



## Program 2023

Maria Loboda: The Machine ①



### 31.03. – 16.07.2023 **Maria Loboda: The Machine**

“The Machine” is Maria Loboda’s first film. The lead role is played by an artesian well that gushes water without the aid of any technology. In the machine age these fountains attract enormous attention. They create quite naturally an “aquatic theatre” that would otherwise require a huge apparatus of machinery to stage. Strangely enough, such a well also stands in the industrially shaped landscape of the Messel pit. The film – shown in the museum's cinema – describes a surreal journey from Messel and the age of the “new dawn” 50 million years ago (Eocene) to the machines of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and through to research labs.

For this project Loboda is the first recipient of the Otilie Roederstein fellowship awarded by the Hessian Ministry of Higher Education, Research, Science and the Arts.

### 22.06. – 01.10.2023 **Pinar Yoldaş: An Ecosystem of Excess**

The artist and scientist Pinar Yoldaş shows a new site-specific installation from her “An Ecosystem of Excess”, an ongoing and constantly growing inquiry since its launch in 2014. Focus is placed on the oceans – the very origin of evolution but today severely contaminated with plastics. Starting from the “Great Pacific Garbage Patch”, Yoldaş creates a posthuman ecosystem that contains speculative creatures capable of metabolizing plastics. The work is part of a cooperation with the Schirn Kunsthalle Frankfurt and the exhibition “Plastic World”, an exploration of the history of synthetics in art that shows a broad panorama of how art has utilized and evaluated plastics, reflecting trends in society.

City Insects – Frankfurt’s Tiny Helpers ④



### 29.09.2023 – 01.12.2024 **City Insects – Frankfurt’s Tiny Helpers**

With the increasing loss of natural living spaces, cities like Frankfurt are becoming safe havens for insects. Here they take on important functions, acting as pollinators, disposing of animal carcasses, naturally exterminating pests, and much more. They are indispensable for maintaining an intact nature and thus also crucial for humans. The exhibition invites us to get to know these fascinating tiny creatures in Frankfurt and investigate them together with researchers from Senckenberg. The exhibition is part of the research project “SLInBio – Urban lifestyles and the valorization of biodiversity: dragonflies, grasshoppers, bumblebees and Co”.

Meet the Reef! Art Perspective ②



### 02.06. – 15.01.2024 **Meet the Reef! Art Perspective**

For “Meet the Reef!” artists, scientists, and youths elaborate new perspectives on coral reefs – their value, their protection, and the dangers threatening their existence. Linda Weiß and Nina Queissner are responsible for the art perspective. More and more artists are actively involved in reef protection, raising awareness of the issue. Key to the exhibition is the flexible display architecture by the artist Marcus Zimmermann. “Meet the Reef!” is part of the “Temporary Permanence” project of the Federal Ministry for Education and Research, which aims to update permanent exhibitions. Education programs and visitor research complement the three-part museum research project.

Floralia: Merian – Schultz – Crespo ③



### 08.09. – 03.12.2023 **Floralia: Merian – Schultz – Crespo**

The artists Maria Sibylla Merian (1647–1717), Elisabeth Schultz (1817–1898), and Ulrike Crespo (1950–2019) are exemplary figures in the observation of flora across three successive centuries. Analyzing flora is a crucial aspect of biodiversity research. At the same time, plants are a longstanding subject of artistic creativity. In Frankfurt these three artists developed their skills into a mastery of aesthetic-scientific inquiry and visual imaging. The exhibition shows their works in a completely new context and looks at the relationship between science and art. The project is supported by the Crespo Foundation.

## General Information



### Visit and Ticket

**Senckenberg Natural History Museum**  
Senckenberganlage 25  
60325 Frankfurt

### Informationen

info@senckenberg.de  
museumfrankfurt.senckenberg.de

### Opening Hours

Daily 9 am – 5 pm, Wednesdays until 8 pm,  
Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays until 6 pm  
The museum is closed on Good Friday, Christmas Eve,  
New Year’s Eve, and New Year’s Day.  
We are open on Mondays.

You can find our extensive guide and education program at [senckenberg.de/fuehrungen](https://senckenberg.de/fuehrungen)

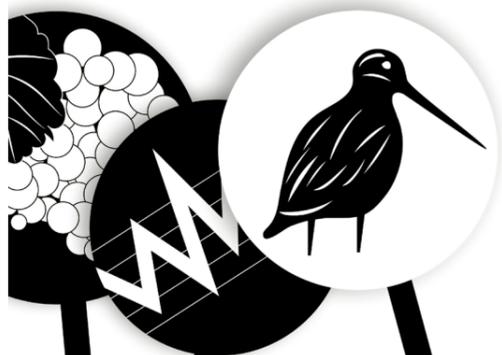
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Subject to changes.



### Our social media channels





24.11.2023 – 26.05.2024

## Planet A Actions for Biodiversity

Biodiversity is decisive for maintaining healthy ecosystems capable of providing clean air, clear water, and fertile soils. But human influences are rapidly reducing the diversity of the various systems. We must join forces and undertake urgent action together, politics, business, and society alike. The interactive exhibition staged by the Research Initiative for the Conservation of Biodiversity (FEaA), a body supported by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, presents facts and proposals for comprehensive transformation and provides an opportunity to exchange ideas. To be launched in the Senckenberg Natural History Museum, it starts here in the large dinosaur hall before travelling on to other locations in Germany.

## Still on show



Until 21.05.2023  
**Meet the Reef!  
Society Perspective**

The museum team is working on new exhibition and education forms which examine how to transfer scientific questioning into society and vice versa. How can research results and social discourses be connected? What makes research museums key sites in this dialogue? How can we generate an enduring and innovative impact that goes beyond the museum setting on topics such as biodiversity loss, climate change, and their repercussions? Focusing on the value of coral reefs and how to protect them from a host of threats, the project shows approaches from three different perspectives: society – art – science.

Until 23.07.2023  
**Shaping the Future – How do we  
want to live?**

What will a normal day be like in 2040? While there are different ideas on how to achieve a sustainable future, one thing is certain: if the world is to remain a viable place to live, then innovative approaches are necessary in the face of climate change and biodiversity loss. The exhibition gives an insight into the problem and shows possible solutions. Three possible futures are presented using a fictive daily routine in 2040. The contents were developed as part of the “BioKompass” project initiated by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research together with youths and figures from the economy, science, and society.

## Cooperation projects

22.06. – 01.10.2023  
**Plastic World  
Schirn Kunsthalle Frankfurt**

“Plastic World” in the Schirn presents a vast array of objects, installations, films, and documentations, opening up a broad panorama on the artistic use and evaluation of plastic, and how this mirrors the respective social context. The spectrum ranges from the euphoria of pop culture in the 1960s and the futuristic influence of the space age through to the trash works of the Nouveau Réalisme and ecocritical positions of recent times, while covering architectural utopias and environments as well as experiments with the properties of materials. Over 100 works are shown by some 50 international artists. A large installation by Pınar Yoldaş is featured in the Senckenberg Natural History Museum.

13.10.2023 – 11.02.2024  
**Bending the Curve  
Frankfurter Kunstverein**

The interdisciplinary parcours of the exhibition “Bending the Curve” in Frankfurt’s Kunstverein features contemporary art, scientific exhibits, multimedia installations, and innovative materials. The theme is the rapidly advancing loss of species and the importance of species diversity and intact living habitats for humans and nature. Complex interrelationships are made tangibly experienceable and models for diversified action are shown. Bending the Curve is part of a cross-discipline cooperation between the Kunstverein and the Senckenberg Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre in Frankfurt.



Beginning 15.12.2023  
**Nature + Medicine  
New permanent exhibition**

In the new permanent exhibition on the 2nd floor visitors are able to dive into a modern space that unifies both historical and contemporary themes concerning human health and our relationship to nature. Here we can experience the diverse uses of natural substances for pharmaceuticals and medicine. A special section is devoted to the medicine practiced by animals, a source of inspiration for early humans.

A spectacular LED display behind a pharmacy façade shows more than 100 pharmaceutically important organisms. Global interrelationships between health, biodiversity, and the anthroposphere are plotted and compared.

The project is generously supported by the Else Kröner-Fresenius Foundation.



Until 16.07.2023  
**Understanding Climate – Lessons  
from the Past**

The exhibition accompanies a project on paleoclimate research by the Goethe University, Frankfurt, and the Senckenberg Society for Nature Research. Visitors join researchers in the search for key clues in the earth’s past and learn more about decoding climate archives, the development of climate models, and the fascinating aspects of everyday research. The main lesson is that paleoclimate research is an indispensable foundation for understanding the complex interrelationships of our planet’s climate and making viable decisions for the future.

Beginning 07.2023  
**The Frankfurt Prototype, in the  
courtyard of Senckenberg Museum**

Senckenberg and Städelschule are linked by more than just the same foundation year, 1817: originating out of the spirit of the Enlightenment, both have fostered civic engagement down to the present day; both focus on the pressing questions of our contemporary world and formulate new ways of looking at humans and the environment. An unparalleled lab for a new cooperation between the arts and sciences, the Frankfurt Prototype takes up this heritage, addressing the pressing issues of today and thinking about biodiversity and architecture together: how are resource-efficient spaces to be created in the future? What is cohabitation? How can a whole building be transformed into a biodiverse landscape? And what could a museum of the future look like in this context?

### Image credits

- ① Still: “The Machine”, Maria Loboda, 2023
- ② Photo: Linda Weiß
- ③ “Rainflowers”, Ulrike Crespo, 2014
- ④ Photo: Daniela Warzecha
- ⑤ Graphic: BMBF-Forschungsinitiative zum Erhalt der Artenvielfalt (FEaA)
- ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ Photos: Sven Tränkner