



PRESS RELEASE

#inyourface - The Exhibition

Due to high demand, the photo exhibition keeps on touring - save the date!

Berlin, March 1st - Microplastics infiltrate our bodies, flow through the currents of rivers, are carried by the wind, fly into the ground, wash ashore and return to the ocean - no water is left untouched.

On the occasion of the UN World Water Day 2022, the organization Ocean. Now! will open the exhibition of the portrait series *In Your Face*. Due to high demand, it will be repeated for a consecutive year. #inyourface makes the barely visible yet universal presence of microplastics tangible. Through 56 portraits based on the artwork *Microplastics II* by renowned artist Swaantje Güntzel, it invites people to reflect on their consumer behavior. With the portrait of a symbolic beauty mask made of microplastic particles and a bleeding nose, famous faces make a public statement. The portraits' microplastic, collected over a five-month period by dedicated volunteers on beaches around the world, points out that everything is connected to everything else. The photo exhibition was already on show several times in Kiel and Berlin in 2021. Due to high demand, the series, which has reached a media reach of over 9 million since 2019 and appeared as a discussion example in a school textbook, is now moving on to Sylt and Lisbon.

The exhibition series starts on the coast in Sylt Westerland, sixteen flags and banners with quotes from the protagonists on the question "What does the ocean mean to you?" on the beach promenade draw attention to the exhibition in the Musikmuschel. The exhibition will then move on to Berlin and Lisbon. All portraits and statements can also be viewed in a [digital gallery](#). The exhibition's concept includes interactive elements such as an Instagram Face Filter, allowing visitors inside to create and share their own personal #inyourface portrait. "We want to contribute to social change and show people that we are many," says Meike Schützek, founder of Ocean. Now! "In doing so, we are also targeting decision-makers in politics and business." Via a digital microplastics quiz, exhibition visitors can test their knowledge and anonymously view the answers of others live.

Key dates:

Phase 1 - Sylt Westerland: 22.3.-16.4.2022 [Musikmuschel Westerland](#), Strandstr. 35, 25980 [Sylt](#).
Vernissage: 22.3. at 17:30-18:30

Panelists: Swaantje Güntzel (artist), Dr. Mark Lenz (marine biologist and microplastics expert, GEOMAR) and Josefa Kny (transformation expert, Club of the Good Future, FuturZwei).

Moderation: Meike Schützek, founder Ocean. Now!

Phase 2 - Berlin: 6.5. [theme day "Plastic in the environment"](#) / Ecologic Institute, [Spreespeicher](#), Stralauer Allee 2, 10245 [Berlin](#)

Phase 3 - Lisbon, 6/27-7/1/2022 [UN Ocean Conference](#), [Ciência Viva](#) - Alameda Oceanos, Lt. 2, Pavilhão Do Conhecimento-Ciência Viva 10.01, [Lisboa](#), Portugal.

You can download the press package about "#inyourface - The 2022 Exhibition" here. You can find more press material on our [press page](#).

You can find the [digital #INYOURFACE gallery](#) and more general information about the #inyourface project on the [exhibition page](#).

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About Ocean. Now!

Using the power of art, Ocean. Now! strengthens commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG 14) - "Life Below Water" - and motivates sustainable action at all levels of society. Our goal is to rebuild the diversity of the marine ecosystem.

Ocean. Now! is the first NGO to target decision makers in politics and business - with concept art that is tailored to campaigns and co-creative. [Learn more about the mission of Ocean. Now!](#)

About Swaantje Güntzel

Swaantje Güntzel's artistic work focuses on the analysis of man's alienated relationship with nature. For the past 15 years she has been concerned with the radical transformation of the landscape through human influence and the global challenges posed by anthropogenic climate change, plastic in the ocean, species extinction and the resulting psychological consequences for humanity. Her artistic approach stems from a deeply rooted aesthetic position that explores the essential dichotomy between visual pleasure and disturbing global issues. Her work is a disturbing critique of modern life in the 21st century.

Partners

The exhibition series is realized with the support of Miles Mobility, Insel Sylt Tourismus-Service, Bye Bye Plastik, Klare Kante Sylt, Sylt Marketing, Printartists, Syltfisch, Heinz Tesch GmbH, and Ciência Viva.