

## ABOUT TBA21 COLLECTION

TBA21 Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary is a leading international art and advocacy foundation, based in Madrid, with situated projects in Venice and Córdoba. Created in 2002 by Francesca Thyssen-Bornemisza, the foundation's vision and ethos are woven into two interrelated programmatic strands: the production of artworks with a long-term commitment to accompany artists' careers, and the development of art-based projects that deepen the fields of critical ecologies and social justice.

Focusing on an interdisciplinary methodology, the foundation's research arm, TBA21–Academy, strengthens new forms of knowledge arising from the relationship between art, Indigenous and non-Western epistemologies, science, public policy, and conservation. Centered around the practice of artistic research, involving embedded fieldwork, site-specific and community-based projects, as well as other forms of immersive and experiential inquiry, TBA21 and TBA21–Academy aspire to promote understanding and action around pressing environmental, social, and political issues. Furthermore, the foundation seeks to strengthen educational engagements with and through contemporary art and provide opportunities for shared learning and embodied engagement, grounded in cross-cultural and more-than-human relations.

Prioritizing works produced by commission, the TBA21 Collection explores the relationships between human activity, the ocean, and other environmental systems along with the histories of social and anti-colonial struggles. With a deep commitment to non-Western artistic production, the collection seeks to highlight the importance of cultural and spiritual connections to the land, nonhuman and material agency, ancestors, and community highlighting the importance of preserving and passing on traditional knowledges and cultural practices. Interrogating social and ecological dynamics from a feminist perspective, it profiles the experiences, knowledge, and struggles of women, trans\*, queer artists, by drawing attention to gender roles, stereotypes, and inequalities through art. From decolonial and posthuman perspectives, the collection advocates for transforming ways of relating to vegetal, mineral, aquatic, and animal worlds, recognizing the agency, integrity, and value of nonhuman entities. It encourages critical reflection through art by challenging dominant structures and anthropocentric systems, and aims to create space for emancipatory and transformative engagement. Lastly, the collection's long-established performing arts program supports contemporary dance and movement practices, spoken word, and new music as well as interdisciplinary and performance art, and explores the different histories and directions of performance.

The TBA21 Collection and commissioning program bear witness to the ethics of philanthropy by empowering artists whose voices need to be heard and whose practices are shaping our planetary futures. The driving forces of TBA21's Collection are the artists themselves and a strong belief in art and culture as vehicles for social and environmental transformation.