

FEATURED

The Biosphère presents two new exhibitions that raise awareness about the environment

Nov 17, 2023 0



Weaving the Ocean: In Ari Bayuaji's Studio
Photo: Courtesy Ari Bayuaji

Starting November 25, Montréal Space for Life presents two new exhibitions at the Biosphère. *Weaving the Ocean: In Ari Bayuaji's Studio* and *Zer0. The arts at the heart of ecological transformation*. The Biosphère is also launching *Family Saturday* as a way of introducing children between 6 and 12 to the museum's various activities.



Ari Bayuaji, *Les canettes*, 2023, found soda cans, steel, plastic string, 25,4 x 15,2 x 15,2 cm © Ari Bayuaji.
Photo: Courtesy Ari Bayuaji

Weaving the Ocean: In Ari Bayuaji's Studio

Weaving the Ocean is a project initiated by the artist Ari Bayuaji in 2020 in Bali when borders closed as a result of COVID-19. Observing the economic impact of the halt of tourism as well as the environmental pollution destroying beaches there, he set himself the task of recovering plastic cordages found on the shorelines and in the mangrove forests of Bali in order to turn them into textile art, in collaboration with the local community.

With this project, the artist tackles urgent environmental and social issues: pollution of the oceans and destruction of marine resources; the natural beauty of the island and its attractiveness for tourists.

For his exhibit at the Biosphère, the artist, who divides his time between Bali and Montréal, invites us into a reproduction of his Balinese workspace, one that features the materials and objects that surround him: colorful ropes, evocative tapestries, wooden sculptures, Balinese furniture, statuettes, salvaged materials and more.

Bayuaji recounts the creation of a vibrant and active community around this project, the use of traditional weaving techniques, the recovery of those cordages – and all of it in the common goal of preserving the environment and turning waste into works of art.



Zer0. The arts at the heart of ecological transformation
Photo: Koze-productions

Zer0. The arts at the heart of ecological transformation

Presented in the framework of a huge research project, the exhibition *Zer0* brings together 10 artists from different disciplines who were invited to find inspiration in the results of a study on the transition towards zero waste led by Polytechnique Montréal and Équiterre. Their challenge was to transform the scientific data into works of art that would raise public awareness of environmentally responsible changes.

The curators for the exhibit — Polytechnique professors Virginie Francoeur and Sophie Bernard — try to demonstrate that art can play a role that fosters eco-responsible behaviour. Visitors are then asked to respond to a survey that measures the impact of the arts on their own behavior.

Family Saturday

Intended for young people aged 6 to 12 and their families, this new activity takes place every first Saturday of the month until Apr. 7, 2024. Participants can discover exhibit themes from a different angle, and meet artists, scientists and citizens committed to the environment.

On December 2, Maya Cousineau Mollen will read from her Christmas tale, *Le Noël des animaux de la forêt* (*The Christmas of the Forest Animals*).

On January 6: discover the exhibition *Riopelle*, a Bird Wild and Free and create a collage using the artist's techniques and the birds that surround us.

On February 3, meet the team of scientists behind the film *As the Gull Flies*.

On March 2, do it yourself with salvaged materials in the company of artist Ari Bayuaji inspired by his exhibit *Weaving the Ocean: In Ari Bayuaji's Studio*.

To learn more: espacepourlavie.ca

— *A. Bonaparte*

— *Montréal Space for Life*