

**Symposium on the occasion of Armin Linke's exhibition *Prospecting Ocean***

*Prospecting Ocean* was commissioned and produced by TBA21–Academy in partnership with the Institute of Marine Sciences of the National Research Council of Italy (CNR-ISMAR) and curated by Stefanie Hessler

**Wednesday, May 23**

**15:00–18:00**

Istituto di Scienze Marine (CNR-ISMAR)  
Riva dei Sette Martiri, 1364  
30122 Venice, Italy  
Free entry

On the occasion of the opening of Armin Linke's exhibition *Prospecting Ocean*, this symposium includes talks and panels by directors and curators of TBA21–Academy, extensively published scientists from CNR-ISMAR and other institutions, and key voices from the Pacific concerned with the impact of human interference on oceanic ecosystems and local communities. The topics addressed include image and knowledge production, cartography and visualizations enabled by science and technology, and the opportunities and responsibilities engendered by artistic research and projects that go beyond disciplinary boundaries.

Responding to Linke's mapping of the intricate dynamics at play in the oceans, the speakers discuss the political, economic, environmental, and cultural dimensions of their work. They expose the simultaneous fascination with and alienation from technologies that map and exploit resources in the sea and dissect how information is negotiated between scientific, legal, and economic entities and institutions, on both local and international levels. The audience will have the opportunity to engage in a dialogue with the participants and discuss the outcomes of the extensive research that made this exhibition possible.

**15:00**

**Welcome**

Francesca von Habsburg, founder and chairwoman, TBA21  
Markus Reymann, director, TBA21–Academy  
Mauro Sclavo, director, CNR-ISMAR

*Prospecting Ocean* grew out of a three-year research project commissioned by TBA21–Academy and developed closely with CNR-ISMAR for this presentation in Venice. The directors of both institutions give insights into the collaborative working process.

**15:10**

**Prospecting Ocean**

Alessandro Ceregato, former research fellow, CNR-ISMAR  
Stefanie Hessler, curator, TBA21–Academy  
Armin Linke, artist  
Marco Taviani, research director, CNR-ISMAR  
Mark Wigley, professor and dean emeritus of Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation

This panel marks the first public opportunity to discuss with Armin Linke and the team of scientists from CNR-ISMAR the process and outcomes of this research project. The topics covered include the investigative work and research assembled from diverse geographies; insights into institutions that are usually closed to the public, such as the United Nations; the network of influences and hidden dynamics between different actors and stakeholders; the role of technology and scientific research; and editorial and curatorial decisions.

**15:50**

**Atlases, Routes, and Cartographies**

Franco Farinelli, professor of Human Geography, University of Bologna, head of the Department of Philosophy and Communication Studies, and president of the Associazione dei Geografi Italiani

In this keynote presentation, Franco Farinelli discusses the history and narration of the oceans, their transformation, and the mapping and perception of seascapes historically and today, with a particular focus on the Venice Lagoon.

The talk is followed by a conversation between Farinelli and Marzia Rovere, research scientist, CNR-ISMAR, who has collaborated closely in the making of the exhibition.

**16:30**

**Resources and Neocolonialism in Oceania**

Joey Tau, media and campaigns officer, Pacific Network on Globalisation (PANG)

Established in 2001, PANG is an NGO and an alternative voice in defending and promoting Pacific people's right to economic self-determination. Joey Tau presents the work of the network and discusses the challenges that communities are facing with regard to land-based mining and deep-sea mineral extractions, highlighting notions such as economic justice and self-determination while deconstructing the influence of extractive industries, financial institutions, and foreign investments.

**17:00**

**Artistic Intelligence and Ocean Sensing**

Ute Meta Bauer, professor, NTU School of Art, Design and Media, founding director NTU CCA Singapore, and expedition leader of TBA21–Academy's *The Current*  
Markus Reymann, director, TBA21–Academy  
Marzia Rovere, research scientist, CNR-ISMAR  
Florian Schneider, head of department, Trondheim Academy of Fine Art at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)  
Daniela Zyman, chief curator, TBA21

This panel focuses on the role of artistic intelligence—the way artists interact with experience as a carrier of ideas and scenarios to sense our position in the world, the role it could play in the exploration of the oceans, and how it might be fruitful in tackling pressing issues concerning the climate change discourse. The participants will discuss artistic intelligence as a means to speculate about which new tools and sensorial capacities might emerge in an arena unbounded of disciplines, without losing their respective authenticity.

**18:00–20:00**

**Exhibition Opening**

Exhibition period  
May 23–September 30, 2018  
Wed–Sun 11:00–19:00  
Mon–Tue closed

Visit  
[www.tba21.org](http://www.tba21.org)  
#prospectingocean

**Architecture of the Ocean**  
**A project by TBA21–Academy and Territorial Agency,**  
**within Armin Linke’s exhibition *Prospecting Ocean***

In a series of roundtable discussions aimed at together conceiving something new rather than revisiting inherited questions, we bring further discussions and trajectories to the intricate worlds of Armin Linke’s exhibition. Starting with the red threads that interconnect the themes of his exhibition *Prospecting Ocean*, we try and articulate a series of questions, of openings toward a common research project aimed at reinventing how to live on, in, and with an ocean in rapid transformation.

**Thursday, May 24**  
**15:00–18:00**  
**Roundtable discussion**  
**Oceanic Spatialities**

- Ute Meta Bauer (NTU CCA Singapore)
- Debora Bellafiore (CNR-ISMAR)
- Alvise Benetazzo (CNR-ISMAR)
- Sandro Carniel (CNR-ISMAR)
- Franco Farinelli (Università di Bologna)
- Hans Ulrich Obrist (Serpentine Galleries London)
- Angela Pomaro (CNR-ISMAR)
- Luca Zaggia (CNR-ISMAR)

Can we think of the human-made environments of Venice and its lagoons as a model for the future, a guideline on how to reimagine and define epochs at a time of sea-level change? What would it entail to mirror and morph the histories of Venice into the future of world cities? How to rapidly change vast urbanization processes? The world ocean is a continuous and dynamic space, yet the main way to govern it is through the formation of zones, corridors, and areas. We explore the spatial constructions that articulate this specific form of regulation of human inhabitation of the oceans. From the notion of the closed sea, with its historical connections to the Republic of Venice and the contemporary counterparts in the juridical structures of exclusive economic zones and marine protected areas, we move to the complex regimes that articulate the compartmented imaginary of resource extraction and marine preservation. Deep-sea mining and preservation rely on international law and science to guide their steps: we discuss the connections between different forms of exploration and spatial imaginaries. The relation between science and politics is discussed in spatial terms, with the Venice Lagoon as a reminder of long-term commitment to a dynamic water world.

**Friday, May 25**  
**15:00–18:00**  
**Roundtable discussion**  
**Oceanic Sensorium**

- Mauro Bastianini (CNR-ISMAR)
- Lucia Bongiorno (CNR-ISMAR)
- Alessandro Ceregato (CNR-ISMAR)
- Adam Lowe (Factum Arte)
- Francesca Santoro (UNESCO)
- Hashim Sarkis (MIT)
- Katrin Schroeder (CNR-ISMAR)
- Marco Sigovini (CNR-ISMAR)

How to look at the ocean, how to sound it? Humans are land bound yet look out at the sea from the shore rather than from inland. Starting from the complex dynamics of the Venice Lagoon, we discuss different ways in which science and the arts visualize and imagine the oceans, whether using direct observation or instruments with or without lenses. Sensing under the waves, sensing above the waves, sensing at the level of the waves: What are the connections and forms of practice that are producing contemporary images of the oceans? What are the cognitive dimensions of these images? We discuss contemporary forms of image making: multibeam sonar, ROVs, satellites, underwater cameras, film, and video. All these create images based on sensing at a distance. How do they affect actions and change? What knowledge lies between different ways of sensing?

All sessions are moderated by John Palmesino of Territorial Agency, with interventions by Armin Linke