



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Media Contact:**

**Voleine Amilcar: 415.978.2700, [vamilcar@ybca.org](mailto:vamilcar@ybca.org)**

**Shayna Yasuhara: 415.321.1329 x312, [syasuhara@ybca.org](mailto:syasuhara@ybca.org)**

**Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Announces  
the Return of Its Signature Triennial, *Bay Area Now*  
*Curatorial process under way to select 20 to 25 local artists***

*Eighth iteration will include the work of architects and designers for the first time*

**Exhibition opens September 7, 2018**

*\*List of selected artists to be announced in spring 2018\**

**SAN FRANCISCO - (February 14, 2018) -[Yerba Buena Center for the Arts \(YBCA\)](#)** announced today the return of its signature triennial, [Bay Area Now](#), now in its eighth manifestation. The only survey exhibition of its kind in Northern California, **Bay Area Now** showcases the region's most innovative visual artists. **Bay Area Now 8 (BAN8)** will also include for the first time Bay Area architects and designers working at the leading edge of environmental, landscape, and housing design.

**BAN8** is co-curated by YBCA director of visual arts **Lucía Sanromán** and curatorial associate **Susie Kantor**, while the architecture and design program is organized by **Martin Strickland**, exhibitions associate. **BAN8** will be on view **September 7, 2018, through March 24, 2019**. The official list of participating artists will be announced in spring 2018.

“At this critical junction in national history, and when housing and economic displacement dominate the public discourse in the Bay Area, it seems particularly important to attend to the intimacy of inquiry and production in both contemporary art and architecture and design, returning to the studio as a place of imagination and quiet dissent, where alternative universes are literally being made,” **remarks Sanromán.**

**Adds YBCA CEO Deborah Cullinan,** “As YBCA approaches its 25th anniversary this year, it seems especially appropriate to return the triennial to its origins, as an artist-focused exhibition to highlight the region’s incredibly diverse talent. Since its launch, BAN has played a vital role in supporting San Francisco’s arts ecosystem, and we are looking forward to providing a platform to bring visibility to the work of local artists and spark conversations that matter.”

For the past several months, Sanromán and Kantor have been conducting studio visits to tap into the cultural ecosystem of the Bay Area and gain broad knowledge of the artists working and thriving here. Likewise, architects and designers are being selected through a series of studio visits with independent studios and professors, researchers, and fellows from across the Bay Area’s educational institutions, including the University of California at Berkeley, Stanford University, and California College of the Arts.

### **About Bay Area Now**

Conceived in 1995—the year that YBCA opened its doors—and initiated in 1997, the first *Bay Area Now* aimed to support, celebrate, and acknowledge a new generation of Bay Area artists, with the goal of generating interest and excitement within the Bay Area arts community. The curators sought inclusivity—they made an active commitment to exhibiting women and artists of color, and looked primarily at emerging artists. By the second iteration (1999–2000), the mandate became clearer: “The institution seeks to support local artists, and to augment that support by establishing a baseline for serious consideration of new experimental art in the San Francisco Bay Area.”

### **About the Curators**

**Lucía Sanromán** joined YBCA as director of visual arts in October 2015. Over the course of her career, she has curated groundbreaking exhibitions throughout the United

States, Mexico, and Latin America. Recent projects at YBCA include, among others, *Teddy Cruz and Fonna Forman: Visualizing Citizenship: Seeking a New Public Imagination* (2017) and *Damon Rich & Jae Shin Hector: Space Brainz—Yerba Buena 3000* (2017–18) (both co-organized with Martin Strickland, exhibitions associate, YBCA); as well as *Tania Bruguera: Talking to Power / Hablándole al Poder* (2017) (co-curated with Susie Kantor, curatorial associate, YBCA), and the upcoming *Futurefarmers: Out of Place, in Place* opening April 20, 2018.

**Susie Kantor** is the curatorial associate, visual arts, at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. She holds an MA in art history with a focus on seventeenth-century Dutch painting from New York University, Institute of Fine Arts, and a BA in art history and political science from Wellesley College. Her curatorial projects include *Won Ju Lim: Raycraft Is Dead*, *Kevin Cooley: Golden Prospects*, and *Work in Progress: Investigations South of Market*, and she served as the in-house curator for the traveling exhibition *Radical Presence: Black Performance in Contemporary Art*. Prior to YBCA, she held positions at the Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, and at Richard L. Feigen & Co., New York.

**Martin Strickland** is the visual arts exhibitions associate at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. He manages the second-floor gallery exhibition programming and is currently collaborating with Lucía Sanromán on *The City Initiative*, a series of exhibitions and public programs that focus on the urban environment. Prior to YBCA, he worked as the programs assistant at the Arts Research Center, UC Berkeley, as an independent contractor with the San Francisco Arts Commission, and as a community organizer for public health in New Orleans.

### **Credits**

YBCA exhibitions are made possible in part by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Panta Rhea Foundation, American Council of Learned Societies Public Fellows Program, and Meridee Moore and Kevin King. YBCA programs are made possible, in part, by The James Irvine Foundation. Additional funding for YBCA Programs: National Endowment for the Arts, Abundance Foundation, Grosvenor, and members of Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. Yerba Buena Center for the Arts is grateful to the City of San Francisco for its ongoing support.

### **About Yerba Buena Center for the Arts**

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (YBCA) is one of the nation's most innovative contemporary arts centers. Founded in 1993, YBCA's mission is to generate culture that moves people. Through powerful art experiences, thoughtful and provocative content, and deep opportunities for participation, YBCA is committed to creating an inclusive culture that awakens personal and societal transformation. YBCA presents a wide variety of programming year-round, including performing arts, visual arts, film/video, and civic engagement. For tickets and information, call 415.978.ARTS (2787). For more information, visit [ybca.org](http://ybca.org).

###