

**Underwater Photography
Exhibition**

Off - Paris Photo 2024

Submerged Time **Le temps sous l'eau**

Anguezomo Mba Bikoro

Shiva Lynn Burgos

Anoten Daalo

Melissa Diallo

Sanaa Goldie

Koräi

Nima Aida Séne

Melika Shafahi

8th Nov 2024

2pm - 5pm

Fontaine des Fleuves

Paris

CATALOGUE

Founder Statement

The story of the Whanganui River has been a profound source of inspiration for this water-focused exhibition. Just as the Māori people restored a voice to the river, my project seeks to reclaim a central place for water—not only as a vital element but as an active partner in the artistic creation process.

Through this limited edition series of laminated photographs, designed to be submerged in aquatic environments, I explore how water can become a medium of dialogue, a living prism that transforms our perception of art. Much like the Whanganui, each aquatic space—whether it be a fountain, a lake, or a pool—becomes a territory of expression, a site where art and water converge to create an immersive and sensory experience.

By using water as a canvas, I aim for these works to reflect the multiplicity of perspectives and the shifting realities that water reveals, while also paying homage to its transformative power. By immersing art within water, we are reminded that it is not merely a mirror, but a living entity capable of engaging in dialogue with us and heightening our sensitivities.

This exhibition is a tribute to this inclusive vision, where water is regarded not merely as a resource but as a being that carries stories, symbols, and messages waiting to be discovered.

– Fiona Valentine Thomann

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Exhibition overview



Fontaine des Fleuves, Place de la Concorde, Paris

The Submerged Time exhibition brings together a diverse group of artists who engage with water not merely as a theme, but as a dynamic language, a source of life, a space for healing and transformation, and a vessel of memory and connection. Water, in this context, is approached as an entity that holds layers of historical, cultural, and spiritual significance, capable of facilitating interspecies communication and providing spaces of reflection and recovery.

This curated collection delves into the concept of water as a repository of human history and collective memory, challenging us to perceive it as a poetic medium that opens doors to multiple dimensions of understanding. By positioning water as a prism through which art can be experienced, the exhibition invites viewers to reconsider its role—not just as a reflective surface, but as an active agent that reshapes our perceptions and interactions with the world.

The exhibition showcases limited editions (5 copies each) of glossy, laminated photographic works specifically designed for immersive, underwater display. These pieces can be placed in environments such as pools, fountains, lakes, or even domestic spaces like bathtubs and showers, transforming the act of viewing into a multisensory experience.

Featured artists include:

Anguezomo Mba Bikor, Shiva Lynn Burgos & The Mariwai Project, Anoten Daala, Melissa Diallo, Sanaa Goldie, Koräi by Jeimila Donty, Nima Aida Séne, Melika Shafahi

Each of these artists brings a distinct perspective, utilizing water as both medium and metaphor to explore themes of identity, ecology, and collective memory. Through their works, the exhibition seeks to foster a deeper dialogue on the role of water in art, culture, and our shared existence.

Submerged Time - Le Temps sous l'Eau

Underwater Photography Exhibition

Submerged Time - Le Temps sous l'Eau

Off Paris Photo 2024 - Fontaine des Fleuves, Place de la Concorde

November 8, 2024, from 2 pm to 5 pm

Curatorial text

Curated by artist Fiona Valentine Thomann, with the invaluable support of Sanaa Goldie, Submerged Time - Le Temps sous l'Eau is an immersive exhibition set in the heart of the Fontaine des Fleuves, paying tribute to France's great rivers. This inaugural edition of underwater artworks initiates a series of aquatic exhibitions, exploring the profound connections between art and life-sustaining elements.

The works, printed in an 8.3 x 11.7 inch format, (21 x 29,7 cm) are unique waterproof photographs laminated on transparent plastic, ensuring preservation underwater. Each photograph is available in a limited edition of five and can be acquired through the artist's website. The rippling reflections from the fountain's jets add a dreamlike and immersive dimension, inviting viewers to experience the images from new perspectives.

The artworks presented address contemporary themes, inviting contemplation in environments like a bath, the rain, or even the shower, breaking art free from traditional museum spaces and transforming it into a medium for personal reflection and liberation.

This exhibition features eight women and non-binary artists, each exploring themes of water, underwater life, and the connections between humans and aquatic ecosystems. Featured artists include:

Anguezomo Mba Bikoro: When Soldiers Become Mermaids is an underground ritual museum space honoring African soldiers imprisoned and killed at

Halfmoon Camp in Wünsdorf. Stories are buried in the lake next to the camp, transmitted through water frequencies, making water a medium for hidden testimonies and generational healing.

Shiva Lynn Burgos: Invited by the Museum der Kulturen Basel, Burgos explored the museum's archives to create a new body of work focused on cyanotype and photography. Her Mariwai project, born from collaborations with local artists in Papua New Guinea, draws inspiration from traditional fishing nets that embody the holistic worldview of Oceanian peoples. Through her cyanotypes, Burgos bridges past and present, capturing the spiritual essence of symbolic objects while preserving and transmitting cultural knowledge in a contemporary, committed artistic expression.

Anoten Daala: For the cover of her new EP Impermanence, Anoten Daala uses an X-ray of her broken arm, engraved with a ryū, a Japanese water dragon symbolizing transformation, strength, and wisdom. This EP, infused with techno and her voice, explores a journey of healing where water becomes a sanctuary.

Melissa Diallo: Mar Verde, a silver print of a shipwreck off the coast of Guinea, explores the memory of the country's independence struggles. This image captures the history of the November 22, 1970, military operation aimed at destabilizing the regime of Sékou Touré. These shipwrecks, visible at low tide, evoke reflection on Guinea's revolutionary and independence history.

Submerged Time - Le Temps sous l'Eau

Sanaa Goldie: Inspired by the controversial experiments of Japanese researcher Masaru Emoto, Sanaa Goldie explores whether water can “recognize” and respond to the emotional frequencies of visual art. In her experiment, she observed crystalline patterns forming in water after exposure to works from her series GUILTY OF ALL PLEASURES, suggesting that water may indeed “feel” and respond to the energy of artworks. This exploration opens a new chapter in Goldie’s work, blending science and art to question the unseen forces that shape our perception of the world.

Korai by Jemila Donty: Korai is an innovative initiative on Nosy Be, Madagascar, aimed at restoring coral reefs by engaging local communities in marine ecosystem preservation. Founded with divers like Richard and Abo, the association transforms artificial structures into living reefs, creating habitats for marine life in just a few months. By purchasing the associated photograph, you directly support Korai’s work and receive a coral adoption certificate in addition to the work’s certificate of authenticity, symbolizing your commitment to ocean preservation.

Nima Aida Sène: In the Reeds is a free-flow, freestyle poem capturing the reflections, realizations, and feelings that emerge in the space between land and water. This poetic piece explores the boundary where reeds grow, reaching out from water onto the shore, creating an immersion into the liminal zones between the terrestrial and aquatic worlds.

The Spacers series, Treasure by Melika Shafahi: This series delves into the mystery of the ocean depths and our connection to the unknown. Through her works, Shafahi explores an aquatic universe that reveals the mysterious beauty and hidden secrets of the oceans, inviting reflection on our relationship with the vastness of water and the invisible worlds it contains.

Submerged Time in Papua New Guinea, Sepik River

Floating voices, archival waters



In collaboration with The Mariwai Project, Submerged Time unfolds along the waterways of Papua New Guinea as a site-specific, floating exhibition of photographic works created in dialogue with children from the village of Mariwai.

2025

Submerged Time in Papua New Guinea, Sepik River

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2025

Submerged Time in Philippines

Floating voices, archival waters



In collaboration with The Mariwai Project, Submerged Time unfolds across the sea of the Philippines as a site-specific floating exhibition of photographic works by women artists, creating a temporary installation on the beach in 2025.

Submerged Time in Philippines

Floating voices, archival waters



In collaboration with The Mariwai Project, Submerged Time unfolds across the sea of the Philippines as a site-specific floating exhibition of photographic works by women artists, creating a temporary installation on the beach in 2025.

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Anguezomo Mba Bikoro

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When soldiers become mermaids, Anguezomo Mba Bikoro

Glossy print photography

We highlight the profound work of Anguezomo Mba Bikoro. Her piece, «Quand les Soldats deviennent Sirènes», transforms water into a site of ritual and remembrance. This underwater museum pays homage to the African soldiers imprisoned and killed at the Halfmoon Camp in Wünsdorf. In the lake adjacent to the camp, whispers of hidden histories travel through the frequencies of the water, turning it into a realm of generational healing.

Bikoro's work beckons us to dive beneath the surface, where water serves as a witness and a healer. How do the memories of those who suffered, transformed into sirens, resonate within the currents of a forgotten lake? Can the water carry the frequencies of lost voices, preserving them in its depths for those willing to listen?

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Anguezomo Mba Bikoro



When soldiers become mermaids, Anguezomo Mba Bikoro

Limited edition of 5

1/5

Glossy print photography, laminated, clear plastic suction cups

21cm x 29,7 cm / 8.3 x 11.7 inch

2024

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Anguezomo Mba Bikoro



When soldiers become mermaids, sous l'eau, underwater, Anguezomo Mba Bikoro

Limited edition of 5

1/5

Glossy print photography, laminated, clear plastic
suction cups

21cm x 29,7 cm / 8.3 x 11.7 inch

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Shiva Lynn Burgos
www.shivalynn.com



PNG Fishing net /MKB Vb 32009, Shiva Lynn Burgos

Glossy print photography

On November 8, 2024, the works of eight artists were submerged into the fluid dialogue of the Fontaine des Fleuves at Place de la Concorde. This exhibition marks the beginning of a series where water serves as both material and prism, unveiling layers invisible to the naked eye while confronting us with the ephemerality and imprint of time.

Today, we highlight Shiva Lynn Burgos (@geste.paris). Through her cyanotypes, she conjures hidden memories, capturing the residual energy of ritual objects in deep blue tones. Her Mariwai Project (@the.mariwai.project), rooted in collaborations in Papua New Guinea, resonates like a net cast into the

murky waters of the past, where memory, spirituality, and transmission converge.

Displaying these works beneath the fountain's cascading water, where rivers entwine with the city's symbols, invites us to interrogate the power dynamics of such monumental spaces. What narratives surface when colonial histories intermingle with our saturated present? How does memory absorb itself into a medium as elusive as water? And what remains of a symbol as it dissolves within the perpetual motion of the elements?

Shiva Lynn Burgos



PNF Fishing net /MHB Vb 32009, Shiva Lynn Burgos

Limited edition of 5

1/5

Glossy print photography, laminated, clear plastic
suction cups

21cm x 29,7 cm /8.3 x 11.7 inch

2024

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Shiva Lynn Burgos



PNG Fishing net /MKB Vb 32009, sous l'eau, underwater, Shiva Lynn Burgos

Limited edition of 5

1/5

Glossy print photography, laminated, clear plastic suction cups

21cm x 29,7 cm /8.3 x 11.7 inch

Anoten Daala

@anoten_daala



Ryu, dragon d'eau, Anoten Daala

Glossy print photography

Listen to the Impermanence EP and the song Le temps sous l'eau on every streaming platform by Anoten Daala

We turn our focus to Anoten Daala and the striking cover of her new EP, Impermanence. For this release, Daala uses an X-ray of her broken arm, intricately engraved with a ryu, the Japanese water dragon that embodies transformation, strength,

and wisdom. Infused with techno beats and her haunting voice, this EP is a sonic journey of healing, where water becomes both sanctuary and guide through the currents of regeneration.

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Anoten Daala



Ryu, dragon d'eau, Anoten Daala

Limited edition of 5

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Glossy print photography, laminated, clear plastic suction cups

21cm x 29,7 cm / 8.3 x 11.7 inch

2024

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Anoten Daala



Ryu, dragon d'eau, sous l'eau, underwater, Anoten Daala

Limited edition of 5

1/5

Glossy print photography, laminated, clear plastic suction cups

21cm x 29,7 cm / 8.3 x 11.7 inch

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Melissa Diallo

@melissa.oummou.diallo
melissaoummoudiallo.com



Mare Verde, Melissa Diallo

Glossy print photography

We turn our gaze to Melissa Diallo and her haunting piece, *Mar Verde*. This silver print captures the wreckage of a ship off the coast of Guinea, evoking the memories of the country's struggles for independence. The image echoes the history of November 22, 1970, when a milita-

ry operation sought to destabilize Sékou Touré's regime. As the shipwreck emerges at low tide, it calls us to reflect on Guinea's revolutionary spirit and the hidden legacies that still pulse beneath the surface.

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Melissa Diallo



Mare Verde, Melissa Diallo

Limited edition of 5

1/5

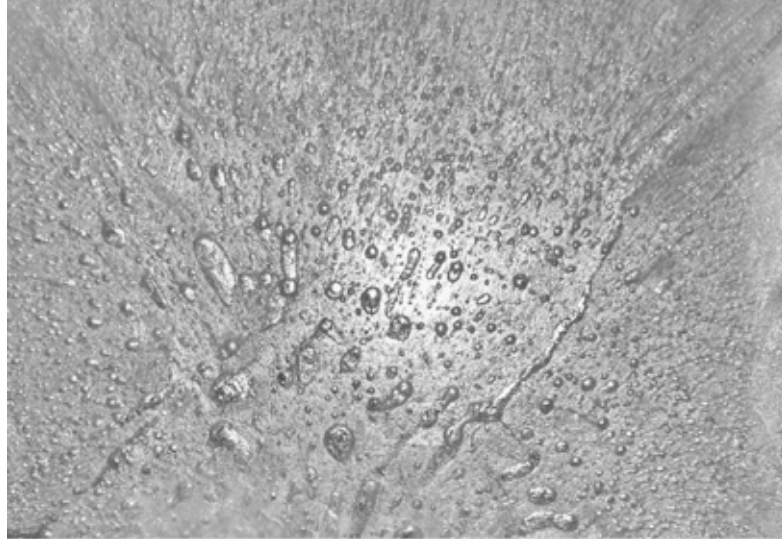
Glossy print photography, laminated, clear plastic suction cups

21cm x 29,7 cm / 8.3 x 11.7 inch

2024

Sanaa Goldie

@sanaagoldie



What if water gets it?, Sanaa Goldie

Glossy print photography

We shine a light on Sanaa Goldie. Drawing inspiration from the controversial experiments of Japanese researcher Masaru Emoto, Sanaa delves into whether water can “recognize” and respond to the emotional frequencies of visual art. In her experiments, crystalline patterns emerged in water after exposure to her series *GUILTY OF ALL PLEASURES*, suggesting that water may indeed “feel” and react to the energy embedded within the artworks.

Floating gently in the fountain, Goldie’s work invites us to ponder: Can the unseen vibrations of emotion be transmitted through matter? Do the frequencies of art resonate beyond the visible spectrum, reaching the delicate currents of the elements that surround us? By immersing art into the waters of a monument steeped in colonial history, we question not just what we see, but what we cannot.

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Sanaa Goldie



What if water gets it?, Sanaa Goldie

Limited edition of 5

1/5

Glossy print photography, laminated, clear plastic suction cups

21cm x 29,7 cm / 8.3 x 11.7 inch

2024

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Sanaa Goldie



What if water gets it?, sous l'eau, underwater, Sanaa Goldie

Limited edition of 5

1/5

Glossy print photography, laminated, clear plastic suction cups

21cm x 29,7 cm / 8.3 x 11.7 inch

**What if water gets it?, sous l'eau,
underwater, Sanaa Goldie**

Limited edition of 5

1/5

Glossy print photography, laminated,
clear plastic suction cups

21cm x 29,7 cm / 8.3 x 11.7 inch



Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Korai, Jeimila Donty

@korai_africa

korai-africa.com



Éclats de Vie Sous l'Océan, Korai, Jeimila Donty

Glossy print photography

We spotlight Jeimila Donty and her impactful project, Korai @korai_africa. On the island of Nosy Be, Madagascar, Korai brings together local communities to restore coral reefs and transform artificial sculptures/structures into thriving marine habitats. Founded with divers like Richard and Abo, the initiative creates

new ecosystems in just months, breathing life back into the ocean's depths. By acquiring the associated photograph, you support Korai's mission and receive a coral adoption certificate alongside the work's certificate of authenticity, a symbol of your commitment to the preservation of our oceans.

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Korai, Jeimila Donty



Éclats de Vie Sous l'Océan, Korai, Jeimila Donty

Limited edition of 5

1/5

Glossy print photography, laminated, clear plastic suction cups

21cm x 29,7 cm / 8.3 x 11.7 inch

2024

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Korai, Jeimila Donty



Éclats de Vie Sous l'Océan, sous l'eau, underwater, Korai, Jeimila Donty

Limited edition of 5

1/5

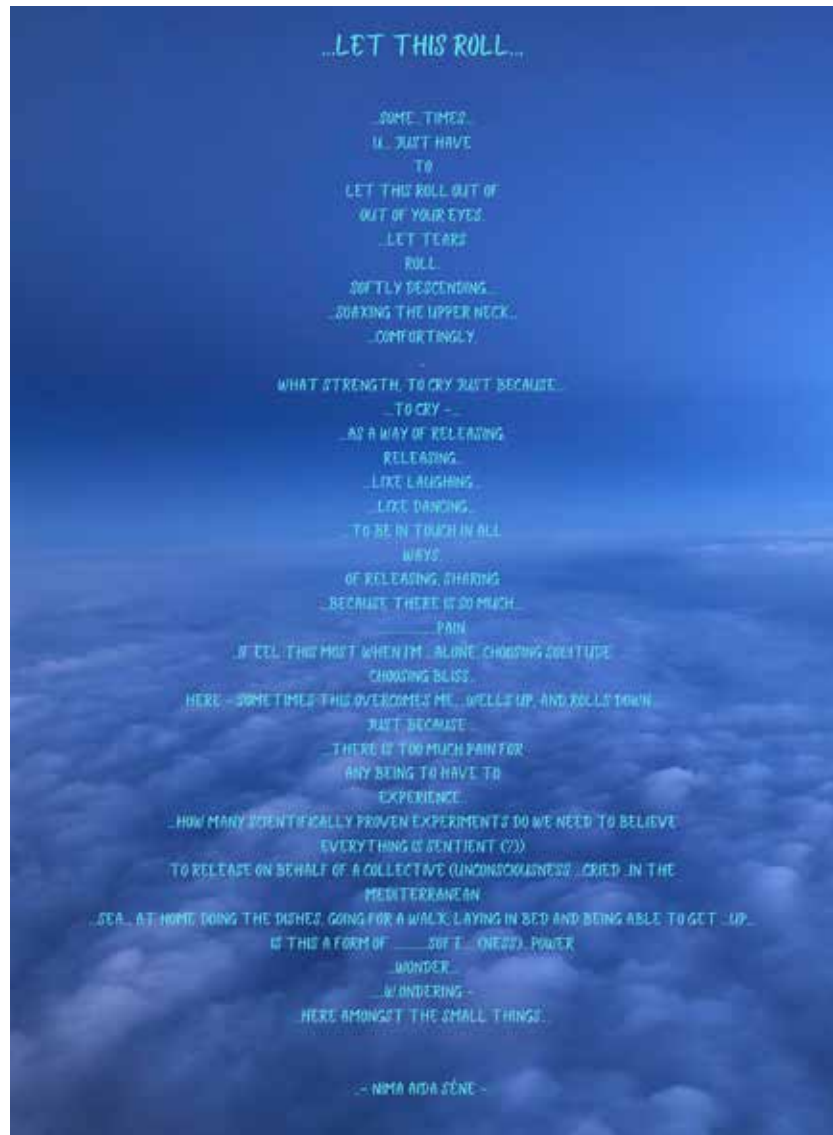
Glossy print photography, laminated, clear plastic suction cups

21cm x 29,7 cm / 8.3 x 11.7 inch

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Nima Aida Séne

@n.a.bb.s



..Let this Roll., Nima Aida Séne

Glossy print photography

We present Nima Aida Séne and her poetic photograph, «..Let this Roll..». This free-flow, freestyle poem captures the reflections, realizations, and feelings that emerge in the space where land meets water. Exploring the liminal zones where reeds grow, reaching from water to shore, this piece immerses us in the fluid boundary between the terrestrial and aquatic worlds. In Séne's work, words and imagery blend like reeds swaying in the currents, inviting us to let the tides of thought roll freely.

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Nima Aida Séne



„Let this Roll.. Nima Aida Séne

Limited edition of 5

1/5

Glossy print photography, laminated, clear plastic suction cups

21cm x 29,7 cm /8.3 x 11.7 inch

2024

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Nima Aida Séne



„Let this Roll.., sous l’eau, underwater, Nima Aida Séne

Limited edition of 5

1/5

Glossy print photography, laminated, clear plastic suction cups

21cm x 29,7 cm / 8.3 x 11.7 inch

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Melika Shafahi

@melik_shafahi

melikashafahi.com



The Spacers series, Treasure, Melika Shafahi

Glossy print photography

We turn our gaze to Melika Shafahi and her captivating series, *The Spacers: Treasure*. Through this body of work, Shafahi delves into the enigmatic depths of the oceans, unveiling a universe where the familiar dissolves into the unknown. Her pieces explore the hidden secrets and ethereal beauty that lie beneath the surface, challenging us to reconsider our relationship with the vast expanse of water.

In the submerged world she creates, the oceans are more than a physical presence—they are metaphors for the invisible worlds within us. How do we confront the mysteries that water hides, not only in the deep, but also in the spaces between what we see and what we sense? What treasures lie dormant, waiting to be uncovered by those who dare to look beyond the surface?

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Melika Shafahi



The Spacers series, Treasure, Melika Shafahi

Limited edition of 5

1/5

Glossy print photography, laminated, clear plastic suction cups

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2024

Submerged Time, Fontaine des Fleuves, PARIS

Melika Shafahi



The Spacers series, Treasure, sous l'eau, underwater, Melika Shafahi

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