

# artspace

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NEW HAVEN, CT 06510



## Do Plankton Have Feelings?

**Dec 14, 2019 - Feb 29, 2020**

**Opening Reception: Sat, Dec 14, 6-8pm**

Cynthia Beth Rubin in collaboration with the Menden-Deuer lab at the Graduate School of Oceanography, at the University of Rhode Island

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**New Haven, CT** -- Plankton may not have human-like emotions, but we can have feelings for them. For her solo show in the Project Room, artist/educator Cynthia Beth Rubin debuts a body of digital mixed media works exploring oceanic plankton as endearing living organisms. Melding gesture drawing with micro-photography, Rubin imbues laboratory imagery with an energy usually reserved for depictions of humans. As a prelude to the exhibition, Rubin is offering public plankton drawing workshops, then incorporating works from the workshops into the installed exhibition through Augmented Reality. In the age of Climate Change, humans developing feelings for plankton paves the way for appreciation of the crucial role of plankton in oceanic ecosystems.

### About

Cynthia Beth Rubin is a new media artist whose works evoke imagined narratives through interwoven layers of representation and abstraction, frequently combined with Augmented Reality and interactive experience. Based in New Haven, CT, her studio practice extends from New York City to Narragansett, Rhode Island and beyond. She is an early adaptor of digital imaging, transitioning from paint in the 1980s. Her prints, videos, and interactive works have been shown on the ICC tower façade in Hong Kong, the Jewish Museum in Prague, the Cotton Club screen in Harlem, the ICA in London, the Jerusalem Biennale, and numerous international festivals featuring digital art. Her work is included in *Art in the Digital Age* by Bruce Wands, *The Computer in the Visual Arts* by Anne Morgan Spalter, *Arts en Réseau* by INA, and other notable publications.