

MARE PLASTICUM

MARGARITA CIMADEVILA & WOLFGANG TRETNAK

Curator:
MARILENA STREIT-BIANCHI



2015:
1st Prize in
Sustainability!

ART AND SCIENCE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

The exhibition MARE PLASTICUM is dealing with the pollution of the oceans by plastics, its environmental consequences (entanglement, ingestion, mortality of species, toxicity ...), as well as problems of sustainability related with the overfishing and overexploitation of the oceans.

Its aim is to show these problems, to provide information and to create sensibility for these topics in the public, especially among the young people. It is sounding the alarm:

It is time to act!

MARE PLASTICUM belongs to the new avantgardistic art movement called ECO-ART, which is trying to use art as a means for alerting on environmental issues, sustainability and recycling.



MARE PLASTICUM

The exhibition is fruit of the collaboration of Wolfgang Trettnak and Margarita Cimadevila, which initiated in the series PLASTIC FISHES and concretised in MARE PLASTICUM, where the works are of joint authorship, both in planning and realisation. The artists are members of the association ARSCIENCIA, which is organising the exhibitions of MARE PLASTICUM. ARSCIENCIA is dedicated to the world of Science and Art and is consisting of an international and multidisciplinary team.

Recycling, sustainability, environmental protection, science and art are combining in the artistic works, which were created by the authors with marine plastic debris, which was collected on the beaches of Galicia (Spain). This grants them a very original and innovative character.

A variety of materials was used in the art works (mixed technique on canvas): fishing nets, buoys, bags, lures, ropes, strings, shoes, toys ... Special mention deserve the fish mobiles, which were created on the basis of plastic water bottles.

The works are accompanied with simple and short scientific information, which refers to the problem depicted and its environmental consequences. Comics, posters, videos and lectures complement the exhibition.



URBAN LITTER



A big part of the urban litter finally ends up in the oceans. Measures have to be taken to avoid this kind of pollution, of which all of us are responsible and in which we frequently contribute unconsciously.

On the beaches can be found in particular plastic packing materials, such as bottles, bags, boxes, tubes, film and styrofoam. Shoes, toys and household goods complete the vast offer.



FISHING



A large part of the marine debris, which is found on the beaches, derives from fishing activities: nets, traps, pots, bags, ropes, lines, floats, buoys and other materials.

Abandoned or lost fishing nets and pots may continue catching and trapping fish for decades. The nets may be drifting and travelling over large distances during their lifetime.

AQUACULTURE



Aquaculture is not only a rich source of sea food, but also of large amounts of wastes and losses, which can be found frequently on the beaches.

Entanglement with plastic materials is a wide-spread phenomenon, which has been reported for many marine species. It may lead to injuries and death of the animal.

WOLFGANG TRETNAK



WOLFGANG TRETNAK was born in Graz (Austria) and received a PhD in Chemistry from the University of Graz. He worked in applied research on sensors and biosensors for many years and published a number of scientific articles. In 2002 he became a free-lance artist, and his work, which comprises painting, object art and installations, has been exhibited in Europe, America and China. The artist links science with art on subjects such as bionics, electronics, luminescence and environmental topics.

MARGARITA CIMADEVILA



MARGARITA CIMADEVILA was born in Sada (Coruña, Spain), has a degree in Chemistry from the University of Santiago de Compostela and has been working as a Science teacher and as headmistress at different Secondary Schools in Galicia. Her artistic work combines Science and Art and has found its expression in series of paintings on topics such as the particle physics at CERN or women in science and gender equality. Her work has been shown in Europe, America and China and, on invitation of the European Commission, at the *Innovation Convention 2014* in Brussels.

EXHIBITIONS



- MARE PLASTICUM, **WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE WWF** (Launch of the *China No Plastic in Nature Action Network*), Beijing, China; 2019
- MARE PLASTICUM, **XVII ASAMBLEA DE AMIT – LAS MUJERES Y EL MAR**, Universidad de Coruña, A Coruña, Spain, 2018
- MARE PLASTICUM, **CAPILLA DE SAN ROQUE**, Sada, A Coruña, Spain, 2018
- MARE PLASTICUM, **OUR OCEAN, AN OCEAN FOR LIFE – 4TH HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE** (organized by the European Commission), St. Julian's, Malta, 2017
- MARE PLASTICUM, **EXPO 216 - A GALLERIUM**, Wilmington, North Carolina, USA, 2017
- MARE PLASTICUM, **CONAMA – 13º CONGRESO NACIONAL DEL MEDIO AMBIENTE**, Palacio Municipal de Congresos, Madrid, Spain, 2016
- DE ARTE ET ALIMONIO (with QAGI, *Quantum Art Group International*), **SILBER GALLERY**, Rome, Italy, 2016
- ON SHARKS AND HUMANITY (with *Parkview Arts Action*), **NATIONAL MUSEUM OF CHINA**, Beijing, China, 2015
- MARE PLASTICUM - PLASTIC FISHES, **MUNCYT - MUSEO NACIONAL DE CIENCIA Y TECNOLOGÍA**, A Coruña, Spain, 2015
- MARE PLASTICUM - PLASTIC FISHES, **EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH - CERN**, Geneva, Switzerland, 2015
- PLASTIC FISHES, **OCEANOGRAPHIC MUSEUM OF MONACO**, Monaco, 2015
- PECES DE PLÁSTICOS, **VISITORS CENTRE OF THE NATIONAL PARK ILLAS ATLÁNTICAS DE GALICIA**, Vigo, Spain, 2014
- MARE PLASTICUM, **XXVII Congreso de ENCIGA**, Moaña, Pontevedra, Spain, 2014
- **SCIENCE & ART: SO DIFFERENT, SO SIMILAR!**, *Comenius-Grundtvig Course*, Santiago de Compostela, Spain, 2013 & 2014



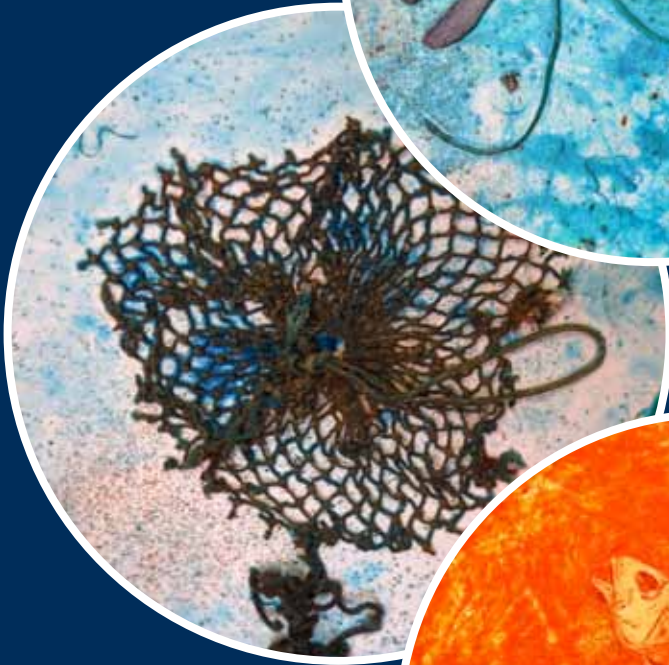
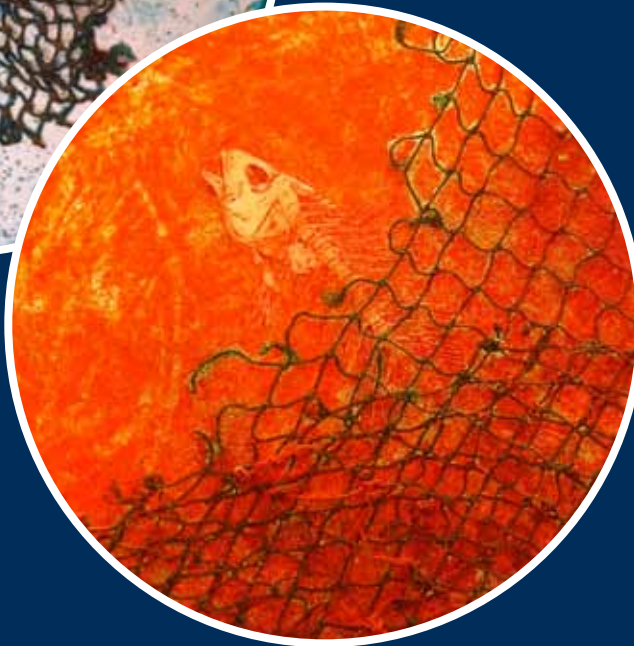
PRIZE

SCIENCE ON STAGE SPAIN / CIENCIA EN ACCIÓN XVI
2015

1st Prize in Sustainability!



ART WORKS

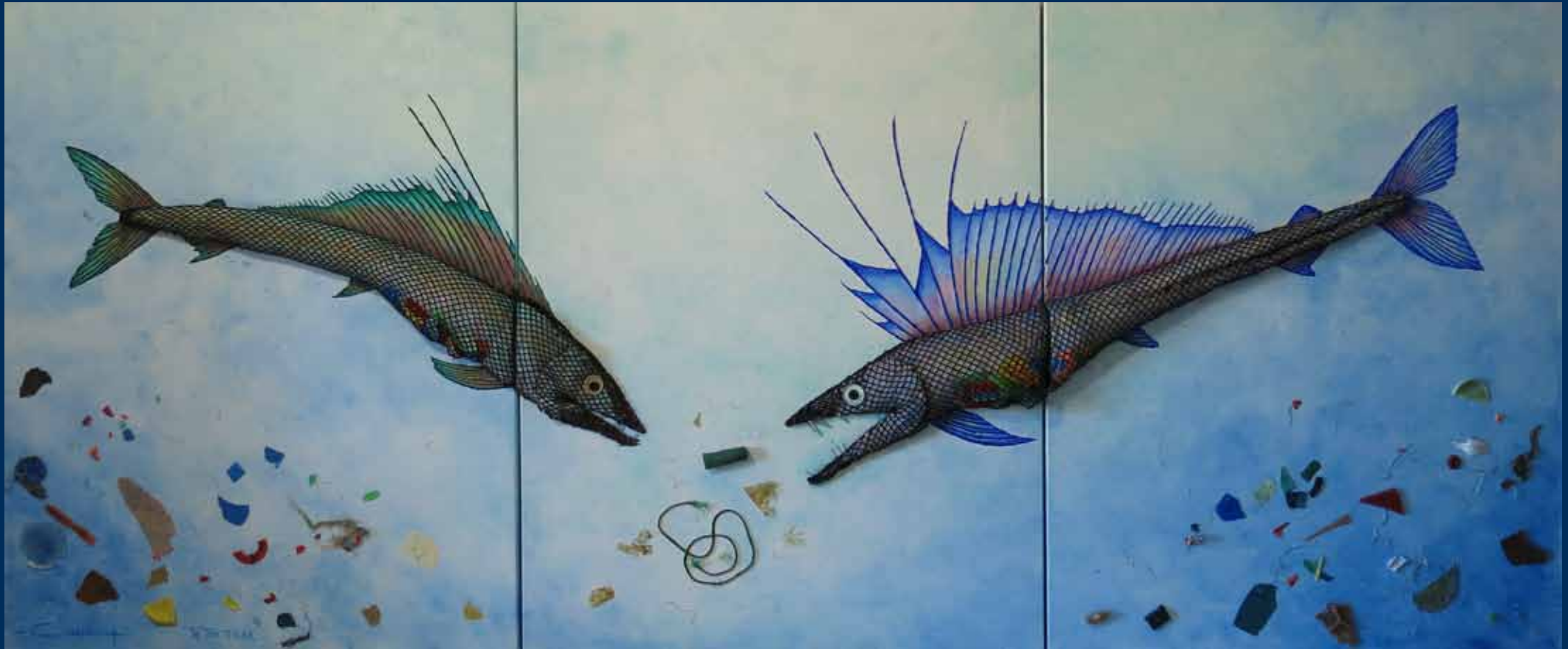




THE SUBMARINE GARDEN

Marine debris and mixed technique on canvas;

100 x 160 cm; 2014



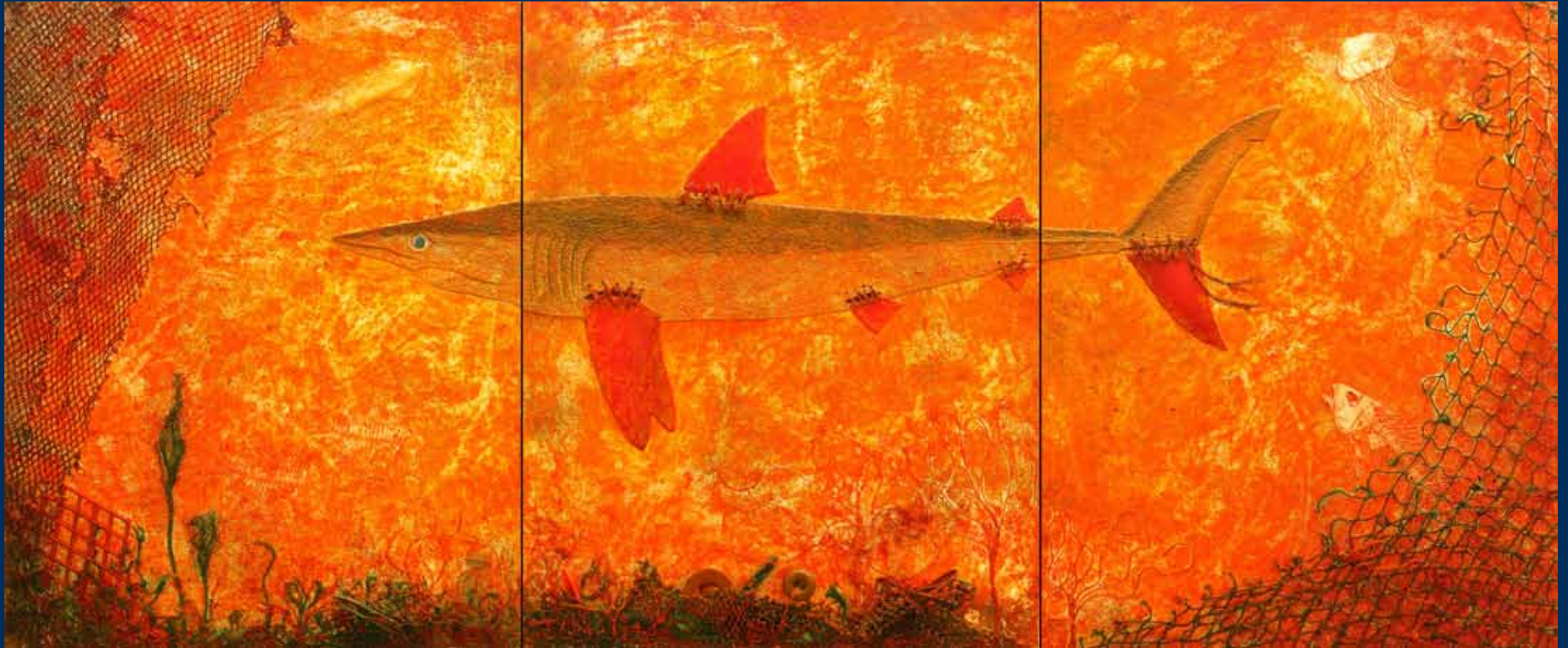
ALEPISSAURUS FEROX

Plastic material from the stomachs of lancetfish, marine debris and mixed technique on canvas;
100 x 240 cm; 2018



THE POUCH TREE

Marine debris and mixed technique on canvas;
100 x 160 cm; 2014



SHARK FIN SOUP

Marine debris and mixed technique on canvas;
100 x 240 cm; 2014



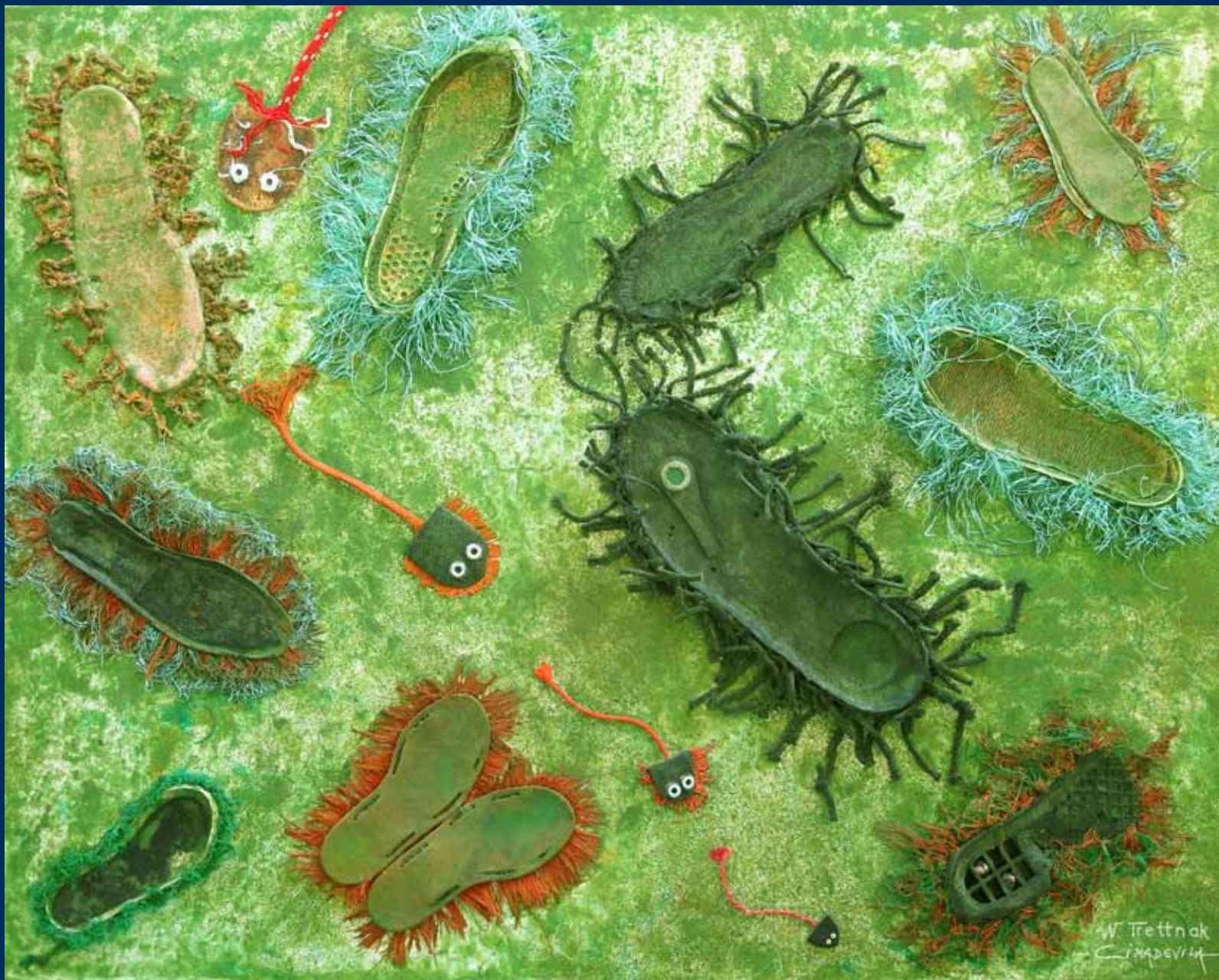
THE ENTANGLED DOLPHIN
Marine debris and mixed technique on canvas;
100 x 160 cm; 2015



CIES ISLANDS

Marine debris and
mixed technique
on canvas;

200 x 160 cm; 2015



SLIPPER ANIMALCULES

Marine debris and mixed technique on canvas;
80 x 100 cm; 2014



ALL PLANKTON?

Marine debris and mixed technique on canvas;
80 x 100 cm; 2014



THE MARINE SHOE SHOP

Marine debris and mixed technique on canvas;
100 x 160 cm; 2016



SUBMARINE FLOWERS (I)

Marine debris and mixed technique on canvas;

100 x 160 cm; 2016



NETS (II)

Marine debris and mixed technique on canvas;

100 x 160 cm; 2017



TURTLES

Marine debris and mixed technique on canvas;
80 x 100 cm; 2016



TWO OCTOPUSES

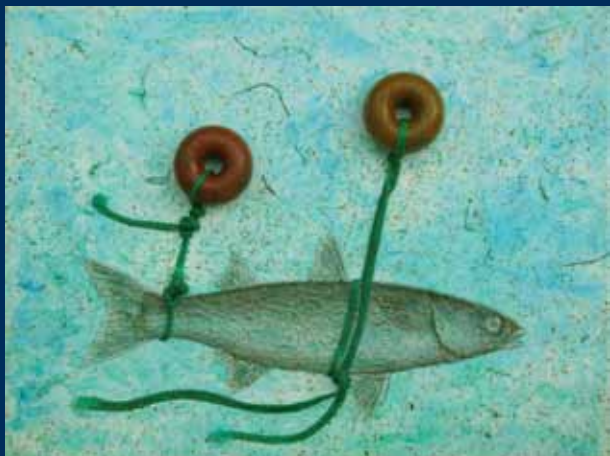
Marine debris and mixed technique on canvas;
80 x 100 cm; 2016



SUBMARINE FLOWERS (II)

Marine debris and mixed technique on canvas;

100 x 160 cm; 2016-2017



FLOATING MULLET



PUFFERFISH



FISH BONDAGE



PLANKTON & MICROPLASTICS II

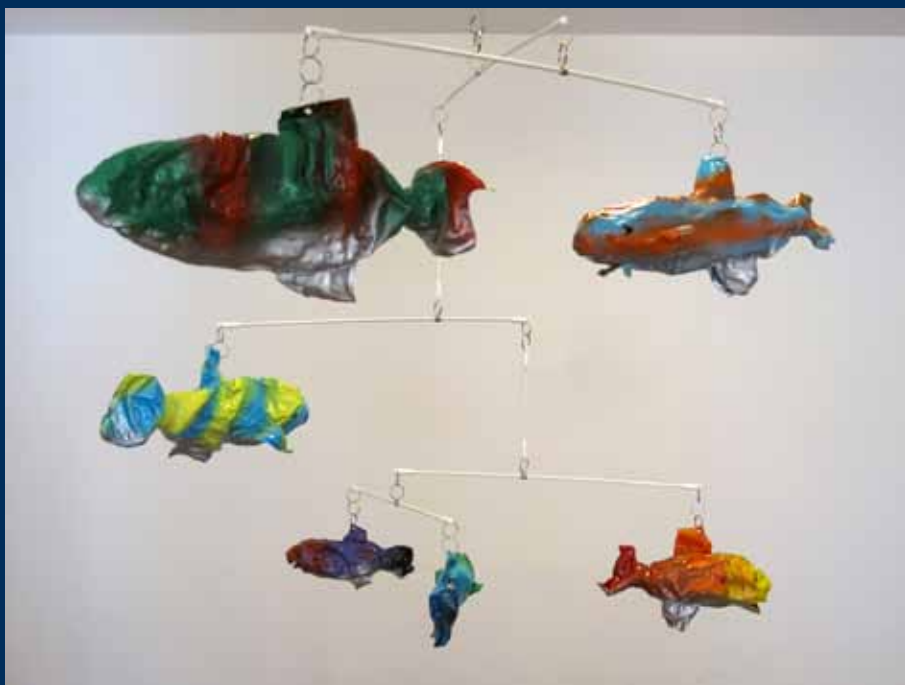


CARANGOIDES PLASTIVORUS



ENTANGLED FISH

Marine debris and mixed technique on canvas;
30 x 40 cm; 2015



FISH MOBILE (I)

Plastic bottles, glass fibre rods, spray paint
and other materials;
approx. 75 (height) x 90 (Ø) cm; 2016





FISH MOBILE (II)

Plastic bottles, glass fibre rods, spray paint
and other materials;
approx. 65 (height) x 60 (Ø) cm; 2016





STRANDED MONSTERS

(Video; 2:04 min)

https://youtu.be/bbL_QA0fOmU



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