

# Ina Lou / Dear Mother Earth: Sea, Soil and Solidarity

## Organizers:

**Cristina Baldacci** is associate professor of Contemporary Art History in the Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage (DFBC) at Ca' Foscari University of Venice and principal investigator of the Ecological Art Practices research cluster at NICHE; **Natalie King** is enterprise professor of Visual Arts in the Faculty of Fine Arts and Music, Victorian College of the Arts at University of Melbourne and curator of Timor-Leste Pavilion at the 60th International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia; **Francesca Tarocco** is full professor of Buddhist Studies and Chinese Religions in the Department of Asian and North African Studies (DSAAM) at Ca' Foscari University of Venice and Director of NICHE.

*Ina Lou / Dear Mother Earth* is a two-day symposium during the closing week of the 60th International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia that binds the South-East Asian, Portuguese and Timor-Leste pavilions with dialogue, performance and film screening. Forming a cross pavilion alliance, artists, curators, activists, academics and researchers will come together to delve into shared concerns and commonalities.

*Ina Lou / Dear Mother Earth* is a title derived from a traditional Timorese song performed in the Indigenous language Tetum by artist Maria Madeira invoking environmental reverence and harmony. A clarion call to mother earth, the symposium will collectively consider ecological art practices, soil and sovereignty, water and wellness.

*The Spirits of Maritime Crossing* reflects on how ocean and waves wash up maritime memories of long forgotten geopolitical histories and Buddhist teachings from South-East Asia. *Greenhouse* is a living garden habitat, a Creole garden inside Palazzo Franchetti, blending plant species with a stage for discussion and assembly. NICHE at Ca' Foscari University of Venice is a research institute devoted to transdisciplinary environmental and water studies, ecological art practices and public engagement initiatives.

## Partners:

### Ca' Foscari University of Venice:

- THE NEW INSTITUTE Centre for Environmental Humanities (NICHE)
- UNESCO Chair on "Water Heritage and Sustainable Development"
- Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage (DFBC)

### 60th International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia:

- *Maria Madeira: Kiss and Don't Tell*, Timor-Leste Pavilion
- *Greenhouse*, Portuguese Pavilion, Hangar–Artistic Research Center and Mónica de Miranda Studio
- *The Spirits of Maritime Crossing* (BAB–Bangkok Art Biennale)

## For additional information:

[www.unive.it/niche](http://www.unive.it/niche)



# ART ecologies

 Ca' Foscari University of Venice  
Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage

 THE NEW INSTITUTE  
Centre for Environmental Humanities (NICHE) at Ca' Foscari University of Venice

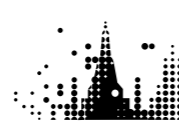


Mónica de Miranda, Creole Garden, 2024. Courtesy of the artist.

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Organized by Cristina Baldacci, Natalie King, Francesca Tarocco

**19-20 November**  
2024 | Venice



Bangkok Art Biennale Foundation



## Program DAY 1 Tuesday, 19 November

10—11 am  
**Timor-Leste Pavilion**  
Spazio Ravà, San Polo 1100

**Kiss and Don't Tell**, *performance*  
by artist **Maria Madeira**  
Respondents: **Natalie King** (University of Melbourne) and **Cristina Baldacci** (Ca' Foscari University of Venice—DFBC, NICHE)

11.30—12.30 am  
**Portuguese Pavilion**  
Palazzo Franchetti, San Marco 2847

**Greenhouse**, *tour and discussion* with **Marcela Canadas** (Hangar/Mónica de Miranda Studio)

> Lunch – Free time

2.30—4.30 pm  
**Cinema Rossini** (room 3) Salizada de la Chiesa o del Teatro, San Marco 3997/A

**Reimagining Sea and Soil**, *film screening*  
by artists  
**Mónica de Miranda**, *Path to the Stars* (2022)  
**Elena Mazzi**, *Encounters* (2021)  
**Antonio Rivaldi** and **Ettore Favini**, *To Say Nothing of the Dog* (2018),  
**Angela Tiatia**, *The Dark Current* (2023),  
**Kaylene Whiskey**, *Ngura Pukulpa-Happy Place* (2022)  
Introduced by **Cristina Baldacci** (Ca' Foscari University of Venice—DFBC, NICHE)

4.30—5.30 pm  
**Cinema Rossini** (room 3)  
Salizada de la Chiesa o del Teatro,  
San Marco 3997/A

**Semiotics of the Elements in Flowing Images**,  
*presentation* by  
**Valeria Burgio** (Ca' Foscari University of Venice—DFBC, NICHE)  
Moderated by **Suzie Fraser** (University of Melbourne)

## Program DAY 2 Wednesday, 20 November

10.00—11.30 am  
**Palazzo Smith Mangilli Valmarana**  
Cannaregio 4392

**The Spirits of Maritime Crossing**  
*Welcome and presentation* by artistic director/curator **Apinan Poshyananda** (Bangkok Art Biennale)  
Respondent: **Francesca Tarocco** (Ca' Foscari University of Venice—DSAMM, Director of NICHE)

> Walk to NICHE (Ca' Bottacin)

12.15—1.00 pm  
**Ca' Bottacin** (Main Hall)  
Calle Crosera, Dorsoduro 3911

Welcome and moderation by Commissioner **Jorge Soares Cristóvão** (Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste)

**Timor-Leste, Sovereignty and Shifting Maritime Boundaries**, *presentation* by **Kim McGrath** (Timor-Leste Land & Maritime Boundary Office)

> Lunch – Free time

2.30—3.10 pm  
**Bangkok's Buddhist Waterways and Canal Temple System**, *presentation* by **Amalia Rossi** (Ca' Foscari University of Venice, NICHE)

3.10—4.10 pm  
**Sea, Soil and Solidarity**, *presentation* by **Chiara Famengo** (Ca' Foscari University of Venice, NICHE), **Noemi Quagliati** (Ca' Foscari University of Venice—DFBC, NICHE) and **Francesco Vallerani** (Ca' Foscari University of Venice, NICHE)

4.10-4.30 pm  
Panel discussion followed by Q&A

4.30—5.00 pm  
*Final remarks*  
by conference organizers **Cristina Baldacci**, **Natalie King** and **Francesca Tarocco**

5.00—5.30 pm  
Closing drinks and farewell



Elena Mazzi, *Encounters*, 2021 - Courtesy of the artist and Artopia Gallery



Maria Madeira: *Kiss and Don't Tell*, 2024 Courtesy of the artist and Anna Schwartz Gallery, Australia