

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Explore the darkest depths of *The Deep* at ArtScience Museum *Exclusive talks and tours lined up for opening weekend*

Singapore (5 June, 2015) – Starting tomorrow at ArtScience Museum, light will be shed on life below 4,000 metres in *The Deep*, a first-of-its-kind exhibition in Southeast Asia that features over 40 stunning, rarely seen and sometimes strange-looking deep-sea creatures. Set in a pitch-black environment, visitors can experience what it is like to view the creatures in their 'natural habitat'.

A key highlight of the exhibition is *Hidden/Depths*, an installation by Australian artist, Lynette Wallworth, which encourages visitors to take on the role of deep-sea explorers. This interactive installation, commissioned for the exhibition by ArtScience Museum, allows visitors to use UV torches to uncover seven, never-before-seen, deep-sea specimens and three films of bioluminescent animals, hidden in 18 luminescent glass sculptures.

One deep-sea specimen on display in *Hidden/Depths* is the *Widenosed chimeare*, otherwise known as the Pinocchio of the deep-sea. In the murky depths of the ocean, the *Widenosed chimeare* depends on its extremely long and very flexible snout to source for food in the deep ocean. Another creature, *Idiacanthus sp. (BlackDragon Fish)* stands out with its body covered in minuscule photophores, which light up when it is disturbed. Their luminous chin barbel serves as a lure to attract prey, yet only the females are supplied with these features. Interestingly, the males of this particular species can be 10 times smaller than the females and do not possess a lure or teeth. For the installation, Wallworth worked with a series of experts from Great Britain and Singapore to ensure these creatures were presented in the best manner possible.

Wallworth says, "*Hidden/Depths* is a tribute to the wonders that exist in the deep ocean, those that we know, those we have yet to encounter. I hope the glimpse it offers into this other-worldly environment will remind us as we are much to protect as much to discover. This is not another world, it is the one, we have share with the creatures of the deep."

Honor Harger, Executive Director of ArtScience Museum, added, "*The Deep* uses both art and science to shed light on the deepest parts of our ocean, which have long been a mystery to many. In order to address the critical environmental challenges that the ocean faces, we need both the emotional connections created through art, and the understanding generated by science. That is why we commissioned Lynette Wallworth to create *Hidden/Depths*. Lynette is at the forefront of art and science practice internationally, having created several exquisite artworks that give visitors emotional encounters with the ocean. We are thrilled to present her latest work, which is a truly striking installation that skilfully weaves scientific discoveries from the deep sea into a stunning, interactive display."

As part of the opening weekend, *The Deep* curator Claire Nouvian will be on hand at selected timings to provide guided tours, during which she will share her insights into the exhibition and how it was brought to fruition.

Nouvian says, “There’s a vast number of astounding creatures living deep beneath the sea, and it’s both exciting and humbling to think about how many more of them we have yet to discover. Hopefully *The Deep* will bring to our attention the beauty that surrounds us and the possibility that if we don’t act now, there may be nothing left to discover in the future.”

She will also join Wallworth at Expression Gallery tomorrow, where they will speak about their efforts in marine conservation and the driving forces behind their works. Admission is free for their conversation, which will be chaired by Harger.

Wallworth will also be providing guided tours of *The Deep* this weekend and reveal what went into her work in *Hidden/Depths*. She will be accompanied by taxidermist Allan Gotinni, who will share the processes used to bring the deep-sea creatures to the surface. The specimens had to be carefully preserved for *The Deep*, as the differences in environmental elements such as pressure, temperature, salinity and oxygen levels between deep and shallow waters make it impossible for them to survive out of deep waters.

Those who want to lend a hand in protecting these deep-sea creatures – and create a unique piece of memorabilia of their experience – can visit *Making Space*, which will be on offer throughout the exhibition run. In *Making Space*, visitors can use recycled materials to create their own creatures from the deep. For an extra \$4, visitors can also make their own Anglerfish using a battery, UV LED and a simple circuit. Other activities to watch out for from 9 June include the workshops *Fun with Photograms* and *Cyanotype Creatures*.

About *The Deep*:

The Deep features over 40 deep-sea creatures and 67 images of sea fauna and bioluminescent creatures, some of which have never been photographed before. Organised into eight zones, the exhibition will showcase the different depths of the sea, such as life in the mid-water (up to 4,000 metres below the surface) and on the ocean floor. The final zone is a tribute to exhibition curator Claire Nouvian, whose efforts to raise public awareness about the need to conserve the deep sea ecosystem have made *The Deep* possible.

Tickets are on sale for *The Deep*, which will run for a limited season at ArtScience Museum. For more information on *The Deep*, please visit

<http://www.marinabaysands.com/museum/the-deep.html>

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS:

Event:	Date and timings:	Venue:	Description:	Remarks:
Conversations	Sat 6 Jun: 2.30pm to 4pm	Expression Gallery, Level 4 of ArtScience Museum	Chaired by ArtScience Museum's Executive Director Honor Harger, curator Claire Nourvian and artist Lynette Wallworth talk about their marine conservation work and the inspiration behind it.	Free.
Insights Guided Tour by Claire Nourvian	Sat 6 Jun: 11.30am Sun 7 Jun: 2.30pm	<i>The Deep</i> entrance, Level B2 of ArtScience Museum	Join exhibition curator Claire Nourvian as she shares her fascinating insights into <i>The Deep</i> and how the exhibition was put together.	Complimentary to ticket-holders of <i>The Deep</i> . Up to 25 visitors on a first-come, first-served basis. Stickers will be given out five minutes before tour begins.
Insights Guided Tour by Lynette Wallworth and Allan Gottini	Sat 6 Jun: 5pm Sun 7 Jun: 11.30am and 5pm		Artist Lynette Wallworth and Taxidermist Allan Gottini reveal the processes behind their work in <i>The Deep</i> exhibition.	
English Guided Tour	Fridays: 3.30pm Saturdays from 13 Jun: 11.30am Sundays from 14 Jun: 5pm 17 Jul: 2.30pm		Why are some sea creatures transparent and why are others bioluminescent? And how do animals survive at extreme depths? Learn about the extraordinary creatures of <i>The Deep</i> in this fact-filled tour.	
Mandarin Guided Tour	Saturdays and Sundays from 13 Jun: 4pm 17 Jul: 4pm			
Making Space	Throughout exhibition run	Exhibition workshop space	Use recycled materials to create your own creature from the deep, and make your own glowing Anglerfish with the use of a battery, UV LED and a simple circuit.	Recycled materials activity complimentary to ticket-holders of <i>The Deep</i> . Anglerfish activity costs an additional \$4 per person.
Cyanotype Creatures Workshop	Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 Jun: 4.30pm		Create your own magical underwater artwork, featuring extraordinary creatures from <i>The Deep</i> , through the early photographic process cyanotype.	\$5 per person. Recommended for visitors aged 5 and above. Purchase tickets in advance from the B2 retail outlet.

Event:	Date and timings:	Venue:	Description:	Remarks:
Fun with Photogram Workshop	Wednesdays from 10 Jun: 4.30pm	Education Space, Level B1 of ArtScience Museum	Use silhouettes of the amazing ocean creatures from <i>The Deep</i> placed on photographic paper in a darkroom environment to create your own artwork to take home.	\$5 per person. Recommended for visitors aged 5 and above. Purchase tickets in advance from the B2 retail outlet.
Upcycle Art Workshop	Fri 12, Sat 13 and Sun 14 Jun: 4.30pm Sat 26 and Sun 27 Jun: 4.30pm Fri 10, Fri 24 and Sun 26 Jul: 4.30pm	Exhibition workshop space	Plastic is one of the biggest man-made killers of marine life. Learn about the different types of plastic and their impact on our oceans, and upcycle a plastic object to create your own deep-sea creature.	\$5 per person. Suitable for all ages. Purchase tickets in advance from the B2 retail outlet.
Make your own glowing Anglerfish Workshop	Fri 19, Sat 20 and Sun 21 Jun: 4.30pm Fri 3, Sat 4, Sun 5, Fri 17, Sun 19 and Fri 31 Jul: 4.30pm		In this facilitated workshop, learn about the fascinating Anglerfish and other bioluminescent life from the ocean depths. Then, using a UV LED light and a battery, decorate your own Anglerfish template and create a simple circuit to make it light up.	\$5 per person. Suitable for children aged 4 and up. Purchase tickets in advance from the B2 retail outlet space.
Stories from the Sea Storytelling	Sun 28 Jun: 2.30pm, 3.30pm and 4.30pm Sun 12 Jul: 2.30pm, 3.30pm and 4.30pm		Listen to master storyteller Kamini Ramachandran as she takes you to kingdoms below the seas. Enjoy stories about creatures, both real and mythical, which live in the deep.	Complimentary to ticket-holders of <i>The Deep</i> . Attendance is on a first-come, first-served basis. Recommended for families with children aged 4 and up.



Allan Gottini (R), stage manager and taxidermist for The Deep, placing Ceratias holboelli (Krøyer's deep-sea anglerfish) into the display case at The Deep exhibition.



Image of Melanocetus murrayi (Murray's abyssal anglerfish), displayed at The Deep exhibition

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About Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd

Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants and an outdoor event plaza. Its two theatres showcase a range of leading entertainment performances including world-renowned Broadway shows. Completing the line-up of attractions is ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands, which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com

About ArtScience Museum

ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands is Southeast Asia's leading cultural institution that explores the inter-relationship between art, science, technology and culture. Featuring 21 galleries totaling 50,000 square feet, the iconic lotus-inspired building has staged major exhibitions by some of history's most important artists, including Leonardo Da Vinci, Salvador Dalí, Andy Warhol and Vincent Van Gogh, as well as major exhibitions which explore aspects of scientific history.

About Bloom Association

Founded by Claire Nouvian in 2005, BLOOM is a non-profit organization that works to protect the oceans and the fishermen that depend on them through a process of raising awareness and explaining environmental problems using scientific mediation, by producing relevant and independent scientific studies, as well as by participating in public consultations and institutional processes. Our actions target both political and economic decision-makers, as well as the general public. For more information, visit www.bloomassociation.org

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