

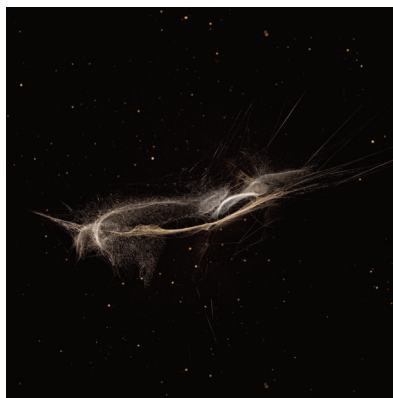
TOMÁS SARACENO

LIFE OF WEBS

Curator Laurence Dreyfus

opening
tuesday january 23rd from 6pm

exhibition
wednesday january 24th
to saturday april 13th 2024



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A UNIQUE MONOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

Espace Muraille is devoting a monographic exhibition to Berlin-based Argentinian artist, **Tomás Saraceno**. This second exhibition presented in Geneva at the place founded by Caroline and Eric Freymond testifies to a long history of support, friendship and loyalty between the artist, the couple of collectors and patrons, and this exhibition space.

The chosen title, *Life of Webs*, is a nod to *Web(s) of Life*, Tomás Saraceno's "collaborative, multi-species" exhibition at London's Serpentine Gallery in 2023, which explored how different life forms, technologies and energy systems are connected in the climate emergency.

Life of Webs evokes two concepts dear to the artist: sustainability and interconnectivity.

Tomás Saraceno's work transcends the boundaries between art, science and architecture, creating bridges that challenge our understanding of the world around us. This new exhibition brings together several areas of the artist's research: the motif of spider/webs and their many connections and interconnections with the universe, utopian projects for floating architecture, record-breaking attempts at sustainable hot-air ballooning, and his work with indigenous communities of Salinas Grandes and Laguna de Guayatayoc, Jujuy, Argentina, who are fighting against lithium extraction on their ancestral lands.

The exhibition *Life of Webs* opens with a first room dedicated to the floating sculptures *Pneuma* and *Foam*. *Pneuma* in Greek means "breath" and "spirit". This artwork is composed of blown glass spheres linked by a complex network of strings. *Foam* evokes *Cloud Cities* in which the artist explores the possibilities of future environments, autonomous and sustainable architecture and urbanism.

The exhibition continues with a presentation of all the record certificates awarded to Tomás Saraceno for his various environmentally-friendly, renewable flights. Named *Aerocene Pacha*, this alternative air travel project is completely fossil-free. Several manned flights have already been carried out, and have been officially recognized by the FAI: Federation Aéronautique Internationale. The film *Fly with Pacha, into the Aerocene* (2017-2023 ongoing), retracing the various flight attempts, is shown in the rest of the exhibition.

On the gallery's lower floor, a room is devoted to the astonishing Spider Maps, drawings made in "collaboration" with spiders. These works, characteristic of Tomás Saraceno's work, echo the spider nursery in his Berlin studio.

The large room concluding the *Life of Webs* exhibition has been divided into two spaces. The first is a continuation of the works exhibited at the Serpentine Gallery in London in 2023. Suspended and floor-mounted sculptures from *the Cloud Cities* series are utopian visions of future habitats, where interconnection and sustainability are the founding principles of this architectural revival. The second space, a darkened room, is the artist's signature. In this darkness, the spider threads that make up the 2D and 3D works on display are subtly disseminated.



THE ARTIST / TOMÁS SARACENO

Tomás Saraceno (b. 1973, he/him/his) is an Argentina-born, Berlin-based artist whose projects dialogue with forms of life and life-forming, rethinking dominant threads of knowledge and recognizing how diverse modes of being engage a multiplicity of vibrations on the Web of Life.

For more than two decades, Saraceno has worked with local communities, scientific researchers, and institutions around the world, and has activated open-source, interdisciplinary, collective projects, including Museo Aero Solar (2007–), the Aerocene Foundation (2015–), and Arachnophilia, towards a society free from carbon emissions, for intra and interspecies climate justice.

Saraceno has been the subject of solo exhibitions and permanent installations at museums and institutions internationally, including The Serpentine Gallery, London (2023), The Shed, New York (2022), Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2018); Museo de Arte Moderno, Buenos Aires (2017); K21 Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Ständehaus, Düsseldorf (2013); the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (2012); and Hamburger Bahnhof – Museum für Gegenwart, Berlin (2011). Saraceno has participated in numerous festivals and biennales, including the 17th Venice Architecture Biennale (2020) and the 53rd and 58th Venice Biennales (2009, 2019).

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Espace Muraille, a unique exhibition space dedicated to contemporary art, was born of the desire of collectors and patrons, Caroline and Eric Freymond, to share their passion for contemporary art and artists with as many people as possible. Their aim is to enable a wider circle of visitors to discover works of art that are rarely accessible to the public. Temporary exhibitions, artists' personal projects and works from rich collections are displayed over two levels and 275 square meters.

A place steeped in history, located in the heart of Geneva's old town, the space has been entirely rethought and shaped by Artistic Director Caroline Freymond to host ambitious exhibitions and, in particular, solo shows dedicated to international artists.

Following major exhibitions devoted to Monique Frydman (2015), Tomás Saraceno (2015), Shirazeh Houshiary (2016), Sheila Hicks (2016), Edmund de Waal (2017), Olafur Eliasson (2018), Espace Muraille has given several cartes blanches to international artists from Israeli Michal Rovner in 2019 for her first exhibition in Switzerland to Latin American visual artist Eamon Ore-Giron in 2021 or Swedish painter Andréas Eriksson in 2023.

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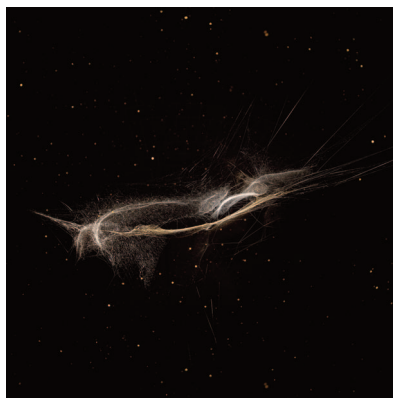
Commissariat de Laurence Dreyfus

vernissage

mardi 23 janvier dès 18:00

exposition

mercredi 24 janvier
au samedi 13 avril 2024



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LAURENCE DREYFUS

Il y a une vingtaine d'années, Laurence Dreyfus a croisé la route de Tomás Saraceno, dont la personnalité et l'œuvre continuent d'inspirer en elle une profonde admiration.

Tout d'abord, pour sa vision audacieuse et novatrice de l'art en harmonie avec la science et l'écologie. L'œuvre de Tomás Saraceno est une invitation à explorer les liens entre l'homme, la nature et la technologie grâce à des installations offrant une expérience immersive et sensorielle unique.

C'est en 2012, lors de l'exposition annuelle Chambres à Part, (cette année-là, à la Réserve place du Trocadéro) que Laurence Dreyfus présente pour la première fois le travail de Tomás Saraceno. L'œuvre exposée était une suspension, une sculpture flottante, dont les structures complexes et aériennes évoquent la beauté et la complexité des motifs naturels, tout en soulignant l'importance de l'innovation technologique dans la création artistique contemporaine. C'est avec une grande fidélité que Tomás Saraceno a répondu présent aux éditions suivantes de Chambres à Part.

En 2015, avec le soutien de Caroline et d'Eric Freymond, l'Espace Muraille confie à Laurence Dreyfus le commissariat d'une exposition monographique consacrée à Tomás Saraceno: "Aerocene".

Puis en 2021, au chalet Farb à Saanen, pour le commissariat de l'exposition "Lifted by the Sun".

Aujourd'hui, Laurence Dreyfus signe le commissariat d'une nouvelle exposition de Tomás Saraceno à l'Espace Muraille intitulée: "Life of Webs"

Around twenty years ago, Laurence Dreyfus crossed paths with Tomás Saraceno, whose artwork and personality continue to inspire deep admiration in her.

Foremost, for his bold and pioneering vision of art in harmony with science and ecology. Tomás Saraceno's work is an invitation to explore the links between man, nature and technology through installations offering a unique immersive and sensory experience.

It was in 2012, at the annual Chambres à Part exhibition (that year, at the Reserve place du Trocadéro, Paris) that Laurence Dreyfus first presented Tomás Saraceno's work. The work exhibited was a suspension, a floating sculpture, whose intricate, aerial structures evoke the beauty and complexity of natural patterns, while highlighting the importance of technological innovation in contemporary artistic creation. Tomás Saraceno has been a faithful contributor to subsequent editions of Chambres à Part.

In 2015, with the support of Caroline and Eric Freymond, Espace Muraille commissioned Laurence Dreyfus to curate a monographic exhibition devoted to Tomás Saraceno: "Aerocene".

Then in 2021, at the Farb Chalet in Saanen, to curate the "Lifted by the Sun" exhibition.

Today, Laurence Dreyfus is curating a new exhibition by Tomás Saraceno at Espace Muraille entitled "Life of Webs"