

# Press Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Explore a new frontier of digital immersion with the relaunch of ArtScience Museum Level 4

*Joint premiere of ArtScience Cinema and VR installation We Live in an Ocean of Air enhances the museum experience through cutting-edge digital art and film*



*From L to R: We Live in an Ocean of Air makes its Asian debut at the VR Gallery; the entrance of the newly launched ArtScience Cinema*

**SINGAPORE** (26 May 2022) – ArtScience Museum is cementing its status as a nucleus of innovation with the complete transformation of its Level 4 spaces. A year after unveiling its state-of-the-art VR Gallery, the Museum will open its first purpose-built screening room, ArtScience Cinema, on 28 May, alongside its latest virtual reality installation *We Live in an Ocean of Air*.

With its refreshed offerings, Level 4 will provide a new dimension to the museum experience through the exploration of various digital mediums. Art, science, and technology will come together in a holistic experience that will push the boundaries. In addition, the rolling programmes of innovative virtual reality artworks and films will be curated year-round to complement ArtScience Museum’s ongoing seasons and exhibitions.

The Level 4 relaunch will feature a vast array of ecology-inspired programmes that explore and celebrate one’s connection to their environment, ecosystems, and relationships with nature. As the exhibition extends beyond the exhibition galleries, visitors are invited to explore these

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immersive environments and discover the invisible but fundamental bonds between humans and nature.

“ArtScience Museum's Level 4 spaces have been converted into a place where visitors can enjoy cutting-edge digital art and film, as well as immersive virtual reality experiences that take visitors on journeys of the imagination far beyond the Museum's walls. ArtScience Cinema will be a place to experience innovation and creativity in film, featuring a dynamic and changing programme of acclaimed art house movies through to mainstream, and family-friendly films that will appeal to a variety of audiences. Since the launch of our VR Gallery last year, we have presented two exciting programmes of virtual reality artworks, and now we present one of our most ambitious interactive works to date – *We Live in an Ocean of Air* by London-based art collective Marshmallow Laser Feast – that brings humanity's relationship with nature to life in a multi-sensory, multi-dimensional way. As the Museum launches the new cinema and *We Live in an Ocean of Air* side by side we continue to highlight some of the most urgent challenges our planet faces in the 21st century through thought-provoking art-science experiences that delight and engage,” said Adrian George, Director: Programmes, Exhibitions and Museum Services, ArtScience Museum, Marina Bay Sands.

## **Suit up for a multi-sensory journey through the vast ecosystem of a forest**



*From L to R: Participants can interact with the ecosystem of a giant sequoia tree; the installation incorporates a unique combination of state-of-the-art technology for a feast of the senses*

Running from 28 May to 2 October 2022, *We Live in an Ocean of Air* is the latest project to be presented at ArtScience Museum's VR Gallery – a permanent space launched in 2021 which pays tribute to curiosity, innovation, and experimentation of virtual reality artworks.

*We Live in an Ocean of Air* is an immersive multi-sensory art installation created by Marshmallow Laser Feast, one of the world's leading experiential art collectives, that illuminates the symbiotic relationship between animals, plants, and humans. It breaks down the boundaries between installation, live performance, and virtual reality to celebrate the relationship humanity has with nature, as well as to confront our responsibility in protecting our ecosystems and all life on earth.

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## Sit back for an immersive cinematic experience



*From L to R: The refurbished ArtScience Cinema offers a comfortable viewing experience; wireless headphones enable viewers to fully immerse themselves in the films*

Additionally, on 28 May, ArtScience Cinema will open its doors as the Museum's newly renamed and refurbished home for its moving image programme. With an emphasis on exploring the intersection of art, science, and technology through film and emerging media, the cinema will present curated film programmes year-round which will include feature films, cinematic retrospectives, festival selections, documentaries, and more.

Featuring red plush armchairs and high-quality surround-sound wireless headphones, the purpose-built screening room delivers a truly immersive cinematic experience. There are four wheelchair access points at some of the best viewing angles for the large cinema screen, with a total seating capacity of 66.

Beyond the traditional role of a cinema, it will also explore the role of moving images in museums by showcasing works by both emerging and established artists. To keep films in the public's reach, ArtScience Cinema will offer both free and ticketed admission. While tickets can be acquired onsite, online pre-booking is advised to secure seats.

Its inaugural film programme has been curated to complement the upcoming immersive VR experience *We Live in an Ocean of Air*. Titled *We Tread in a Garden of Spells*, the film season will celebrate humanity's fundamental connection with the hallowed land beneath our feet.

Featuring film festival selections across Sundance and Berlinale, iconic pieces from celebrated auteurs like Abbas Kiarostami and Chloé Zhao to indie darlings Wes Anderson and Spike Jonze, as well as riveting one-of-a-kind documentaries, *We Tread in a Garden of Spells* is an all-encompassing examination of humans' shared existence with the natural world.

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Please refer to <https://www.marinabaysands.com/museum/events/garden-of-spells.html> for more information on the film line-up and showtimes.

## **Conversations: In the Company of Trees**



From 28 May, visitors can also enjoy an array of complementary programmes surrounding the opening of *We Live in an Ocean of Air*, such as a mini-symposium that delves into the art and science of trees.

Through elemental artworks curated with nature in mind, and movements that aim to restore nature back into the city, *Conversations: In the Company of Trees* will offer guests the opportunity to contemplate how we have looked to trees for meaning and understanding.

*Conversations: In the Company of Trees* features the following speakers:

- Ersin Han Ersin (Artist and Creative Director of Marshmallow Laser Feast)
- Robert Zhao Renhui (Artist)
- Dr Ngo Kang Min (Forest ecologist and Chief Executive at GreenSG COLLAB)
- Dr Adrian Loo (Group Director for Wildlife Management and Senior Director for Community Projects at NParks)
- Dr Shawn Kaihekulani Yamauchi Lum (Tropical rainforest ecologist and President of Nature Society Singapore)

The programme is complemented by a screening of *Leaning into the Wind (2017)* at ArtScience Cinema, a powerful documentary portrait of land artist and environmentalist Andy Goldsworthy that brings viewers on a journey through the beloved natural environments where he creates his site-specific works.

*Conversations: In the Company of Trees* will be held on 28 May, 2pm – 6.25pm at ArtScience Cinema, Level 4. Admission is ticketed at S\$10 per person. For more information and booking of

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tickets, please visit <https://www.marinabaysands.com/museum/events/we-live-in-an-ocean-of-air-conversations.html>.

## **Uncover the operating manual for our “Spaceship Earth”**



*Full-scale geodesic dome that houses hands-on interactive activities*

As part of the Museum's ongoing exploration of environmentalism this season, visitors can finish their visit to ArtScience Museum by checking out *Radical Curiosity: In the Orbit of Buckminster Fuller*. The exhibition invites visitors to explore the life and world of a visionary and 20th century inventor who made it his personal mission to change the world.

Fuller foresaw many global crises and worked across multiple disciplines including art, science, architecture and design, to guide “our spaceship Earth” towards a more sustainable future. In traversing seven key ideas of his works, visitors might just be inspired to observe, ponder and challenge the world around them with the same sense of curiosity, and perhaps even uncover their own ways to be stewards of planet Earth.

For more information on the exhibition and upcoming programmes, visit <https://www.marinabaysands.com/museum/exhibitions/radical-curiosity.html>

## **Tickets and Reservations for *We Live in an Ocean of Air***

Tickets can be purchased at all Marina Bay Sands box offices and online.

It is strongly recommended that guests pre-purchase tickets online in advance, due to limited capacity of the venue and timed entry to the installation.

The experience is not accessible to individuals below 120cm in height, as participants will be required to wear a backpack weighing 5kg for up to 20 minutes, that enables them to roam freely within the play space.

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Ticket prices are as follows:

	STANDARD TICKET (SGD)	SINGAPORE RESIDENT (SGD)
Adult	19	16
Concession	14	12

The following time slots are available daily: 10:40am, 11:30am, 2pm, 2:40pm, 3:30pm, 4pm, 4:50pm, 5:30pm

For more information on *VR Gallery: We Live in an Ocean of Air*, visit <https://www.marinabaysands.com/museum/exhibitions/we-live-in-an-ocean-of-air.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, over 2,000 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](http://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](http://www.marinabaysands.com/museum.html)

## For media enquiries on ArtScience Museum

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## About Marshmallow Laser Feast

Marshmallow Laser Feast (MLF) is a leading art collective that seeks to create immersive experiences and expand perceptions by exploring connections with the natural world. Fusing architectural tools, contemporary imaging techniques and performance with tactile forms, MLF sculpts spaces that lay dormant until animated by playful investigation. Informed as much by playfulness as research, MLF breaks the boundaries to worlds beyond our senses.

## For media enquiries on Marshmallow Laser Feast

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