

## (Some) Artists:

[Susan Aldworth](#) – Neuroscience, the study of consciousness and how the brain works, is a subject area which provides a rich source of inspiration to artists. Aldworth, working side by side with neuroscientists, creates work dealing with those exact topics; her most recent works include prints made directly from human brain tissue.

[Olafur Eliasson](#) – Eliasson is known for sculptured and large-scaled installation art, employing elemental materials such as light, water, and air temperature, which frequently uses mirrors to expand spaces and evoke a subtle sense of disorientation.

[Andy Goldsworthy](#) – Goldsworthy creates [visually striking](#), ephemeral sculptures that use only elements from nature. Whether he is spiraling sticks, arranging leaves, or sculpting with stones, his works hold a simple and natural appeal.

[David Hockney](#) – Hockney has had a long and illustrious career as a painter and printmaker. He played a major part in the Pop Art movement and continued working for decades after (including significant forays into digital art). In 2001, his collaborative research with physicist Charles Falco changed how we think about art history. [Hockney and Falco's thesis](#) stated that visual and realistic advances by artists since the Renaissance came from a [reliance on optical instruments](#). Specifically—and controversially—they proposed that many of the Old Masters relied not on technique and skill, but instead used tools such as the [camera obscura](#) and [curved mirrors](#).

[Luke Jerram](#) – From [glass models of microbes and viruses](#) to giant Aeolian harps, Jerram uses science like few other artists. His research deals with perception across all of our senses (including the fact that he is color blind). Jerram builds and manages teams of specialists, including engineers and technicians, to help create the elaborate works he conceives.

[Joshua Mays](#) – Mays is a painter, illustrator, and muralist whose work typically features black subjects in fantastical settings, is considered by many to be an example of [Afrofuturism](#), although he does not use the label to describe himself.

[Josiah McElheny](#) – McElheny's sculptures, paintings, installations, performances, and films [engage with the history of ideas across wide-ranging fields of study](#)—from literature to architecture, music theory, and astronomy—transforming this research into physical form. His works often combine glass or mirror with other materials, to emphasize the importance of the act of looking “as a subject in and of itself.”

[Maria Sibylla Merian](#) – Known as the [woman who made science beautiful](#), Merian was a naturalist and scientific illustrator in the 1600s. She published her first book of illustrations at age 28, fascinating people across Europe. She subsequently traveled from Europe to South America to paint, study, and research. Her illustrations of the metamorphosis of a butterfly contributed significantly to the field of entomology.

[Janelle Monáe](#) - Monáe works in a genre called [Afrofuturism](#). Loosely defined, it imagines the future of Black liberation from a hostile world—ours. Although she publishes books and stars in movies, Monáe is best known as a musician, and it was her 2018 concept album, [Dirty Computer](#), that defined her Afrofuturist visions.

[Fabian Oefner](#) – Oefner uses photography to combine art and science. His work often demonstrates [the beauty of scientific phenomena](#). Using fire, iridescence, sound waves, and centripetal forces, he creates and captures fascinating images.

[Mikael Owunna](#) – Owunna photographs and videos explore the intersections of technology, art, and African cosmologies. His work seeks to reveal and emancipate the public and political potential of traditional African knowledge systems toward pushing people beyond all boundaries, restrictions, and frontiers.

[Janet Saad-Cook](#) – As she says herself, the work of Janet Saad-Cook “lies at the intersection of light and space and time.” Working with astronomers, engineers, and architects, her work is created with metals and specially coated glass. The reflected images and light create [“Sun Drawings”](#) that move and change in response to sunlight and the passage of time.

[George Seurat](#) – Most people know Seurat for his work with [Pointillism](#) and his [Sunday Afternoon on La Grande Jatte](#) painting. But fewer know about how Seurat was focused on the science of color, specifically Divisionism (or [chromoluminarism](#)). He extensively studied the science of color—in particular how to achieve [maximum luminosity](#)—and required the viewer to mix colors optically rather than mixing pigments on the canvas. His research was pioneering toward technologies used in screen resolution.

[Jen Stark](#) – Stark’s work involves creating [incredible paper sculptures](#). She also works with [drawing and animation](#). Her work draws inspiration from microscopic patterns in nature, wormholes, and sliced anatomy. She is also interested in [mathematics, topography, and forms from nature](#).

[Pamela Phatsimo Sunstrum](#) - The imagery in Sunstrum’s work reflects the diverse genealogies of her experience living in different parts of Africa, Southeast Asia, and North America as well as ongoing research in [ethnography, ecology, and quantum physics](#).

[Rachel Sussman](#) – For the past decade, Sussman has been traveling the globe and photographing the oldest living things in the world. Researching and working with biologists, she creates stunning photographs of these fascinating organisms (most of which are over 2,000 years old). Her [TED talk](#) and [her book](#) both feature a fascinating combination of art, science, and travel.

[Sarah Sze](#) – Sze's work explores the role of technology and information in contemporary life utilizing everyday materials.

[James Turrell](#) – After a brief career as a fighter pilot, Turrell became an artist. He decided to [buy a dormant volcano](#), with the goal of turning it into a haven of light, space, and color. His vision for this volcano—the Roden Crater—has been his focus for the past 40 years. Now nearing completion, the [images are absolutely stunning](#).

[Saya Woolfalk](#) - Woolfalk uses science fiction and fantasy to re-imagine the world in multiple dimensions. With the multi-year projects: No Place, The Empathics, and ChimaTEK, she has created the world of the Empathics, a fictional race of women who are able to alter their genetic make-up and fuse with plants. With each body of work, Woolfalk continues to build the narrative of these women's lives, and questions the utopian possibilities of cultural hybridity

[Sun Ra](#) – Sun Ra linked the African-American experience with ancient [Egyptian mythology](#) and outer space. His music was years ahead of all other avant-garde musicians in his experimentation with sound and instruments, a pioneer in group improvisations and the use of electric instruments in [jazz](#).

### **(Some) Authors/Artists:**

#### **Graphic Novels:**

*Bitter Root*, by David F Walker and Sanford Greene  
*Black Science*, by Rick Remender and Matteo Scalera  
*Destroyer*, by Victor LaValle and Dietrich Smith  
*Far Sector*, by N K Jemisin and Jamal Campbell  
*The Metabarons*, by Alejandro Jodorowsky and Juan Giménez  
*Moonshot: The Indigenous Comics Collection*, edited by Hope Nicholson  
*Nexus Archives*, by Mike Baron and Steve Rude  
*Outer Darkness*, by John Layman and Afu Chan  
*Rock & Stone*, by Nicolas Jean and Yann Valeani  
*Saga*, by Brian K. Vaughan and Fiona Staples

#### **Novels:**

##### Metaphysical Science-Fiction

*Blindsight*, by Peter Watts  
*Excession*, by Ian M Banks  
*The Quantum Thief*, by Hannu Rajaniemi  
*Remembrance of Earths Past*, by Liu Cixin  
*Solaris*, by Stanisław Lem  
*Valis*, by Phillip K Dick

##### Science-Fiction

*Children of Time*, Adrian Tchaikovsky  
*Binti*, by Nnedi Okorafor  
*Empire of Silence*, Christopher Ruocchio  
*Ender's Game*, by Orson Scott Card  
*The Fifth Season*, by N K Jemisin  
*Frankenstein*, by Mary Shelley  
*House of Suns*, Alastair Reynolds  
*Lilith's Brood*, by Octavia E Butler  
*Oryx and Crake*, Margaret Atwood  
*The Power*, by Naomi Alderman  
*Project Hail Mary*, Andy Weir  
*Red Spider White Web*, by Misha Nogha

#### **Movies:**

##### Exploration

Apollo 13 (1995)  
Contact (1997)  
Event Horizon (1997)  
The Martian (2015)

Pandorum (2009)  
Radioactive (2019)

#### Gravity

Bubble (2022)  
Passengers (2016)  
Patema Inverted (2013)  
Upside Down (2012)  
The Wandering Earth (2019)

#### Local and Cosmic Horror

Annihilation (2018)  
Children of Men (2006)  
Color Out of Space (2019)  
The Endless (2017)  
Gravity (2013)  
High Life (2018)  
The Mist (2007)  
Moon (2009)  
Nope (2022)  
Sunshine (2007)  
The Void (2016)

#### Time

Arrival (2016)  
Edge of Tomorrow (2014)  
Inception (2010)  
Interstellar (2014)  
Los Cronocrímenes (2007)  
Millennium (1989)  
Predestination (2014)  
Primer (2004)  
Tenet (2020)  
The Terminator (1984)

#### Uncertainty Principle

Coherence (2014)  
The Butterfly Effect (2004)  
Donnie Darko (2001)  
Mr. Nobody (2009)  
A Serious Man (2009)  
Sliding Doors (1998)  
Spiderman: Into the Spider-Verse (2018)

#### **Poetry:**

*Full-Metal Indigiqueer*, by Joshua Whitehead