

<u>press release</u>

S.E.A. Aquarium Presents VibranSEA and the Aquarist Lab — New Immersive Experiences Celebrating Ocean Life

Experience additions including an immersive exhibition on marine life and conservation, and a back-of-house facility offering a window into care dedicated to the marine young



PHOTO CREDIT: RESORTS WORLD SENTOSA.

SINGAPORE, 5 September 2023 – S.E.A. Aquarium (S.E.A. 海洋馆) at Resorts World Sentosa (RWS, 圣淘 沙名胜世界) launches two new experiences – VibranSEA (活力海洋) and the Aquarist Lab (海洋生物 繁育室) – which will offer guests greater insight into the mysteries and conservation of the ocean. VibranSEA is an immersive exhibition that showcases the beauty of aquatic ecosystems through art, science and educational displays. The Aquarist Lab, a back-of-house facility, offers a window into aquatic care. Here, visitors can deepen their understanding of world-class animal care amid nurseries and grow-out habitats.

VibranSEA Merges Art and Science to Inspire Appreciation for the Ocean

From 6 September 2023, guests will be immersed "underwater" at VibranSEA to learn about the aquatic world in a new light. Comprising four distinct zones, the experience dives into details of the ocean's depths, marine animals, lively aquatic ecosystems and timely reminders of the threats that jeopardise them.

In Zone One, visitors embark on a **Great Descent** through the different layers of the ocean, displayed through a changing spectrum of colours that includes the fascinating phenomenon of marine life bioluminescence. In Zone Two, visitors get **On the Inside** of and up-close with marine life anatomy by viewing them through X-ray and ultrasound technologies. Enter Zone Three, **Secret Seascapes**, where visitors will find a magnificent kelp forest and coral reefs housing a diverse variety of animal inhabitants. Finally, in Zone Four, VibranSEA showcases **Time and Tide**, an array of thought-provoking art installations created in collaboration with four local artists. Their works simultaneously revere the seas yet lament their state, urging visitors to reflect on the importance of environmental conservation and sustainable practices.

"As an exciting extension of the existing S.E.A. Aquarium experience, VibranSEA aims to spark a deeper understanding and appreciation in guests for both the wonders and mysteries of the ocean in an interactive and multisensory manner," said Ms Lam Xue Ying, Acting Vice President of S.E.A. Aquarium.



The Aquarist Lab Provides a Window into how Aquatic Life is Cultivated and Cared for

PHOTO CREDIT: RESORTS WORLD SENTOSA.

The newly launched Aquarist Lab allows visitors a window into marine nursery habitats and plankton culture set-ups, offering an intimate perspective into how aquarists breed, nurture and care for juvenile marine animals, and culture microorganisms.

For a brief look at the Aquarist Lab, in-park windows are open to all S.E.A. Aquarium ticket holders. For a guided tour of the Aquarist Lab and Quarantine Room, guests can purchase a ticket to the Behind-the-Scenes: Aquarist Lab experience.

Guests with a ticket to the Behind-the-Scenes experience will observe firsthand the dedicated work required of aquarists. They will get to learn about the process of plankton cultivation and husbandry for select animal species, including sea jellies. As part of S.E.A. Aquarium's ongoing efforts to deepen public understanding and appreciation of the rigour of animal care, visitors of the Behind-the-Scenes experience will also tour the Quarantine Room, a facility where the team acclimatises the animals and provides specialised care for them until they are ready to be reintroduced into the main habitats.

For more information on VibranSEA, the Aquarist Lab, Quarantine Room, and more guided tours including the S.E.A. Aquarium VIP Experience, visit: <u>https://www.rwsentosa.com/en/sea-aquarium</u>.

Promotion

From 1 September to 5 November, get the Vibrant Sweets package at S\$48/adult and S\$38/child. The child package comes with an admission ticket, a delicious cake pop, and a S\$5 F&B voucher, while the adult package includes an additional S\$5 retail voucher.

Guests can top up S\$25 for the Behind-the-Scenes: Aquarist Lab experience.

Appendix

Zones One to Four

Zone One - Make the Great Descent through Layers of the Ocean

Dive into our ocean and uncover vivid colors, vibrant life and a captivating play of light. Visitors will experience a gradual transition through the ocean's layers, unveiling the exquisite beauty of bioluminescence amid a world of oceanic darkness.

Zone Two - Get on the Inside and embark on a journey into Marine Anatomy with Immersive X-Ray and Ultrasound Technology

Visitors will develop an appreciation and understanding of marine anatomy through the lens of veterinary care methods. Ignite curiosity by viewing marine animals in a new light — viewing their anatomy through technologies such as ultrasound imagery, clearing and staining techniques and X-ray imaging.

Zone Three - Navigate Secret Seascapes and uncover the mystery of Majestic Kelp Forests and Coral Reefs

Step into an underwater utopia with larger-than-life landscapes that transport visitors into the mesmerising realm of the majestic kelp forest. Discover its lushness, captivating residents, and gain a deeper understanding of their role in this intricate ecosystem. Then, embark on an awe-inspiring journey through the vibrant world of coral reefs. Uncover the extraordinary role they play as one of the most biodiverse marine ecosystems on our planet.

Zone Four - Walk through Art that Tells Stories of Time and Tide

Local artists conclude the VibranSEA journey with interpretations of the state of our oceans. Each installation expresses an imaginative response to the predicament and possible future of the seas, imparting the importance and urgency of ocean conservation.

The art installations in VibranSEA encompass 2D illustrations, 3D sculpted forms, traditional handicrafts, as well as art powered by robotics and engineering. The artistic creations engage multiple senses – auditory, visual, and tactile – which come together to enrich the visitor experience.

One of the featured artists is **Rizman Putra**, a visionary artist known for his seamless fusion of performance, visual arts, and music. Rizman's artwork, 'Anthozoa: The Ocean Dwellers', is a mixed media walk-through installation that takes visitors on a transformative journey through a colourless ocean juxtaposed with hyper-coloured marine life. This hand-painted piece serves as a powerful reminder of an unprotected ocean losing its vibrant hues and a call to restore its colours.

Natalia Tan, a textile artist and art facilitator, weaved the "Throwaway Society", a collection of visually compelling tapestries repurposed from waste found along Singaporean beaches. Using the traditional craft of weaving, her work – Ocean Loom (Catch of the Day), beautifully conveys the devastating impact of human trash while inspiring reflection and promoting the responsible use of resources.

Song Baoyu, an artist who explores environmental issues through engineering, robotics and 3D printing, created the Museum of Marine Life 2223. The work is a metaphorical representation of a possible future impacted by the destructive forces of the Anthropocene — the geological age when human activity is a dominant influence on the world. His captivating collection of kinetic and robotic sculptures serves as a poignant narrative of a dystopian future, where marine life has been decimated by human activity.

Finally, **Bani Haykal**, an accomplished sound artist and musician, contributes immersive soundscapes that extend across the various zones of VibranSEA. His soundscapes represent VibranSEA's auditory experience and serve as a sonic through line that immerses visitors into the exhibition deeper.

For more information on VibranSEA, visit: <u>http://www.rwsentosa.com/vibransea</u>.

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ABOUT RESORTS WORLD SENTOSA

Resorts World Sentosa (RWS), Asia's premium lifestyle destination resort, is located on Singapore's resort island of Sentosa. Spanning 49 hectares, RWS is home to world-class attractions including Universal Studios Singapore, S.E.A. Aquarium, Dolphin Island and Adventure Cove Waterpark. Complementing the adventure and adrenaline of its theme parks and attractions are six unique luxury hotels, the world-class Resorts World Convention Centre and a casino. RWS offers award-winning dining experiences and exciting cuisines from around the world across its many renowned celebrity chef restaurants, establishing itself as a key player in Singapore's vibrant and diverse dining scene and a leading gourmet destination in Asia for epicureans. The integrated resort also offers world-class entertainment, from concerts to public shows. RWS has been named "Best Integrated Resort" since 2011 for the 10th year in a row at the TTG Travel Awards which recognises the best of Asia-Pacific's travel industry.

RWS is wholly owned by Genting Singapore, a company of the Genting Group. For more information, please visit <u>www.rwsentosa.com</u>.



ABOUT S.E.A. AQUARIUM

Opened in November 2012, S.E.A. Aquarium at Resorts World Sentosa is one of the world's largest aquariums and is home to more than 100,000 marine animals across 1,000 species. Featuring more than 40 diverse habitats, S.E.A. Aquarium aspires to support and raise awareness of the conservation and preservation of threatened species such as hard corals, and sharks and rays. Through interactive programmes, up-close animal encounters and immersive learning journeys, S.E.A. Aquarium aims to inspire visitors to learn about the world's oceans and its diversity. S.E.A. Aquarium collaborates with local and regional partners in marine conservation projects and is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) and World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA).

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EDITORS' NOTES

- 1. High-resolution photographs can be downloaded from <u>here</u>.
- 2. All photographs are to be attributed to: Resorts World Sentosa (圣海沙名胜世界)