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# **SCI-ARC GALLERY EXHIBITION**

# Environment[al]

**Curated by Herwig Baumgartner** and Marcelyn Gow

June 15 – August 26, 2018

June 15, 5pm: Exhibition Discussion

June 15, 7pm: Opening Reception



Los Angeles, CA (May 24, 2018) – SCI-Arc is pleased to announce a new exhibition, Environment[al], opening June 15 in the SCI-Arc Gallery. Curated by Herwig Baumgartner and Marcelyn Gow, Environment[al] features the work of architects, designers and landscape architects including Izaskun Chinchilla [Izaskun Chinchilla Architects], Enric Ruiz Geli [Cloud 9], Carme Pinós [Estudio Carme Pinós], Wolf Prix [Coop Himmelb(l)au], Gilles Retsin, and Günther Vogt [Vogt Landschaftsarchitekten]. An exhibition discussion at 5pm kicks off the opening on June 15 and will feature panelists Herwig Baumgartner, Violeta Burckhardt, Izaskun Chinchilla, Vittoria Di Palma, Hernan Diaz Alonso, Enric Ruiz Geli, Marcelyn Gow, Gilles Restin, Marrikka Trotter and Günther Vogt. Environment[al], examines contemporary attitudes toward environment in a post-digital context. The capacity of constructed natures to produce admixtures of the natural and the synthetic is a focus. The changing character of environment in the context of technological innovation is considered through the projects in the exhibition. Taking into account recent approaches to our understanding of environment and contemporary modes of ecological awareness, the exhibition considers the possibility of environments where qualities are fused with objects not normally associated with them. Sites, objects, and spaces become estranged to engender multiple authenticities and produce a fusion between architectural form and forms germane to constructed natures. A multivalent implementation of environment, one that involves an agile negotiation with the changing character of the ecological in the context of technological change begins to surface, these environments produce invigorated forms of tangible architectural presence and performance.

Environment[al] transforms the SCI-Arc Gallery through the construction of a landscape/substrate that functions as the ground datum in the exhibition space. The landscape is designed as a facsimile of the soil conditions that are found in the Owens Valley [to the North East of Los Angeles where LA sources a significant amount of its water supply.] The substrate is punctuated by incisions containing oil/water and vegetation indigenous to Southern California. A sound map of the LA River is accessed through proximity sensors integrated within the exhibition landscape. When gallery visitors interact with the plants, sounds recorded at different points along the river will become audible, conjuring the diverse environments of the river. The work of each of the exhibition participants is installed or projected into a series of concave receptacles within the landscape. The exhibition features both visions for the future of architecture as well as architectural applications in the context of environmental and climatic change.

## **Public Programs**

SCI-Arc exhibitions and public programs are made possible in part by a grant from the City of Los Angeles, Department of Cultural Affairs.



This exhibition is generously supported by the Consulate General of Switzerland.



This exhibition is generously supported by the Spain USA Foundation.

For exclusive content check out SCI-Arc Channel on YouTube.

SCI-Arc public programs are subject to change beyond our control. For the most current information, please visit <a href="www.sciarc.edu">www.sciarc.edu</a> or call 213-613-2200.

### **Parking and Hours**

The entrance to SCI-Arc's parking lot is at 350 Merrick Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013, between Traction Avenue and 4th Street in Los Angeles. The SCI-Arc Gallery is open daily from 10am–6pm.

#### **About SCI-Arc**

Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-Arc) is dedicated to educating architects who will imagine and shape the future. It is an independent, accredited degree-granting institution offering undergraduate and graduate programs in architecture. Located in a quarter-

mile-long former freight depot in the Arts District in Downtown Los Angeles, the school is distinguished by its vibrant studio culture and emphasis on process. SCI-Arc's approximately 500 students and 80 faculty members, most of whom are practicing architects, work together to re-examine assumptions, create, explore and test the limits of architecture. SCI-Arc faculty and leadership have garnered more than 500 national and international design awards and recognitions, including Progressive Architecture awards, American Institute of Architects (AIA) awards, and the prestigious Jencks and Pritzker architecture prizes. U.S. DesignIntelligence recently ranked SCI-Arc #4 in Graduate Programs Most Admired by Deans and Chairs in its 2018 America's Best Architecture Schools survey. SCI-Arc's Undergraduate program ranked #8 in the DesignIntelligence 2018 survey. SCI-Arc is located at 960 E. 3rd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013. www.sciarc.edu