

Bio/artist statement

Having been raised on a sail boat and being both an avid sailor and an committed artist living in New York City, Maia Marinelli exists in constant a flux between the irresistible vastness of the open seas and the intensity of a concrete jungle. In this borderline her work attempts to bridge the cultural disconnect between the urban landscape and the natural landscape, navigating between conceptual activist practices and atmospheric interactive installations were the ordinance must physically relate with their surroundings.

She relocated to Maui in 2011 to create the Wind Playground, a kinetic installation designed to sculpt and accelerate wind into it self, work she exhibited in 2013 in Australia at Sculpture by the Sea. Recently she create a series mechanized data visualization kinetic sculptural environments that react to and mutate with meteorological changes which were showcased in Berlin as part of her artist residency program at GlogauAIR .

In October 2015 Maia Marinelli attended the prestigious Arctic Circle Residency were she developed site specific installations and performances work is inspired by the relationship between the rapidly changing meteorological patterns of the Arctic territories and the growing controversial phenomonal of “Arctic land rush”, land appropriation and land rights of the UN’s Arctic territories.

Maia Marinelli holds an MFA from NYU’s Interactive Telecommunication Program in New York, and she received her BFA in Theater and film set design at the Fine Art Academy of Florence, Italy. Her work has been featured at SXSW, LACMA, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Genoa Italy, the University of British Colombia in Vancouver, International Studio & Curatorial Program in New York, Pecci Museum of Contemporary Art and Biennial of Mediterranean Artists. Her experience has included activist work and photojournalism working with “Colors Magazine International”, “Journal of Visual Anthology” and “Diario” to name a few.

To learn more about the work of Maia Marinelli, please visit:www.maiamarinelli.com

Introduction

Art is the witness of history. We learn about our history through art and artifacts (painting, sculpture, architecture, music, writing), left behind for us to navigate the legacy of our own evolution.

As contemporary artists we are part of this same legacy. As such, it is our job to fearlessly witness, observe and understand our contemporaries.

With this job however, comes a responsibility.

Without understanding the responsibility and the efforts that art making entails, it is impossible, in my view, to "put your self out there".

No one likes to equate the process of art making to one of having a job, however, art, at a professional level, is in many respects similar to being an entrepreneur or owning your own business.

While the purpose of art making might not be driven by the need or desire of money making, art like any activity implies dedication, time, commitment, training, clarity of mind, programming and, as in any activity, it also has costs, deadlines, schedules and clients to foster.

In this landscape one needs to mitigate the relationship between quality of a product and financial efficiency.

In art, that translates into how one can continue to create high quality work, while making one's artistic practice financially sustainable without selling out.

This for me means waking up every day asking the question :

“How can I stay in business maintaining the quality of my work? “

Or in other words:

“How can I continue to live my life doing what I love? = making art.