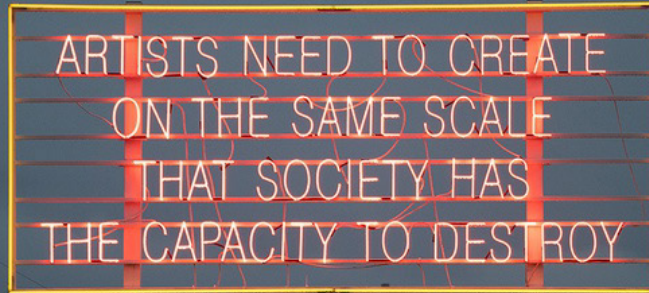


DES 499

Speculative Ecologies: Art, Water, and Sustainability



ARTISTS NEED TO CREATE
ON THE SAME SCALE
THAT SOCIETY HAS
THE CAPACITY TO DESTROY

A Spring Break Intensive 6 day course at
the Metabolic Studios in Downtown Los Angeles

Speculative ecology is a discipline that focuses on creating hypothetical or “what-if” scenarios for ecological systems. This intensive six day workshop over the 2024 Spring Break will take place in the Metabolic Studio, immediately adjacent to the L.A. River site of a monumental speculative ecology artwork, Bending the River, by artist and faculty member Lauren Bon.

The Metabolic Studio has brought an artists’ voice the conversation about the responsibility of creative practice to shift the narrative about our common resources like water, the air we breathe, our labor and our topsoil. Taking Bon’s work as reference, the students will work in interdisciplinary creative teams to explore sites along the LA River and the relationship between ecology, community, reparation, and social practice art.

We welcome upper division and graduate student creatives from all schools for an interdisciplinary experience in social practice and ecological art.

USC Roski
School of Art and Design

Faculty:

Lauren Bon, Director of Metabolic Studio, and artist of the “Bending the River Project”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hF6sVR0jgc>
<https://www.metabolicstudio.org/about>

Visiting Faculty

Suzanne Lacy, Social practice, performance artist

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-7s2Qyx5H_4
<https://www.suzannelacy.com>

Professor, Roski School of Art and Design

Class Dates:

Three preliminary 2 hour sessions:

- 1/09/2024 (Tuesday), 10am-12pm
- 1/16/2024 (Tuesday), 10am-12pm
- 2/20/2024 (Tuesday), 10am-12pm

Spring Break:

- 3/11/2024 (Monday) - 3/16/2024 (Saturday), 9am-6pm daily.

Information Sessions on Zoom:

10/13/2023 (Friday), 11:00-11:30am

10/23/2023 (Monday), 11:00-11:30am

Contact Professor Lacy: lacys@usc.edu

