



## *Off the Deep End*

### —Project Proposal—

---

#### **Narrative:**

Young artists from Saint Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists (SPCPA) in partnership with the Minnesota Museum of American Art (the M) will embellish the Saint Paul Skyway (bridge #31) with an art installation titled *Off the Deep End*, bringing the depths of the ocean to Lowertown, Saint Paul.

Each January, students in SPCPA's visual arts department engage in a three-week art project intended to give them professional experience in their area of artistic practice. Guided by artists, curators, and teachers at both the M and SPCPA, 19 students in grades 9-12 worked collaboratively to develop a theme and cohesive imagery for the skyway.

*Off the Deep End* confronts themes surrounding a metaphorical rising sea level. With deep sea creatures at and above eye-level, human city-dwellers are faced with beings of mythos, which, if real, could only be seen in the hidden corners of the world. This reflects a real-life equivalent, referencing the "rising levels" of previously ignored groups, subcultures, and forces of oppression. The installation will bring unseen or hidden ideas and groups of people into the forefront, creating a break from the viewer's day-to-day life. Transporting them into a world, although conceptual, which may have been unknown or consciously avoided. The skyway's panels allow the art to take up space, imposing itself into the mind of the viewer, in hopes of getting them to question the world around them.

#### **Personnel:**

Artists: Dia Balderamos, Yessenia Beck, Adrianna Dahl-Piela, Ziza Deviana, Linnea Dramdahl, Is Flug, Adam Goranson, Phoebe Haas, Luna Hastur, Carissa Hillerns, Peter Hillyer, Jade Martin, Kaya Motl, Stella Pihlstrom, Ro Erickson, Allie Rognerud, Eowyn Simpson, Ryo Tiranasarn, and Donnel Wagner.

Brooks Turner, Visual Art Department Chair at SPCPA, will oversee the project as it unfolds while facilitating collaboration with the M. Brooks is an artist, writer, and educator. His recent work has appeared at the Weisman Art Museum, St. Cloud State University, Ridgewater College, Soo Visual Art Center, and in MnArtists. He has taught at the University of California, Los Angeles, St. Cloud State University, Ridgewater College, University of Minnesota, and is currently Chair of Visual Art at St. Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists. In 2017, he wrote *A Guide to Charles Ray Sleeping Mime*, published with Paperleaf Press, and continues to write essays for Hair and Nails Gallery, Temp/reviews, and Art Papers.

Nancy Ariza, Associate Curator of Learning and Engagement at the M will organize artist visits and educational programs for SPCPA students, while also facilitating the installation of the vinyl artwork in the skyway. Since 2012, Nancy has been developing and facilitating educational arts programming throughout the state of Minnesota. As the M's Associate Curator of Learning and Engagement, she oversees the museum's community partnerships as well as education and public programs. Outside of her role at the M, Nancy is an adjunct professor at Minneapolis College of Art and Design. She holds a BA in Art History and a BFA in Printmaking from Minnesota State University, Mankato and is an MA candidate at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota.

**Dates:**

Project review: April 2022

Installation: May 9 – May 13, 2022

Project duration: May 14, 2022 – March 15, 2023

**Site information:**

The installation will be displayed on a selection of skyway windows across Jackson Street, between the Jackson Street Ramp and 180 East 5th Street building in Lowertown St. Paul (bridge #31, see map below).

- The installation will cover no more than the 22 window sections across Jackson Street skyway bridge. Each artwork, featured on separate window panes, will measure 84 ½ x 60 inches.
- Vinyl will be hung on the interior of windows only.
- Two 20 x 15 inch printed vinyl information panels about the M and SPCPA's installation will be mounted on the inside of the Skyway's glass on either side of the bridge.



**Timeline:**

1. Installation: May 9 -13, 2022  
 Professional installers from signage company Art Partners Group will install a site-specific window installation, using removable 3M IJ8150 Clear View film (see attached spec. sheet for material details). The project will be overseen by Nancy Ariza (Associate Curator of Learning and Engagement at the M) and Ben Reed (Exhibition Services and Facilities Manager at the M).
2. The site will be surveyed on a regular schedule by the M. Maintenance, repairs, and removal will be conducted by the M.
3. The Building managers from the 180 East 5th Street and the Jackson Street Ramp, who also manage the Pioneer Endicott, have agreed to have the installation on view through March 15, 2023, at which time the project will be reviewed and either extended or removed.

**SPCPA’s creative plan:**

- Professional installers from signage company Art Partners Group will mount temporary translucent films directly on interior window surfaces.
- Imagery of a rising sea level featuring mythical sea creatures will be placed in the windows. The public will still be able to see through the window (above, below, and through the designs).
- The vinyl films will be translucent, producing colorful shadows in the skyway.

**Materials:**

- Temporary vinyl films (Removable 3M IJ8150 Clear View film) mounted directly to interior window surfaces only.

**Contacts:**

- Nancy Ariza, Associate Curator of Learning and Engagement, Minnesota Museum of American Art  
[nariza@mmaa.org](mailto:nariza@mmaa.org)  
952-261-6560
- Brooks Turner, Visual Art Department Chair, Saint Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists  
[turnerb@sccpa.org](mailto:turnerb@sccpa.org)  
651-290-2225

The following renderings are provided to give an idea of what *Off the Deep End* will look like once it is completed. It should not be considered how the final composition or colors will appear in the Skyway.



**IJ8150****Product Description**


- For Solvent, UV and Latex Inkjet Printing and Screen Printing
- 2-mil optically clear, vinyl film

**Product Features**

- Pressure-sensitive adhesive
- Conforms to simple curves and mild compound curves as found on vehicle windows
- Removable without heat
- Expected Performance Life of 7 year (unwarranted period for unprinted film with no graphic protection, applied to a flat, vertical, outdoor surface)

**Recommended Types of Graphics and End Uses**

- Building windows and dividers, interior and exterior
- Non-regulated vehicle and bus windows

 **CAUTION**

Glass surfaces exposed to sunlight will absorb heat. A glass surface covered by a film with high opacity or dark-colored ink, including films with small areas of high opacity or dark-colored ink, will absorb more heat. Heat absorption can create thermal stress that results in glass breakage, or thermal cracking. This can cause personal injury or property damage. 3M specifically does not recommend using a film with high opacity or dark-colored ink on glass surfaces with significant exposure to sunlight.

**Recommended Compatible Products**

See [3Mgraphics.com/warranties](http://3Mgraphics.com/warranties) for a complete list of compatible products that are approved by 3M for use with the base film covered in this Bulletin and used for the creation of a graphic that may be eligible for the 3M™ MCS™ Warranty or 3M Performance Guarantee.

**OEM Inkjet Inks and Printers for the 3M Performance Guarantee**

See the [3M Performance Guarantee Matrix](#) for a complete list of compatible OEM Inkjet Inks and Printers that are approved by 3M for use with the base film covered in the Bulletin and used for the creation of a graphic that may be eligible for the 3M Performance Guarantee.

**Screen Printing Inks for 3M™ MCS™ Warranty**

- [3M™ Screen Printing Ink Series 1900 \(Solvent\)](#), line color and four color
- [3M™ Screen Printing UV Ink Series 9800](#), line color and four color

**Quick Links**

[3M Graphics Warranties](#)  
[Technical Information Selector](#)  
[Safety Data Sheets \(SDS\)](#)  
[Flammability \(ASTM E84 Reports\)](#)  
[Videos](#)

Some of these links lead to web-based resources that are not product-specific.