



**Art21's Fall Program to Feature New Documentaries, Screenings, Artist Talks, and Launch of Season 12 of its Acclaimed Broadcast Series "Art in the Twenty-First Century"**

*Spotlighting the creative practices of 23 contemporary artists, Art21's fall lineup expands public access to the words and works of the most impactful artists working today, including Sophie Calle, Njideka Akunyili Crosby, Delcy Morelos, among others*



*Production stills featuring Sophie Calle, Tuan Andrew Nguyen, Dyani White Hawk, and Lubaina Himid from the Art in the Twenty-First Century Season 12 episode "Between Worlds." © Art21, Inc. 2025.*

New York, New York—July 14, 2025—Art21 announces its Fall 2025 season of programs, including broadcast and digital premieres, film screenings, artist conversations, and in-person events spotlighting the most impactful artists working today. Curated by Tina Kukielski, Art21's Susan Sollins Executive Director and Chief Curator, and Jurrell Lewis, Associate Curator, the fall lineup amplifies the voices of emerging and established artists, including Anne Imhof, Sophie Calle, Dyani White Hawk, Njideka Akunyili Crosby, Ragnar Kjartansson, Josh Kline, and Delcy Morelos, among others. The fall also marks the 25th anniversary and 12th season of Art21's acclaimed broadcast series *Art in the Twenty-First Century*, which launched on PBS in 2001 and remains the only series dedicated exclusively to contemporary visual art on public television. The season will premiere on October 17 and will be free and accessible online at [Art21.org](https://www.art21.org), on [PBS](https://www.pbs.org), and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com).

As the leading independent producer documenting the art of our time, Art21 was established with a mission to expand access to artists and their ideas, meet audiences where they are, and explore the salient connections between artists and their communities. To date, Art21 has created 80+ hours of films documenting over 300 artists across six continents.

“Our fall season boldly moves Art21 forward, weaving together a range of perspectives and practices that speak to the nuances of our contemporary moment,” said Tina Kukielski, Susan Sollins Executive Director and Chief Curator. “We are always guided by the artists we work with—their questions, their provocations, and their visions for what art can do. Their words and works serve as a guidepost, especially in times of crisis and change.”



*Production stills featuring Candice Lin, Njideka Akunyili Crosby, Ragnar Kjartansson, and Tomás Saraceno from the Art in the Twenty-First Century Season 12 episode “Realms of the Real.” © Art21, Inc. 2025.*

Highlights from Art21’s Fall 2025 season:

### **Season 12 of *Art in the Twenty-First Century***

Episode 1 premieres on [PBS](#) on October 17, 2025

Dates for PBS premieres of Episodes 2 and 3 are slated for 2026. All films will also be available at [Art21.org](#) and [YouTube](#) following their premieres.

[Watch the Trailer](#)

Peabody Award-winning series *Art in the Twenty-First Century* returns for Season 12 on PBS, offering three new one-hour episodes. The biennial series is the only program on television in the U.S. to focus exclusively on contemporary visual art and artists. Viewers observe the artists at work, watch as they transform inspiration into art, and hear how they struggle with both the physical and visual challenges of achieving their visions. This landmark season builds upon a quarter century of shaping how audiences experience art and artists today.

Continuing to expand storytelling, Season 12 takes a global approach by focusing on backgrounds, regions, and stories new to Art21. The season weaves together the stories of artists exploring the human experience, our environmental impact, colonial and imperial histories, the power of fantasy and fiction, and the art that exists around us each day.

- ***Between Worlds***, directed by Bryan Chang and the Meerkat Media Collective production team

The first episode of Season 12 follows artists **Sophie Calle**, **Lubaina Himid**, **Tuan Andrew Nguyen**, and **Dyani White Hawk** as they navigate the spaces in between, creating works that exist between cultures, storylines, migrations, and cosmologies. The film travels between the War Remnants Museum in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Buras, home of a Vietnamese fishing community in Louisiana; the century-old Southwestern Association for Indian Arts Santa Fe Indian Market; and the Musée Picasso in Paris.

- ***Realms of the Real***, directed by Stephanie Wang-Breal

The second episode shows how artists **Njideka Akunyili Crosby**, **Ragnar Kjartansson**, **Candice Lin**, and **Tomás Saraceno** push everyday materials and historical truths into the fantastical, absurd, and sublime. Sites featured include Europe's oldest banana plantation outside Reykjavik, Iceland and the former Agfa photographic film and dye factory in Berlin.

- ***Human Nature***, directed by Art21 senior producer Ian Forster

The third and final episode of Season 12 spotlights how artists **Lenka Clayton**, **Josh Kline**, **Delcy Morelos**, and **Sin Wai Kin** explore what it means to be human, looking at our collective responsibilities, our influence on the built and natural environment, and our ways of being. Scenes move from the former Monastery of Santa María de las Cuevas, now an arts center in Seville, Spain; the countryside outside of Bogotá, Colombia; and the Troy Hill neighborhood in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.





*2023 Art21 at the Movies, Opening Night at Metrograph Theater. Pictured Left to Right: Esteban Cabeza De Baca, Tina Kukielski, Chiemi Karasawa, Linda Goode Byrant, Janet Olivia Henry, Miranda July, Cannupa Hanska Luger, Maren Hassinger. Photo: Jason Crowley/BFA.com © BFA 2023.*

### **Art21 at the Movies**

Wednesday, October 8, 2025, 6:00–11:00 PM: Opening Fundraiser at Metrograph Theater

Friday, October 10, 2025, 10:00 AM–10:00PM: Film Festival at the Museum of Modern Art

Tickets will go on sale in August 2025 at the link [here](#).

Art21's biennial film festival, Art21 at the Movies, returns for two nights of screenings and conversations, including a premiere of the first episode of Season 12 of *Art in the Twenty-First Century* featuring artists Sophie Calle, Lubaina Himid, Tuan Andrew Nguyen, and Dyani White Hawk. The event offers attendees an opportunity to develop a deeper connection to the artists and filmmakers of Art21 productions, as well as several other award-winning filmmakers.





Production still from upcoming *Extended Play* film featuring Anne Imhof © Art21, 2025.

### New Film Releases Online

Ongoing throughout the fall

[Art21.org](https://art21.org) and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/art21)

Art21 debuts short films year-round across online channels, offering timely, intimate portraits of individual artists and collectives in a concise format. *Extended Play* films provide unmediated, behind-the-scenes insights into the works and practices of leading artists, uncovering the provocative ideas, timely cultural influences, and biographical anecdotes that inspire each artist. *New York Close Up* films are devoted to capturing early-career artists living in New York City, offering a unique window into the next wave of artmaking in the city.

Upcoming releases include:

- **Anne Imhof**

Premiering August 20, 2025

This film follows Anne Imhof as she explores the archetypes of youth culture, and ever-shifting cultural norms through her latest performance, “DOOM.” From behind-the-scenes footage of rehearsals to documentation of the roving and immersive performance, this film offers audiences a look into the mind of one of the most celebrated performance artists of the 21st century.

- **Lucy Raven**

Premiering September 17, 2025

Traveling across the United States with artist Lucy Raven, this film offers a meditation on Raven’s trilogy, *The Drumfire*, where she filmically investigates the intertwined histories of image and industry in the mythmaking of the American West. Weaving together scenes that capture the beauty of the natural world, intimate looks at Raven’s filmmaking

process, and the artist's reflections on a body of work that spans over five years, this new film is a profound reflection on centuries of human impact on the western landscape.

- **Trey Abdella**

Premiering December 10, 2025

Trey Abdella mines the underbelly of American culture to create hyperrealistic multimedia works that defy neat categorization as painting, sculpture, or assemblage. This digital film captures Abdella working from his garage studio, packed with the enigmatic knick-knacks that he uses as material and inspiration, as he gives form to the saccharine sweetness and uncanny falsehood that is Americana.



*Art21 Educators at the 2025 Summer Institute. Photo: Timothy O'Connell. © Art21, 2025.*

## **Events and Programming**

Ongoing throughout the fall

- **Sophie Calle in Conversation**

September 9, 2025

Complementing upcoming exhibitions of Sophie Calle's work at [Perrotin](#) (September 4-October 18) and [Paula Cooper Gallery](#) (September 5-October 25), Art21 co-hosts a conversation with the artist and Bette Gordon, including an advance screening of Calle's segment from the premiere episode of Season 12 *Art in the Twenty-First Century*.

- **READ 2025**

Premiering July through December 2025

Featuring interviews with artists and collectives Alanis Obomsawin, New Red Order, Eric-Paul Riege, Dyani White Hawk, and Alan Michelson, Art21's digital publication,

*READ*, will explore how artists use storytelling, beauty, humor, and tradition to address the past and present and better understand where we go next. Across paintings, sculptures, documentary films, public artworks, immersive installations, and more, these artists guide us into a future with dignity and agency for us all. **All interviews will be available free on [art21.org/read](https://art21.org/read).**

- **Screening Society**

Through October 31, 2025, at multiple venues

In celebration of Art21's newest book, *Artists & the Unknown: Art21 Interviews with Artists*, Art21's free program, Screening Society, returns, encouraging local communities across the country to gather and watch Art21 films together. Through the end of October, any organization or community group—whether a school, university, library, museum, senior center, or beyond—is welcome to host a public screening of an hour-long curated block of films. At no cost, Art21 provides hosts with materials and access to the films. This season features a selection of curated films highlighting artists **Linda Goode Bryant, Sarah Sze, Josephine Halvorson, Rose B. Simpson, and Michael Rakowitz**. **Link to sign up [here](#).**

- **Art21 Educators**

2025-26 academic year

Building on the momentum of a week-long kickoff event in New York City this summer, the 2025-2026 cohort of Art21 Educators continue their year-long intensive experience remotely, working with Art21 to incorporate contemporary art, artists, and themes into their classroom curriculum. The program allows K-12 classroom educators to document and reflect practices that capture changes in personal growth, student learning, and classroom culture and participate in a professional learning community of supportive and reflective educational practitioners. Art21 regularly offers free teacher workshops virtually and in person and provides educator guides for their films and additional teaching resources available on [Art21.org](https://Art21.org). **Check the calendar to register for upcoming workshops [here](#).**

[Download high resolution images](#)

## **About Art21**

Art21 documents the art of our time through the words and works of the most impactful artists working today. Operating at the nexus of contemporary art and film, Art21 produces intimate portraits of artists at crucial moments of creation, inviting audiences to see the world from an artist's perspective. From its award-winning public television series to in-person public programs, education initiatives, and film screenings, to broadcasting documentary films free, online, and across social media platforms, the independent nonprofit is dedicated to meeting audiences where they are and to making contemporary art accessible to all. For more information, visit [Art21.org](https://Art21.org).



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