

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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En Foco, WallWorks NYC, and Judith Escalona present the solo exhibition,
Phantasmachina - featuring **Tricia McLaughlin** on view at *WallWorks NYC*
April 6 – April 30, 2024



Bronx, NY - En Foco, Wallworks NYC, and Judith Escalona present ***Phantasmachina***, an exhibition of works by Tricia McLaughlin, featuring a selection of drawings, paintings, and renditions of fabulous creatures in 3D animation, revealing the artist's process. The exhibition will be on view at WallWorks NYC from April 6 - April 30, 2024, located at 15 Canal Place, Bronx, NY 10451, and virtually at enfoco.org. Public programs will be announced. For more information, please visit enfoco.org.

Opening Reception: Saturday, April 06, 2024 | 1-4 pm

RSVP Link: <https://shorturl.at/zHOX7>

Venturing up to the Bronx, at WallWorks NYC, mutant phantasmachina are hard at work constructing a world within our own that is strange yet oddly familiar, a microcosm inside a bigger beast. A unique set of phantasmachina will be on view as physical art at WallWorks NYC Gallery in the Bronx, where visitors also have a chance to interact with the drawings and paintings through the QR codes that animate each work. Using their phones, visitors can experience the 3D animation of each phantasmachina that reveals their true nature through their actions. These are accidental or subconscious stories generated by the artist and visitors. We watch this phantasmachina as they watch us transform our environment, which continues to change us in ways similar to theirs. The cartoon-like creatures and bright Happyland colors deceptively betray the complexity of McLaughlin's explorations that encourage viewers to think and experience art beyond its traditional boundaries.

Phantasmachina is a companion exhibition to ***Life Forms*** which is being presented by Times Square Arts: A Midnight Moment Program, one of the world's largest and longest-running digital public art projects.

Phantasmachina - featuring **Tricia McLaughlin** April 6 – April 30, 2024 - on view at *WallWorks NYC*, 15 Canal Place, Bronx NY 10451

Life Forms - On View April 1 – April 30, 2024: A *Midnight Moment* presented by Times Square Arts.
<http://arts.timessquarenyc.org/times-square-arts/projects/midnight-moment/life-forms/index.aspx>

About the Artist

Tricia McLaughlin is a physical and digital media artist exploring the transformative effects of technology on nature with unexpected consequences. Mutant creations where function follows form rather than the other way around reveal

McLaughlin's intuitive repurposing of robotics, biotechnology, and aeronautics. Paintings are inserted into animation, and 3D-designed constructions inspire paintings. McLaughlin's process extends beyond the works to how they are displayed. Her artwork and animations have been internationally exhibited at museums and galleries, such as Palais de Tokyo, Stedelijk Museum; ARCO, Madrid, Spain; Art 42 Basel, Swiss Architecture Museum (SAM); International Incheon Women Artists' Biennale; Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts; MediaNoche New Media Gallery, NY; and the Bronx Museum. Public art projects include her 3D animation "Virginia Beach Aquatecture," commissioned for the Virginia Beach Conference Center, Virginia. Tricia McLaughlin is the recipient of grants and fellowships, among them a Guggenheim Fellowship for her 3D animation, two grants from the Jerome Foundation, and an Artist's Fellowship from New York Foundation for the Arts.

About the Curator

Judith Escalona is a filmmaker, writer, and curator. Her latest film BX3M garnered awards at domestic and international film festivals. She recently screened BX3M at the Smithsonian Museum, Washington, D.C. Previously, Escalona wrote and directed *The Krutch*, featured in *Revolving Door Life Writing: Literature and Cinema of Puerto Rican Women* by Christin Freyer, Ph.D., Heidelberg University. A segment producer for CUNY-TV, Escalona is also the Founder of Puerto Rico and the American Dream (www.PRdream.com), the 26-year-old, award-winning website on the history, culture, and politics of Puerto Rico and the Puerto Rican diaspora. The organization launched several new media initiatives, among them the PRdream Oral History Project, the PRdream Summer Film Fest, and the technology-based art gallery MediaNoche (<http://www.medianoche.us>), featuring local and international new media artists. Escalona served as Chief Curator. She taught filmmaking at The City College of New York for more than two decades and is currently writing a book on Nuyorican Cinema.

About En Foco

En Foco, Inc. is a non-profit that supports U.S.-based photographers of African, Asian, Latino, Native American, and Pacific Islander heritage. Founded in 1974, En Foco makes their work visible to the art world, yet remains accessible to under-served communities. Through exhibitions, workshops, events, and publications, it provides professional recognition, honoraria, and assistance to photographers as they grow into different stages of their careers.

About WallWorks

WALLWORKS NEW YORK is a contemporary art gallery in the South Bronx, dedicated to bringing art back uptown. In the vein of Fashion MODA, **WALLWORKS** showcases new and exciting art from both emerging and established artists. Mixing a "downtown" sensibility with an "uptown" style; **WALLWORKS** is a space for collaboration and exploration. The passion project of legendary Graffiti pioneer CRASH and entrepreneur Robert Kantor, **WALLWORKS** seeks to remind people of the rich culture of the Bronx and encourage everyone to take a trip Uptown!

About Time Square Arts

Times Square Arts, the public art program of the Times Square Alliance, is the largest public platform for innovative contemporary performance and visual arts. With up to 480,000 daily visitors to New York City's Times Square, it is one of the highest-profile public arts programs and since its inception, Times Square Arts has featured works by a diverse group of nearly two hundred prominent and emerging artists.

En Foco is supported in part with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council, National Endowment for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature, The Mellon Foundation, The Joy of Giving Something, Inc., the Ford Foundation, and individual donors.

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©Image Credit: Tricia McLaughlin, *Still from Lifeforms, Phantasmachina series*, 2023.