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**Yerba Buena Center for the Arts' Signature Triennial *Bay Area Now 8*
Includes the Works of Architects and Designers for the First Time**

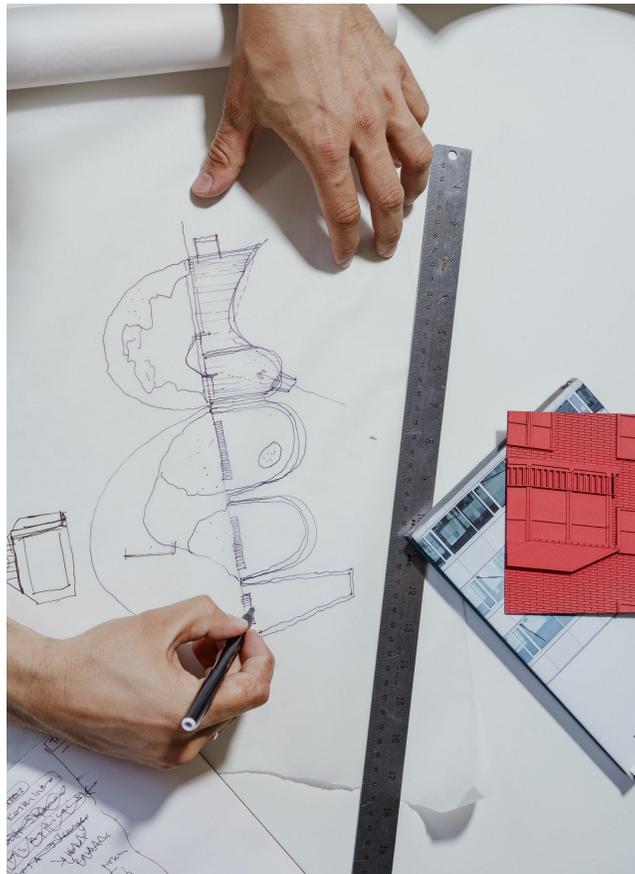


Photo by Mark Mahaney

Press preview: Thursday, September 6, 2018, 10am–noon

Opening night party: Friday, September 7, 2018, 7–11pm

Exhibition on view: Friday, September 7, 2018–Sunday, March 24, 2019

SAN FRANCISCO—(August 29, 2018)—[Yerba Buena Center for the Arts \(YBCA\)](#) is pleased to announce the six architects and designers whose work will be exhibited in [Bay Area Now 8 \(BAN8\)](#), the eighth edition of its signature triennial. For the first time in its history, *BAN8* will include the work of **local architects and designers** exploring place, identity, climate change, and the future through their practices. Coinciding with YBCA's upcoming 25th anniversary, *BAN8* demonstrates the center's commitment to showcasing the imagination and vitality of the Bay Area's incredibly diverse creative practitioners. *BAN8* is organized and curated by YBCA Director of Visual Arts **Lucía Sanromán** and Associate Curator of Visual Arts **Susie Kantor**, while the architecture and design portion is curated by Associate Director of Public Programs **Martin Strickland**.

The **press preview** for *BAN8* will take place Thursday, September 6, 2018, 10am–noon, and the [opening night party](#) on Friday, September 7, 2018, 7–11pm. The exhibition is on view September 7, 2018, through March 24, 2019.

“Architecture and design have not found their way into YBCA's galleries until recently, when we launched *The City Initiative* series. This was a different way for us to think about how to exhibit the work of architects and designers within an institution,” remarks **Strickland**. “Both *The City Initiative* and the works we are presenting in *Bay Area Now 8* push the experimental aspects of architecture and design, which is very in line with the kinds of visual arts YBCA is known for exhibiting.”

Strickland continues, “The speculative nature of the works we are presenting gives insight into the practitioners working in the Bay Area, who are thinking about architecture and design not in terms of what a building, park, or a home is when it is completed, but how ideas surrounding civic engagement, personal identity, solutions for climate change, or waste allocation can manifest themselves within the work, and propel the practice forward.”

The selected Bay Area architects and designers are:

Darell W. Fields | The founding principal of Maxine Studio, Fields teaches visual studies and advanced design research at the University of California at Berkeley. He is also the author of the seminal work on architecture and race, *Architecture in Black: Theory, Space and*

Appearance. His model and drawings for *BAN8* will articulate a unique aesthetic space that unites art and architecture with Black language structures.

Hyphae Design Laboratory | Through collaboration, design thinking, and applied ecology, Hyphae discovers, researches, and implements novel projects through a multidisciplinary practice focused on innovation in our built environment. Continuing their inquiry into ecological sanitation, Hyphae's *BAN8* installation will address inequitable access to sanitation in urban environments, public health, human dignity, and nutrient scarcity.

modem | modem is an interdisciplinary practice with experience in software, architecture, urban design, and digital fabrication. It uses radical and traditional architectural tools to transform objects, environments, and urban situations in order to strengthen and improve connections between buildings, cities, and ecologies. For *BAN8*, modem will explore the spaces between the risks and rewards of living in the Bay Area, using data accumulation to help understand what makes this area function on a day-to-day basis—especially where the mundane aspects of life meet the myth-creating, high-tech world of Silicon Valley.

NEMESTUDIO | Founded by Neyran Turan and Mete Sonmez, NEMESTUDIO is an architectural practice that produces work ranging from buildings and installations to speculative projects at various scales. Their contribution to *BAN8* explores critical relationships between architecture and waste accumulation, and opens up a range of aesthetic and political concerns for architectural and public imagination.

Stamen Design | Eric Rodenbeck is the CEO of Stamen Design, which builds beautiful, playful, technically sophisticated projects for clients ranging from Digital Globe to the Dalai Lama to nationally renowned scientists. Stamen Design's uniquely interdisciplinary work also intersects with the world of fine art, and has been exhibited worldwide. In conversation with Governor Jerry Brown's Global Climate Action Summit that will be held in San Francisco just days after *BAN8* opens, Stamen Design will create a large-scale public mural that showcases the buoyant resilience and optimism of the Bay Area while speaking to a global audience of stakeholders involved with a changing climate.

Urban Works Agency (UWA) | A research lab at **California College of the Arts (CCA)**, Urban Works Agency leverages architectural design to affect social justice, ecological vitality, and economic resilience at an urban scale. For *BAN8*, Urban Works Agency will present a series of unique experiments in self-governance through physical models with augmented reality and board games to demonstrate how design can empower the individual.

For more information about the 25 artists participating in *BAN8*, click [here](#).

[Ticket Information](#)

Regular admission: \$10; seniors, teachers, and students: \$9; YBCA members: Free

About Bay Area Now

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—as detailed by then–chief curator Renny Pritikin in the introduction to the exhibition booklet—became more specific: “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.” In its eighth edition, *Bay Area Now* returns to this simple directive.

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); as well as *Tania Bruguera: Talking to Power / Hablándole al Poder* (2017) (co-curated with Susie Kantor), and *Futurefarmers: Out of Place, in Place*.

Susie Kantor is associate curator of visual arts at YBCA. 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 *Tania Bruguera: Talking to Power / Hablándole al Poder* (2017) (co-curated with Lucía Sanromán), *Won Ju Lim: Raycraft Is Dead* (2015), *Kevin Cooley: Golden Prospects* (2015), and *Work in Progress: Investigations South of Market* (2015), and she served as the coordinating curator for the traveling exhibition *Radical Presence: Black Performance in Contemporary Art* (2015). 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 associate director of public programs at YBCA. 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

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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.

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