

maria magdalena maciak

mariamaciak.com

ABOUT

Maria Magdalena Maciak is an intermedia artist and educator whose making unfolds through films, somatics, and installations. She co-founded Research Mattress, a collective dedicated to immersive inquiry into multispecies relations and radical perceptual practices.

Her work explores entanglements of ecology, society, and technology, positing animistic perspectives as necessary alternatives to anthropocentrism. Inspired by Jinen Butoh, she experiments with endoscopic cameras, hydrophones, and sensors to cultivate poetic attunement with soil and stone.

Maria's practice has been supported by the School of the Pluriverse, the Catwalk Art Residency, Tisch Creative Research Grant, Tony Patrick's ShareLab, Eric Forman Studio, and Newlab. She has also directed media initiatives at the Ross Institute for Innovation in Education, collaborated with the Smithsonian Institution on audiovisual fieldwork in Mo'orea, French Polynesia, and the Solomon Islands, and developed curricula with Indigenous scholars.

Maria currently teaches *Decolonization and Cinema* at Montclair State University and *50 Days of Making* at NYU's Interactive Media Arts graduate program.

EMPLOYMENT

2024–present — *Adjunct Professor*, NYU, IMA Low Res Graduate Program
50 Days of Making, Interactive Media Arts program.

2022–present — *Adjunct Professor*, Montclair State University, NJ
Decolonization and Cinema and *Producing the Documentary*.

2019–2020 — *Co-founder*, OLA Media Lab, Riverhead & Sag Harbor, NY
Designed and led digital arts/media activism workshops for Latinx youth.

2016–2019 — *Director*, Ross Learning System, Ross Institute
Led development of online content delivery and interactive learning systems for the Evolution of Human Consciousness Spiral curriculum.

2016 — *Lead Faculty/Filmmaker*, Smithsonian Solomon Islands Expedition
Co-designed documentary/media projects aboard a research vessel; filmed underwater biodiversity of the archipelago.

2015 — *Lead Faculty/Filmmaker*, UC Berkeley GUMP Research Station, Mo'orea, French Polynesia. In partnership with the Smithsonian Institution and Ross Institute.

2015 — *Project Lead*, Project Circles

Developed a web-based sustainability research tool in collaboration with the Institute for Culture and Society at Western Sydney University.

2009–2014 — *Media Studies Faculty*, Ross School, Grades 5–12

Designed and implemented interdisciplinary curriculum; led partnerships with Quincy Jones, Human Rights Watch, Native Without a Nation in Iraq and Syria, the Hamptons Film Festival, and the Shinnecock Nation.

ENGAGEMENTS / RESIDENCIES

2025—work in progress— *This Ass No More* (with Molly O'Brien)

Immersive documentary/video installation direction.

2025—work in progress — Filmmaker, *Kiss of the Earth*

Imagery and film direction for the Sonic Chambers Quartet.

2025 — *Mutable Molds: Interactive Media Exhibition, August 15-28*

Curator, Clive Davis Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

2024 — *Make a Mound of Thick Hope* (with Research Mattress)

Immersive installation/performance, Renewal Room, Brooklyn.

2024 — Catwalk Art Residency (with Research Mattress) Catskill, NY.

2024 — The School of the Pluriverse: Humans But Not Only Residency, Popayán, Colombia
NOMASMETAFORAS and the Autonomous Intercultural Indigenous University of the CRIC,

2023 — *Kinder Garden* (in collaboration)

Worldbuilding, research, and design collective supported by the Tisch Creative Research Grant; exhibited at NYU Shanghai and the Shanghai Design Festival.

2023 — *Hole Society: Rituals*, NYU Berlin

Guest presenter in *Urban Ecologies*, Prof. Jamie Allen

2022 — *ROBOTA (44°34'39.5"N 72°14'45.2"W)*

Screened at BIDEODROMO Experimental Film Festival (Bilbao, Italy), Stockholm Film Festival, and Future Vision Festival (Tokyo & Amsterdam).

2022 — *Rain Falls Humbled We Go On*

Single-channel video haiku presented at *Lights Out*, Brentwood Arts Exchange, MD.

2022 — *Hole Society: Process*, NYU Berlin
Guest presenter in *Urban Ecologies*, Prof. Jamie Allen

2021 — *Mama, Soil, and Spirit*
Three-channel reactive installation, NYU Gallery, Brooklyn, NY.

2020 — *OLA Media Lab*
Presented at Parrish Art Museum, Sag Harbor Cinema, & Guild Hall, NY.

2016 — *Biocube*
Film/workshop presented at the Pontifical Academy of Sciences Sustainability Conference, Vatican, Rome.

2016 — *Spiral Evolution of Human Consciousness*
Interactive installation presented at Visualized Conference, NY; *Art of Networks*, Northeastern University Science Institute; featured by *Fast Company*.

EDUCATION

New York University — Tisch School of the Arts
MA, Interactive Media Arts

New York University — Tisch School of the Arts
BA, Film & Television