Prototyping Ocean Imaginaries

A narrative prototyping workshop with architects, artists, designers, ocean lovers and sustainability scientists







Join us on 31 October 2025 for a full-day workshop at Stockholm Resilience Centre, bringing together architects, artists, designers, ocean lovers, and scientists to prototype narratives for sustainable futures. The workshop is co-organised with Konstfack - University of Arts, Crafts and Design, The Royal College of Arts Architecture programme, KTH Architecture and Karlstad University.

The event builds on the premise of the Radical Ocean Futures Project that sometimes science fiction might succeed where scientific papers fall short. Participants will be invited to experience (through three short, interconnected films), discuss and then workshop around new science-based storytelling devices to radically reimagine the future of our ocean. In 'Ocean Futurisms' a unique collaboration between Radical Ocean Futures, TBA21 and Inferstudio, we invite participants to not only experience but be part of experimenting with alternate futures for the global ocean.

How can we take action in order to work collectively towards a more sustainable ocean if we lack visionary and compelling imaginaries of alternate futures that engage us and spark our own imaginations? This approach aims to galvanise our collective agency to transform these visions

into reality or to take decisions to steer away from them, driving bold strategies and policies for not only envisioning but also acting to safeguard the future of our planet's largest and most important ecosystem. Practically, participants will work in small groups in the workshop and use the films, the science and the method behind them as inspiration to prototype artefacts from alternate radical ocean futures.

Event details

- Friday, 31 October, 2025
- 09:00-16:00 CET
- 📍 Stockholm Resilience Centre, Albanovägen 28
- Lobby/Kitchen area and room Ostrom

Agenda

- 09:00-09:15 Arrivals and registration
- 09:15-09:30 Check in and Icebreaker
- 09:30-09:45 Welcome by SRC and RCA introduction to the project
- 09:45-10:15 Film Screenings MANA HAVSRÅ MATSYA
- 10:15-10:30 Small group reflections on the films
- 10:30-10:45 BREAK
- 10:45-11:30 Sharing the science and the storytelling of how the films were created
- 11:30-12:00 Introducing the prototyping exercise, getting into groups, flexing imagination muscles
- 12:00-13:00 LUNCH
- 13:00-14:00 Prototyping Phase One
- 14:00-15:00 Prototyping Phase Two
- 15:00-15:30 Reporting back from groups and reflections
- 15:30-16:00 Closing and check out

About the organisers

Andrew Merrie - Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm University

Andrew Merrie is a sustainability scientist and futurist with a PhD from the Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm University. During the final year of his PhD, Andrew launched the Radical Ocean Futures project which presents four scientifically grounded multimedia narratives of potential alternate futures for the global ocean. The project focuses on how we might think more creatively & radically about the many challenges facing our species and our planet and the potential pathways emerging to address those challenges.

andrew.merrie@su.se

Bethany Edgoose - Royal College of Arts

Bethany is an Associate Lecturer in the School of Architecture and studio tutor of ADS13. She is co-founder and creative director of independent design practice Inferstudio. She holds a Masters of Science (Anthropology and International Development) from the London School of Economics and previously worked as a cyber security analyst.

bethany.edgoose@rca.ac.uk

Nathan Su - Royal College of Arts

Nathan is an Associate Lecturer in the School of Architecture and studio tutor of ADS13. He is co-founder and creative director of independent design practice Inferstudio. He studied architecture at the University of Melbourne and the Architectural Association in London and previously worked as an advanced researcher for Forensic Architecture and a lecturer at UCLA.

nathan.su@rca.ac.uk

John Lynch

John Lynch is a writer and Associate Professor in Film and Media Aesthetics at Karlstad University in Sweden. He works at the intersection of the cinematic and storytelling in film and television with a focus on Science Fiction. He is a member of the Centre for Geomedia Studies at Karlstad University and guest lecturer for the MFA Film at HDK Valand, Gothenburg University.

John.lynch@kau.se

Bettina Schwalm - Konstfack, University of Arts, Crafts and Design

Bettina is a Speculative Experience Designer, Writer, Consulting Strategist and Researcher with a long experience driving future-making as a collective practice in the service of society, culture and the environment. She is

educating and coaching teams in innovation, future thinking and sustainability, always with a strong focus on behavioural studies. She is a Centre Director at the Stockholm School of Entrepreneurship and affiliated to Konstfack (University of Arts, Crafts, and Design) as well as a guest lecturer in various institutions around the world.

Bettina.Schwalm@konstfack.se

Francesca Savio - Royal Institute of Technology Architecture

Francesca is an urban designer and lecturer at KTH School of Architecture. She currently leads the Urban Waterlines Studio in the master's program, exploring the intersection of urbanism, climate resilience, and the future of cities on the water. Francesca has previously taught the Urbanism and Landscape Studio and SUPD's Textures Studio, since 2017. She has worked as an urban designer in Italy, Spain, and Sweden, focusing on circular and inclusive urban development, with projects spanning Sweden, Finland, Germany, and China. Today, she runs her own practice, engaging in speculative futures and critical urban strategies, emphasizing the role of public space, infrastructure, and ecological systems in shaping resilient cities.

fsavio@kth.se