

Sindhu Thirumalaisamy, Still from
The Lake and The Lake (2019)



The Depths

locustprojects

Locust Projects presents *The Depths*, the fourth in a series of guest curated video exhibitions in Locust Projects' Screening Room that launched in fall 2019. Guest curated by filmmaker and video artist, Beatriz Santiago Muñoz, the exhibition features works by Isabelle Carbonell, Miguel Hilari, Los Ingrávidos, Sofía Gallisá Muriente and Sindhu Thirumalaisamy.

Toxic Lake, Salt On Film, Moon Goddess Through Violence, through desert cactus, a mine and the photographs of those who labored them. This series unfolds through relations of material and sensorial experience, they arise from an inseparability of what we think of as "place" from historical events or the deep time of geology from a multi-perspectival experimental film language.

- Beatriz Santiago Muñoz, guest curator

PART ONE: On view November 20 – December 18, 2021



Sofía Gallisá Muriente
Asimilar y Destruir (Assimilate and Destroy I),
2018

2 mins; 38 seconds

Assimilate and Destroy is a film which speaks both socially and materially about the strangeness of an ice rink in Puerto Rico, and how climate conditions memory. A digital transfer of a 16mm film, *Assimilate and Destroy* documents an ice skating rink in Puerto

Rico as it melts and decomposes in salt, a mineral that, among other properties, liberates cold and absorbs humidity. The documentation of these chemical processes that corrode the image is transferred to the imaginary of the snow in the context of the US colony and its relationship to a long history of forced symbolic reconciliations. *Assimilate and Destroy* makes visible the forms in which climate conditions memory in the tropics, experimenting with biodeterioration processes on celluloid. The title of the piece refers to two processes that occur simultaneously during the decomposition of film due to humidity, considering their poetic and strategic implications in order to digest political processes.

Image: Still from *Asimilar y Destruir (Assimilate and Destroy I)*, 2018



Sindhu Thirumalaisamy
The Lake and the Lake, 2019

37 minutes; 21 seconds

The Lake and the Lake dwells in the peripheries of Bellandur lake in Bangalore, where the act of observation is interrupted by flying foam, noxious gases, daydreams, and questions from passers-by. Despite its spectacular toxicity, the lake remains a valuable resource and refuge for

counterpublics. Standing alongside fishing communities, migrant waste workers, security guards, street dogs, and children, it is evident that there is no nature that doesn't also include all of us.

Image: Still from *The Lake and the Lake* (2019)

PART TWO features Isabelle Carbonell, Miguel Hilari, and Colectivo Los Ingrávidos and will be on view January 5 – February 5, 2022.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS



non-profit organization Beta-Local, dedicated to fostering knowledge exchange and transdisciplinary practices in Puerto Rico. She is currently a fellow of the Puerto Rican Arts Initiative and the Annenberg Innovation Lab at USC.

Image by Nestor Delgado Morales



Sindhu Thirumalaisamy's work across moving images, sound, and text centres (un)common spaces and the possibilities for speech and action with/in them. Sindhu has worked in relation to hospitals, parks, streets, kitchens, temples, mosques, and lakes—sites that hold possibilities for collective resistance and care amidst hyper-development and the enclosure of shared resources. Sindhu studied video production at the Srishti School of Art, Design, and Technology in Bangalore, and visual arts at the University of

California, San Diego. She is an alumna of the Whitney Independent Study Program, a NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellow in Video/Film, and a Core fellow at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. *The Lake and The Lake* won the Best Documentary Award at the 58th Ann Arbor Film Festival and has screened widely at venues including the Camden International Film Festival, BlackStar Film Festival, Montreal International Documentary Festival (RIDM), the International Association of Women in Radio & Television's Asian Women's Film Festival, Union Docs, Penn Live Arts, Squeaky Wheel Film & Media Center, and Artists' Television Access.

ABOUT THE GUEST CURATOR

Beatriz Santiago Muñoz (b. San Juan, 1972, lives San Juan) is an artist who works primarily with film and video, whether as single-channel works or moving image installations. She approaches each work as a structured improvisation involving the film's materials and grounded in the phenomenological world and history of her subject, whether it is a person, a movement, or a place. Her present work is concerned with a visual poetics of the Caribbean, the sensorial unconscious of anti-colonialism, and wreckage in all its forms. Recent solo exhibitions include: Beatriz Santiago Muñoz: Field Station at the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University (2019); Nuevos Materiales at Museo Amparo, Puebla, Mexico (2018); Rodarán cabezas at Espacio Odeón in Bogotá, Colombia; and A Universe of Fragile Mirrors at Pérez Art Museum Miami (2016). Her work has also been shown in the Whitney Biennial, New York (2017), New Museum for Contemporary Art, New York; and El Museo del Barrio, New York; among others. In 2021 her work was included in the 34th Sao Paulo Biennale and at the National Museum Cardiff as a recipient of the Artes Mundi 9 contemporary art prize. Her work is included in Prospect.5 in New Orleans.

ABOUT LOCUST PROJECTS

Founded by artists for artists in 1998, Locust Projects is Miami's longest running nonprofit alternative art space. We produce, present, and nurture ambitious and experimental new art and the exchange of ideas through commissioned exhibitions and projects, artist residencies, summer art intensives for teens, and public programs on contemporary art and curatorial practice. As a leading incubator of new art and ideas, Locust Projects emphasizes boundary-pushing creative endeavors, risk-taking and experimentation by local, national and international artists. We invest in South Florida's arts community by providing artists with project grants and empower creative careers by supporting the administrative work of being an artist through an onsite artist resource hub and access to pro bono legal services.



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