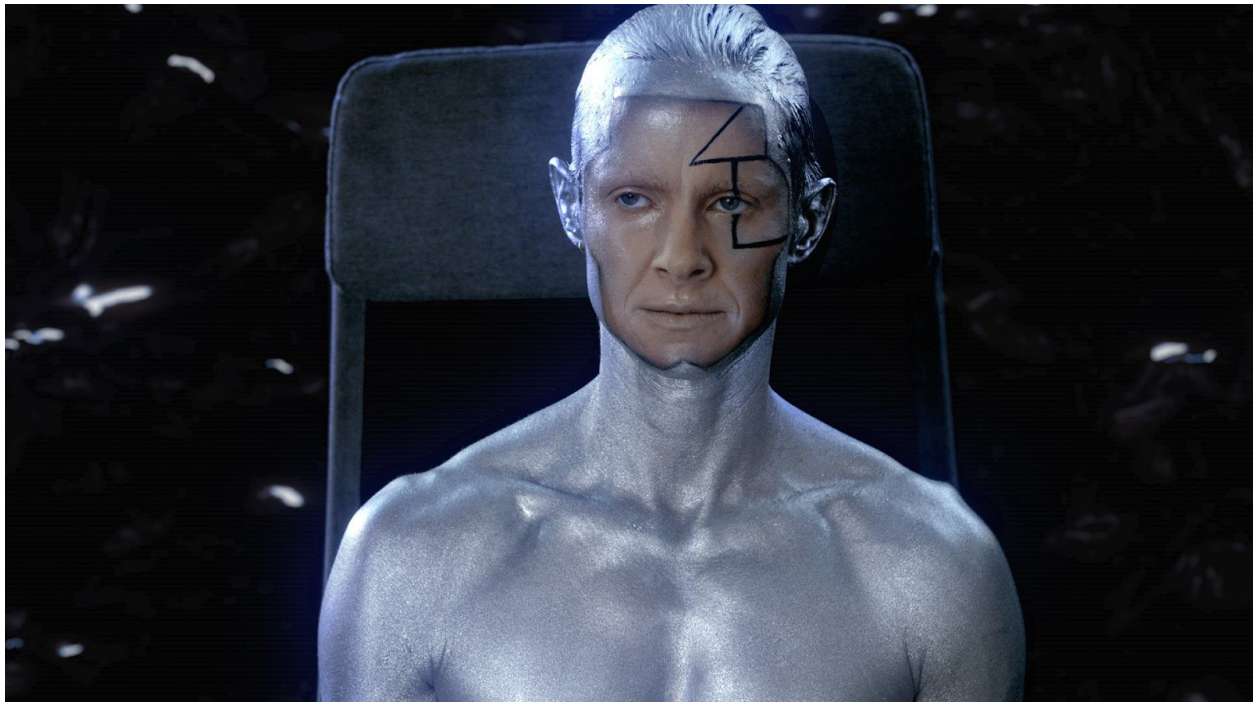


refiguring
THE
FUTURE

The Future is Now

*Artists of Underrepresented Communities Envision an Inclusive Tomorrow
in Citywide Conference & Exhibition*



Above: Zach Blas, *Contra-Internet* (2014-2018).

EXHIBITION

February 8–March 31, 2019

Opening Reception: February 8, 6–8PM

205 Hudson Gallery, Hunter College Art Galleries

Entrance on south side of Canal St.

205 Hudson Street

New York, NY 10013

CONFERENCE

Day 1: February 9, 10am–6pm

Kaye Playhouse at Hunter College

695 Park Ave, New York, NY 10065

Day 2: February 10, 12–6pm

Knockdown Center

52-19 Flushing Ave, Queens, NY 11378

REFRESH—a politically engaged collective that pursues sustainable practices across the fields of art, science, and technology—is pleased to announce their inaugural exhibition and conference, [Refiguring the Future](#). The exhibition and conference are presented in partnership with **Eyebeam**, a non-profit dedicated to spurring creative and critical conversations about technology's effects on society, and in collaboration with **Hunter College Art Galleries**. The exhibition will be on view from February 8–March

refiguring THE FUTURE

31, 2019 at 205 Hudson Gallery, Hunter College Art Galleries, accompanied by a two day conference held from February 9–10 at Kaye Playhouse at Hunter College, and the Knockdown Center in Queens. The exhibition will feature 18 artists and 11 newly commissioned works, with a conference that comprises 34 artists, curators, educators, and research fellows dedicated finding new ways of living with technology, and developing new, critical perspectives about our future.

“In this exhibition, we seek to ‘refigure the future’: to push, probe, tear apart, and re-envision what the future can be,” says exhibition co-curator and artist **Heather Dewey-Hagborg**. “Looking beyond the status quo, we sought out feminist, queer, decolonial, anti-racist, and anti-ableist artists concerned with our technological and political moment.”

Discourses of science fiction, technology, and speculation have historically offered visions of the future that recapitulate dominant culture, projecting images of tomorrow through the existing capitalist, racist, and patriarchal structures of today. Interested in rupturing these systems, the exhibition’s title is inspired by artist **Morehshin Allahyari**’s use of ‘refiguring’ as a feminist, decolonial, and activist practice. The artists in *Refiguring the Future* mine the historical and cultural roots of our current moment, pull apart the artifice of contemporary technology, and sift through the pieces to forge new visions of what is possible. Working across an array of mediums and approaches—from analog books to augmented reality—these artists address and examine a tumultuous present in order to produce a more inclusive future.

Refiguring the Future’s namesake exhibition is curated by REFRESH collective members **Heather Dewey-Hagborg** and **Dorothy R. Santos**, and will be accompanied by a two-day conference curated by Eyebeam/REFRESH Curatorial and Engagement Fellow **Lola Martinez** and REFRESH member **Maandeeq Mohamed**.

REFRESH—a collective of female artists, curators, and research fellows—is a collaborative and politically engaged platform at the intersection of art, science, and technology. REFRESH founders include **Salome Asega** (Technology Fellow, Ford Foundation; Director, PWRLNT), **Heather Dewey-Hagborg** (artist), **Kathy High** (artist), **Lynn Hershman Leeson** (artist / filmmaker), **Maandeeq Mohamed** (curator), **Tiare Ribeaux** (artist / Founder and Artistic Director of B4BEL4B gallery), **Dr. Camilla Mørk Rostvik** (Research Fellow at the University of St Andrews), **Dorothy R. Santos** (writer / curator / artist), and **Addie Wagenknecht** (artist). The collective established themselves after writing an op-ed in [The Guardian](#), addressing the gender bias of the internationally renowned Ars Electronica festival, which celebrates art, technology and society, but consistently awards its top prizes to men. Taking to social media with their #KissMyArs campaign, the artists—many of them pioneers in their field—formed a collective thereafter, seeking to establish a platform female-identifying, gendering non-conforming, queer, and POC artists working in new media, technology, and science.

EXHIBITING ARTISTS

The exhibition will present 11 new works alongside re-presented immersive works by feminist, queer, decolonial, anti-racist, and anti-ableist artists concerned with our technological and political moment including: **Barak adé Soleil**, **Morehshin Allahyari**, **Lee Blalock**, **Zach Blas***, **micha cárdenas*** and **Abraham Avnisan**, **In Her Interior** (Virginia Barratt and Francesca da Rimini)*, **Mary Maggic**, **Lauren McCarthy**, **shawné michaelain holloway***, **Claire and Martha Pentecost**, **Sonya Rapoport**, **Sputniko!** and **Tomomi Nishizawa**, **Stephanie Syjuco**, and **Pinar Yoldas***.

reFiguring THE FUTURE

Names with asterisk denotes participation in the conference.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS / ARTISTS

Following a public reception on February 8, Refiguring the Future will open with a two-day conference from February 9-10, highlighting over 20 speakers and workshop leaders, including special keynotes by **Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor** and **Zach Blas**. Additional conference participants include **Morehshin Allahyari** and **Shirin Fahimi**, **Ruha Benjamin**, **micha cárdenas**, **Taeyoon Choi**, **Sofía Córdova**, **Hayley Cranberry**, **Jaskiran Dhillon**, **Kadija Ferryman**, **Shannon Finnegan**, **Aljumaine Gayle** and **Ladan Siad**, **Anneli Goeller**, **Kathy High**, **shawné michaelain holloway**, **In Her Interior** (Virginia Barratt and Francesca da Rimini), **Yo-Yo Lin**, **Cynthia Malone**, **Maandeeq Mohamed**, **Rasheedah Phillips**, **Legacy Russell**, **Tiare Ribeaux**, **Martine Syms**, **Sofía Unanue**, **Alexander Weheliye**, **stud1nt**, **Cori Kresge** and **Pinar Yoldas**.

[CONFERENCE SCHEDULE & TICKETS](#)



Above: Morehshin Allahyari, *Huma* (2017).



ABOUT OUR PARTNERS:

ABOUT EYEBEAM

Technology's effect on our future is always changing and difficult to understand. Through exploratory process and emotionally compelling output, Eyebeam believes that artists can help us visualize and realize a more just future. Eyebeam provides both space and support for a community of diverse, justice-driven artists. Our annual residency program, highly engaged community of alumni, advanced tools and resources, and shows and events help our artists bring their work to life and out into the world. Eyebeam enables people to think creatively and critically about technology's effect on society, with the mission of revealing new paths toward a more just future for all.

ABOUT HUNTER COLLEGE ART GALLERIES

The Hunter College Art Galleries, under the auspices of the Department of Art and Art History, have been a vital aspect of the New York cultural landscape since their inception over a quarter of a century ago. The galleries provide a space for critical engagement with art and pedagogy, bringing together historical scholarship, contemporary artistic practice, and experimental methodology. The galleries are committed to producing exhibitions, events, and scholarship in dialogue with the intellectual discourse generated by the faculty and students at Hunter and serve as an integral extension of the department's academic programs.

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