

Press Release



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ArtScience Museum launches a new Season of Sustainability - Climate S.O.S *Month-long free showcase highlights the impact of climate change on the world's oceans and polar regions*

Singapore (4 October 2019) – This October, ArtScience Museum is proud to present *Climate S.O.S.*, a one-month free Season of Sustainability that highlights the impact of climate change on some of the most important ecosystems on the planet.

Climate S.O.S. features film screenings, hands-on workshops, a new digital art commission, a special edition of ArtScience Late, and a multimedia showcase, that raises awareness of the climate crisis and inspires action to address it. The season explores some of the major threats to our oceans - such as plastic pollution, overfishing and rising sea levels caused by climate change. It also includes a focus on how the Earth's polar regions – the Arctic and Antarctica - are being transformed by climate change.

“ArtScience Museum has a deep commitment to sustainability. Over the past five years, we have staged several exhibitions, programmes and educational activities that send a clear message about the urgency of taking action to address environmental threats such as climate change and biodiversity loss. Having worked on several projects that investigate the critical issues faced by rainforests in South East Asia, *Climate S.O.S.* switches focus to the sea and the polar regions, with a series of projects that encourage our visitors to take action to protect these ecosystems. We are pleased to be working with like-minded partners such as Eco-Business, the Singapore Eco Film Festival and MeshMinds who share our passion for creating a better future for the environment,” said Honor Harger, Executive Director of ArtScience Museum.

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Changing Course 2019: An exploration of climate crisis®, Image Credit: Eco-Business

Changing Course 2019

The centrepiece of *Climate S.O.S* is the showcase, *Changing Course 2019: An exploration of climate crisis*, which opens on 5 October. Developed by Singapore-based media company Eco-Business in collaboration with ArtScience Museum, this multimedia showcase features a gallery of photographic prints by a team of award-winning journalists and a VR experience on the climate crisis. It also presents the global premiere of *Arctic Awakening*, a new short film documentary, shot on location in the Arctic and Singapore. The showcase explores humanity's relationship with our planet, outlines the challenges in our current global patterns of consumption and production, and provokes answers to this one central question: How can we change the course of humanity?

"For this year's *Changing Course* initiative, we turned our attention to the North Pole as the region is changing at an unprecedented rate due to climate change. What happens in the Arctic does not stay in the Arctic and has repercussions for the entire world, including Asia. We wanted to tell the story of what's happening in this region and why it is important that we study what is going on there, and how it relates to us here in Asia," said Jessica Cheam, Founder and Managing Editor, Eco-Business.

Other Highlights of *Climate S.O.S*

Also exploring the vulnerability of the polar regions is a special edition of *ArtScience Late* featuring Singaporean artist, Inch Chua. Her performance at ArtScience Museum on 17th of October is inspired by her expedition to Antarctica. Combining original compositions, a radio play, and field recordings, the performance evokes Chua's experiences encountering one of the world's most unique environments.

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(L-R): *ArtScience Late: iNCH*, Image Credit: Crispian Chan; *CleanSeas AR*®, Image Credit: André Wee and Mesh Minds

Other projects within the Season of Sustainability highlight the plight of the seas. Each year, an estimated 8 million tons of plastic waste reaches the ocean. Plastic pollution is drastically affecting life in the sea. Fish, seabirds, sea turtles, and other marine mammals are the victims - entangled in or ingesting plastic debris, causing suffocation, starvation, and drowning.

To raise awareness of this issue, ArtScience Museum has commissioned Singapore creative technology studio, MeshMinds, and Singapore digital artist André Wee to create a new digital artwork called *CleanSeas AR*, which is available for free online. It is accompanied by a hands-on workshop called *Everyone Can Create: Clean Seas*, which visitors of all ages can take part in at ArtScience Museum on selected dates in October.

Climate S.O.S is the latest initiative from ArtScience Museum that creates awareness of environmental issues. In 2019, ArtScience Museum also presented projects such as *Into the Wild* and *REWILD Our Planet* which inspired visitors to take action for nature. ArtScience Museum is the first museum in Asia Pacific to be accorded the prestigious LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold certification under the 'Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance' rating system in November 2018.

Event:	Date/ Time:	Description:	Remarks:
Digital Art Commission: <i>CleanSeas AR</i>	Throughout October	ArtScience Museum has commissioned Singapore creative technology studio, MeshMinds, and Singapore digital artist André Wee to create an interactive, augmented reality (AR) experience, called <i>CleanSeas AR</i> . The new digital artwork features a virtual sea of plastic ocean creatures, which users can transform by making a pledge to beat plastic pollution and achieve clean seas for future generations.	The <i>CleanSeas AR</i> experience is available online at: http://l.ead.me/cleanseas

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		The artwork is made for Facebook Camera, and encourages users to learn about the importance of reducing marine pollution by refusing single-use plastics. <i>CleanSeas AR</i> is supported by UN Environment.	
Workshop: Everyone Can Create: Clean Seas	Saturday - Sunday 5-6, 19-20 and 26-27 Oct	This interactive workshop is facilitated by MeshMinds, and taught on iPad. Using the Everyone Can Create curriculum from Apple, visitors use digital photography, drawing, video, music to express their ideas and create marine creatures using physical objects and the augmented reality application, AR Makr	Rainbow Room, Basement 2 <i>Admission is free on a first-come- first-served basis, subject to availability.</i>
ArtScience Late: iNCH	Thursday 17 Oct, 7.30pm and 9pm	<p>The October edition of ArtScience Museum's monthly performance series, ArtScience Late, features well-known Singaporean musician, Inch Chua (iNCH). She presents a radio play based on her personal experience and reflections of her expedition to Antarctica.</p> <p>Following the successful staging of <i>Til The End Of The World, We'll Meet In No Man's Land</i> at TheatreWorks earlier this year, iNCH returns to the material she collected during the International Antarctic ClimateForce Expedition in 2018. During her journey to Antarctica, she encountered wildlife including penguins and whales, recorded the environment's haunting sounds, and reflected on the politics of one of the world's most uninhabitable lands.</p> <p>Featuring music, soundscapes, and iNCH's first radio play, this ArtScience Late will transport visitors to one of the most striking places on Earth, and one of the ecosystems most vulnerable to climate change.</p>	Expression Gallery, Level 4 <i>Admission is free on a first-come- first-served basis, subject to availability.</i>

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ArtScience on Screen	September	Leading up to the Season of Sustainability, during the month of September, ArtScience Museum presented a film programme exploring the complex ways in which we depend on our oceans, in a series of awe-inspiring and thought-provoking films. Titles included <i>Becoming Visible</i> (2018), <i>Jago: A Life Underwater</i> (2015), <i>A Plastic Ocean</i> (2016) and <i>Ghost Fleet</i> (2018). The screenings were organised in collaboration with Singapore Eco Film Festival.	See the screening programme online: https://www.marinabaysands.com/museum/exhibitions-and-events/artscience-on-screen.html
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Admission to any component of *Climate: S.O.S – Season of Sustainability* is free during the museum's operating hours of 10am to 7pm.

For more information, please visit <https://www.marinabaysands.com/museum.html>.

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About Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd

Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants, a theatre and an outdoor event plaza. Completing the line-up of attractions is ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com

About ArtScience Museum

ArtScience Museum is a major cultural institution in Singapore that explores the intersection between art, science, technology and culture. It is the cultural component of Marina Bay Sands. Since its opening in February 2011, ArtScience Museum has staged large-scale exhibitions by some of the world's major artists, including Leonardo da Vinci, M.C. Escher, Salvador Dalí, Andy Warhol and Vincent Van Gogh, as well as exhibitions that explore aspects of science and technology – including particle physics, big data, robotics, palaeontology, marine biology and space science. For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com/museum.html

About Eco-Business

Established in 2009, Eco-Business is Asia Pacific's leading media organisation on sustainable development. Its independent journalism unit publishes high quality, trusted news and views that advance dialogue and enables measurable impact on a wide range of sustainable development and responsible business issues. It is headquartered in Singapore, with offices in Manila, Beijing, and correspondents across major cities in Asia Pacific. www.eco-business.com

Media Enquiries

Dawn Wang: (+65) 6688 0042 / dawn.wang@marinabaysands.com
Gladys Sim: (+65) 6688 1048 / gladys.sim@marinabaysands.com

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