

# Bianca Bondi

**Bianca Bondi** was born in 1986 in Johannesburg, South Africa. She lives and works in Paris.

Rejecting any hierarchy between the human and the non-human, the visible and the non-visible, the artist explores in a continuous flow of metamorphoses the macro and microscopic relationships we have with our environment. The artist calls our attention to the fragility of the ecosystem of which we are a part, highlighting the importance of an ecological and holistic mindframe for the continuation of human life.

Bianca Bondi uses both chemistry and the occult sciences to question our representations and reconsider our notions of rituals and beliefs, of cycles with an emphasis on rebirth and regeneration. The artist experiments with specifically chosen natural elements to examine what intrinsic properties, or "energy", by diverse cultures they are said to possess, and how this energy can be channeled and eventually activated. The artist's approach unfolds in monumental and immersive site specific installations as well as in two-dimensional works and sculptural installations.

Bianca Bondi graduated from Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Arts of Paris-Cergy in 2012 and from WITS University in Johannesburg, South Africa in 2006.

Her work has been presented in solo exhibitions at CAP Saint-Fons (2022); Fondation Louis Vuitton - Open Space, Paris (2021); Le Voyage à Nantes, Nantes (2021); Le Parvis, Tarbes (2020); Les Limbes, Saint-Etienne (2018); Hazard, Johannesburg (2018; La Cité des Sciences, Paris (2017); and at La Villa Belleville, Paris (2017).

She has also participated in numerous group exhibitions in international institutions and manifestations such as the Fondation Carmignac, Porquerolles (2021); Casino Luxembourg (2020); Pera Museum, Istanbul (2020); the Busan Biennale (2020); Het HEM, Zaandam, The Netherlands (2020); the 15th Lyon Biennial (2019); BOZAR, Brussels (2019); IK Lab, Tulum (2019); CAC La Traverse, Alfortville (2018), CAC Meymac, France (2018); La Panacée, Montpellier (2018); New Jörg, Vienna (2016); Cité des Arts, Paris (2016); Villa Emerige, Paris (2015); Centre for Contemporary Art Ujadowski Castle, Warsaw (2014), among others.

In 2021, Bianca Bondi received the Talents Contemporains Award, from the Fondation François Schneider. She is currently in residency at POUSH Manifesto, Clichy, France.

# Artist's CV

# Selected Solo Exhibitions

# 2022

- Vanilla Oxyde, CAP Saint-Fons, France
- Objects as Actants, CRAC Occitanie, Sète, France
- Solo show, Lille 3000, Lille, France

# 2021

- The Faint House of Yes, Temple du Goût, Le Voyage à Nantes, France
- Open.Space #8, Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris, France
- La Vitrine: Bianca Bondi, FRAC lle de France, Paris, France
- Underland, mor charpentier, Paris, France

### 2020

- Still Waters, Centre d'Art Le Parvis, Tarbes, France

### 2019

- Mother Lemon, Apick Gallery invites Josédelafuenté Gallery, Turin, Italy
- Moths drink the tears of sleeping birds, VNH Gallery, Paris, France

# 2018

- Diet & Psychology, Les Limbes Céphalopode, Saint-Etienne, France
- Gradually, then Suddenly, Galerie 22,48m2, Paris, France
- SWEETTEETH, Hazard, Johannesburg, South Africa

### 2017

- Repressed Memories Return..., Cité des Sciences, Paris, France
- A Series of Discreet Events, La Villa Belleville, Paris, France

# **Selected Group Exhibitions**

### 2022

- Forms of Fragility, Galerie Rudolfinum, Praha, Czech Republic
- Group show, RADIUS Center for Contemporary Art and Ecology, Delft, The Netherlands
- Jardins Partagés, Les Magasins Généraux, Pantin, France
- Group show, MAMAC, Nice, France

# 2021

- 2nd Thailand Biennale, Korat, Nakon Ratchasima, Thailand
- La mer imaginaire, Fondation Carmignac, Porquerolles, France
- Life to Itself, CIAP Vassivière, France
- A Sunless Future?, mor charpentier, Paris, France

### 9090

- Words at an Exhibition, Busan Biennale, South Korea
- L'Homme Gris, Casino Luxembourg, Luxemburg
- Anatomie du Quotidien, Maison forte de Hautetour, Saint-Gervais-les-Bains, France
- Crystal Clear, Pera Museum, Istanbul, Turkey
- De(s)rives, Galerie Aline Vidal, Paris, France
- Composite Materiality, El Jundi Gallery, Marbella, Spain
- Programme Spécial, Atelier Poush, Clichy, France
- Chapter 3, Het HEM, Zaandam, The Netherlands
- Le Vaisseau d'Or, Galerie Vallois, Paris, France

### 2019

- Où les eaux se mêlent, 15th Lyon Biennale, Usines Fagor Brandt, Lyon, France
- Alchemistry, IK Lab, Tulum, Mexico
- From Flood to Flight. Myths, Songs & Other Stories, Premier Regard, Paris, France
- Brasero, Chapelle de la Madeleine, Arles, France
- MERDELAMERDELAMER, Mario Mauroner Contemporary Art, Vienna, Austria
- IncarNations, BOZAR Palais des Beaux-Arts, Brussels, Belgium
- Have a Butcher's, Ballon Rouge, Brussels, Belgium
- La Baie aux 2 Lunes, EAC Les Roches, Le Chambon-sur-Lignon, France
- Some of us..., Nord'art, Büdelsdorf, Germany

### 2018

- IIth Prix Meurice, Le Meurice Hotel, Paris, France
- Décadence, Franklin Azzi Architecture, Paris, France
- A Hole in Time, CAC La Traverse, Alfortville, France
- Se mettre au vert, Maison des Arts et Loisirs, Laon, France
- Des fils ou des fibres, CAC Meymac, France
- Material Narratives: Get it While It's Hot, DOC, Paris, France
- INTOTO, Fondation d'Entreprise Ricard, Paris, France
- Biennale de la Jeune Création, Centre d'art de la Graineterie, Houille, France
- Crashtest, La Panacée, Montpellier, France
- Continent des anecdotes, Galerie Felix Franchon, Ixelles, Belgium

# 2017

- Built like a memory, Tag Team Studio, Bergen, Norway
- 8th Young Triennal, Center of Polish Sculpture, Oronsko, Poland
- Dans la place, Pavillon Carré de Baudoin, Paris, France
- Ainsi jouaient les enfants seuls, Les Ateliers des Arques, France

# Selected Group Exhibitions

- Freak Park, La Villa Belleville, Paris, France
- Pillars, Carrington Gallery, Gent, Belgium
- Preparatory portrait of a young girl, Plato, Ostrava, Czesch Republic
- Les Vies de Cagliostro, Galerie 22,48m2, Paris, France

### 2016

- A Thousand Friends (part 2), curated by Exo Exo, New Jörg, Vienna, Austria
- I Would've Done Everything For You/Gimme More!, The Plug, London, UK
- En Flamme, Firma, Brussels, Belgium
- The Garden, Cité des Arts, Paris, France
- Né un 2 juillet, Galerie Derouillon, Paris, France

### **2015**

- Empiristes, Bourse Révélations Emerige, Villa Emerige, Paris, France
- Ordradek, Instants Chavirés, Montreuil, France
- EUREKA!, Galerist, Istanbul, Turkey
- Unplugged, Château de la Roche-Guyon, France
- Floating Reverie / Post-digital 2014, Kalashnikovv Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

# 2014

- D!NG X.II, Kunstencentrum Belgie, Hasselt, Belgium
- 48°28'39"N2°12'47"E, Auvers-Saint-Georges, France
- Slow Future, Centre for Contemporary Art Ujadzdowski Castle, Warsaw, Poland
- Même l'imprévu est quantifiable, Château de la Roche-Guyon, France

# **Grants, Awards** & Residencies

# 2021

— Talents Contemporains Award, Fondation François Schneider, Watwiller, France

# 2020

— Two-year artist residency at POUSH Manifesto, Clichy, France

### 2019

— Artist residency at Manifesto, l'Orfévrerie, Saint Denis, France

# 2018

— Artist residency at Nirox, Cradle of Mankind, South Africa

### 2017

- Artist residency at Aldea, Bergen, Norway
- Artist residency at Center of Polish Sculpture, Oronsko, Poland
- Artist residency at Les Ateliers des Arques, France

# 2016

— Artist residency at Villa Belleville, Paris, France

# 2014

— Artist residency at Château de la Roche Guyon, France

# **Education**

# 2012

— DNSEP, Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Arts Paris - Cergy, France

# 2010

- DNAP, Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Arts Paris - Cergy, France

### 2006

— BAFA, Fine Arts, Wits University, Johannesburg, South Africa

# Selected Works

Bianca Bondi's practice is ecological in the sense that she creates site specific and sculptural works that are composed of locally sourced materials. This is not only to limit the carbon footprint linked to the transport of works but also because she works with the aura or energy harboured within the materials themselves. Locally sourced salt for example, is more relevant in her practice than salt shipped from her home country.

Bearing this in mind, many of her large scale installations presented in the next pages exist to be readapted in new contexts and with new found materials, the artist also preferring to source secondhand elements. The installation *The Antechamber* is a great example as it was adapted to different venues in Korea in Thailand.



# The Sacred Spring, 2019

Site-specific installation with various objects, furniture and kitchen utensils crystallized in salt Variable dimensions (can be adapted to the exhibition space) Unique piece

> Installation view, Biennale de Lyon, 2019 Photo credit : Blaise Adilon Courtesy of the artist and mor charpentier



**The Sacred Spring**, 2019
Site-specific installation with various objects, furniture and kitchen utensils crystallized in salt
Variable dimensions (can be adapted to the exhibition space)
Unique piece

Installation view, Biennale de Lyon, 2019 Photo credit : Blaise Adilon Courtesy of the artist and mor charpentier



Have You Accepted Christ as Your Personal Savior?, 2019

Neon signs, steel structure, artificial plants
(This door can be installed indoors or outdoors)

320 x 180 x 180 cm

Unique piece

Exhibition view, *Moths Drink the Tears of Sleeping Birds*, VNH, Paris, 2019 Courtesy of the artist and mor charpentier



The Wishing Well IV, 2021 Small chair, salt dough, artificial plants, various objects and salt water  $35 \times 40 \times 70$  cm Unique piece

Photo credit : François Doury Courtesy of the artist and mor charpentier



# Still Waters, 2020

Site-specific installation with dried flowers, ponds made of flour and salt, Holy water, copper and shells

Variable dimensions (can be adapted to the exhibition space)

Unique piece

Installation view, *Still Waters, Scrying in Astral Ponds,* Le Parvis, Tarbes, 2020 Photo credit: Bianca Bondi Courtesy of the artist and mor charpentier



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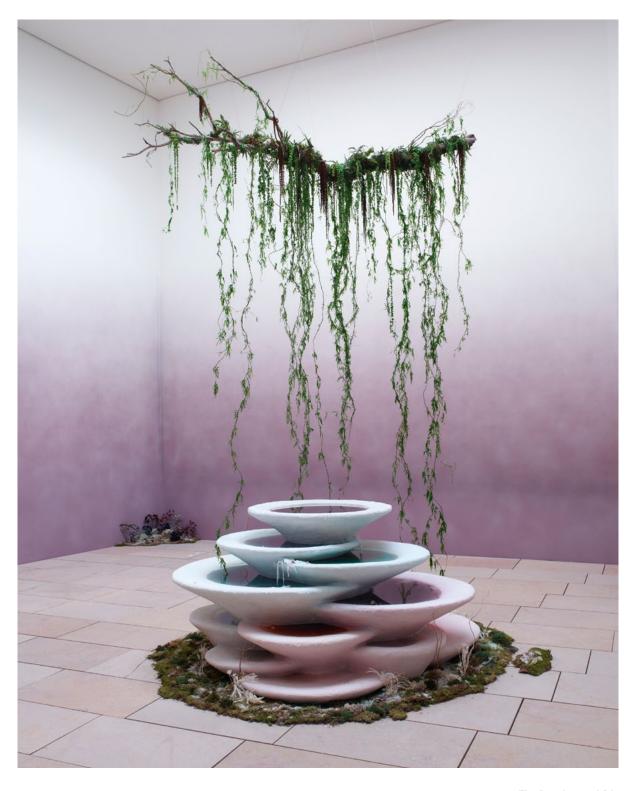
Installation view, *Still Waters, Scrying in Astral Ponds,* Le Parvis, Tarbes, 2020 Photo credit: Bianca Bondi Courtesy of the artist and mor charpentier



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**The Daydream**, 2021
Site specific installation with resin sculpture, colored water, dry plants, and various objects crystallized in salt
Sculpture: I8O x 2OO x IIO cm
Unique piece

Exhibition view, *The Daydream*, Open Space #8, Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris, 2021 Photo credit: Marc Domage Courtesy of the artist and Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris



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Red List Hector's Dolphin (The Fall and Rise) and Red List Amazon River Dolphin (The Fall and Rise) , 2021 Two resin and fiber glass dolphin skeletons, dry plants and pearl necklaces crystallized in salt  $230 \times 110 \times 50$  cm each Unique pieces

Exhibition view, *Underland*, mor charpentier, Paris, 2021.

Photo credit: François Doury

Courtesy of the artist and mor charpentier



Red List Hector's Dolphin (The Fall and Rise) and Red List Amazon River Dolphin (The Fall and Rise) , 2021

Two resin and fiber glass dolphin skeletons, dry plants and pearl necklaces crystallized in salt

230 x IIO x 50 cm each

Unique pieces

Exhibition view, *Underland*, mor charpentier, Paris, 2021.

Photo credit: François Doury
Courtesy of the artist and mor charpentier



**The Fall and Rise**, 2021 Resin and fiber glass whale skeleton, salt and other minerals Length: 1200 cm Unique piece

Installation view, *La Mer Imaginaire*, Fondation Carmignac, Porquerolles, 2021 Photo credit: Marc Dommage Courtesy of the artist and mor charpentier



The Private Lives of Non-Human Entities, 2020 Installation including a neon sign, two chairs and a table covered with crockery crystallized in salt Table: diameter 60 cm , height 75 cm Unique piece

Exhibition view, *Underland*, mor charpentier, Paris, 2021 Photo credit: Martin Freiherr van Hagen and François Doury Courtesy of the artist and mor charpentier



The Private Lives of Non-Human Entities, 2020

Installation including a neon sign, two chairs and a table covered with crockery crystallized in salt
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**Bloom**, 2017-2021 Series of mixed-media installations inside plexiglas vitrines, on wooden plinths 130 x 30 x 30 cm each Unique pieces

Photo credit: François Doury Courtesy of the artist and mor charpentier



**Bloom**, 2017-2021 Series of mixed-media installations inside plexiglas vitrines, on wooden plinths 130 x 30 x 30 cm each Unique pieces

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# The Antechamber (Tundra Swan), 2020

Site specific installation with various objects and materials including a bed changed into a pond filled with flowers and salty water, 6 tons of unrefined salt Variable dimensions (can be adapted to the exhibition space)

Unique piece

Installation view, Busan Biennale, 2020.
Photo credit: Bianca Bondi
Courtesy of the artist and mor charpentier



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Site specific installation with various objects and materials including a bed changed into a pond filled with flowers and salty water, 6 tons of unrefined salt Variable dimensions (can be adapted to the exhibition space)

Unique piece

Installation view, Busan Biennale, 2020.
Photo credit: Bianca Bondi
Courtesy of the artist and mor charpentier



The Antechamber (Thai Crane), 2021

Site specific installation with various objects and materials including a bed changed into a pond filled with flowers and salty water, 6 tons of unrefined salt Variable dimensions (can be adapted to the exhibition space)

Unique piece

Installation view, Biennale of Thailand, Korat, 2021 Photo credit : Manatchai Thatu Courtesy of the artist and mor charpentier



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Site specific installation with various objects and materials including a bed changed into a pond filled with flowers and salty water, 6 tons of unrefined salt Variable dimensions (can be adapted to the exhibition space)

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