Downstate, the New York Economic Development Corporation.



PRESS CONTACT

Elena Soterakis
Director & Curator
BioBAT Art Space
Email: esoterakis@biobatartspace.com
Phone: (347) 433-5154

Evelyn Powers
Executive Director
Interstate Environmental Commission
Email: epowers@iec-nynjct.org
Phone: (646) 222-9617

Caption: *Estuary of the Echoes* Project -
Collaboration between IEC and Yoko Shimizu
Image credit: Yoko Shimizu