



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Voleine Amilcar: 415.978.2700, vamilcar@ybca.org

Shayna Yasuhara: 415.321.1329 x312, syasuhara@ybca.org

**Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Announces
the Return of its Signature Triennial, *Bay Area Now***

*Curatorial process underway to select 20-25 local
artists to illuminate their practices*

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 Spring 2018****

SAN FRANCISCO - (February 6, 2018) -Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (YBCA) announced today the return of its signature triennial, ***Bay Area Now***. The only survey exhibition of its kind in Northern California, ***Bay Area Now*** showcases the region's most innovative visual artists. Now in its eighth manifestation, ***Bay Area Now 8 (BAN8)*** will also include for the first time the works of Bay Area architects and designers working at the leading edge of environmental, landscape, and housing design.

BAN8 is co-curated by YBCA's 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–March 24, 2019**. The official list of participating artists will be announced Spring 2018.

[Placeholder Quote] “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 and return to the studio as a place of imagination and quiet dissent, where alternative universes are literally being made,” **remarks Sanromán.**

What about:

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.

[Placeholder Quote] Adds **YBCA CEO Deborah Cullinan**, “As YBCA approaches its 25th anniversary this year, it seems especially appropriate to return the triennial back to its origins, reinvigorating it as an artist-focused exhibition to highlight the regions 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 to spark conversations that matter.”

Throughout the fall and winter, Sanromán and Kantor are conducting studio visits and tapping into the cultural ecosystem of the Bay Area to gain broad knowledge of the artists working and thriving in the Bay Area as part of the curatorial selection process. Likewise, architects and designers will be selected through a series of studio visits with independent studios and professors, researchers, and fellows from across the Bay Area 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 with a commitment to exhibiting women and artists of color, and by looking 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* (2017-2018) (both co-organized with Martin Strickland, exhibitions associate, YBCA); as well as the renowned *Tania Bruguera: Talking to Power / Hablándole al Poder* (2017) (co-curated with Susie Kantor, curatorial associate at 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 (ARC), UC Berkeley, as an independent contractor with the San Francisco Arts Commission (SFAC), and as a community organizer for public health in New Orleans, LA.

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.

###

