



INTRODUCTION

While living on and navigating an inland deck barge surmounted by futuristic architectural structures in the resurgent waters of NYC, 5 International artists will live, work, and hold events in order to further the public-centered artistic, ecological, scientific, and cultural richness of New York's 5 boroughs and the surrounding waterways. Water, and how we manage our water resources, is going to define this Century. Designed with the rising tides in mind, Waterpod™ seeks to address a future of warming driven human displacement, compounded by an influx of climate refugees in need of insightful technology created with attainable materials.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Waterpod™ is a floating sculptural living structure designed as a new eco-habitat for the global warming epoch and for local, national, and international awareness of water. It will launch in New York in summer of 2009, navigate the East and Hudson Rivers, stopping at each of the five boroughs.

Waterpod™ demonstrates future pathways for nomadic/mobile structures and water-based communities, docked and roaming. Built from recycled materials and eco-friendly products, Waterpod™ is structured as a space for community and artist activity, eco-initiatives and living space. As a sustainable, navigable living space, Waterpod™ showcases the critical importance of the environment and serves as a model for new living technologies. Waterpod™ strives to educate and motivate the public with environmental awareness and a "you can do it yourself" attitude. Waterpod™ is structured with space for: (i) community and artistic activity; (ii) eco-initiatives including food grown with collected rainwater, gray water recycling with energy provided from environmental and human sources; and (iii) living.

Waterpod™ will be an internationally curated public work of art in itself, visible from the skyscrapers of New York to the Brooklyn Promenade. Aside from being an experimental autonomous living space for the residents onboard, Waterpod™ will showcase artworks, performances, tutorials, discussions, and other creative projects. Open to the public, Waterpod™'s course will be logged, blogged, charted, and reported online. Through its dilatory watery peregrinations, Waterpod™ intends to prepare, inform, inspire, provoke, and fortify humanity for tomorrow's exterior explorations.

- Waterpod™ measures approximately 120 feet by 38 feet. The first space is a public area (approximately 50 feet in diameter) dedicated to community and artistic activity including fine arts, performing arts, lectures, and workshops. Here, visitors will engage in navigation, mapping, recording, performing, art making, researching, and learning. The second space (a 20 by 20 foot sphere) includes hydroponic agriculture, vertical farming, and space for greywater recycling. A third 30 x 30 foot space houses a bathroom, kitchen, and gathering space. The fourth space is a long, narrow structure, measuring approximately 10 feet x 60 feet, its shape mimicking the island of Manhattan, and it is broken up into several sleep spaces.
- Waterpod™ Project has contractually arranged with *Action Arts League* to be fiscally sponsored as a 501 c (3), and all Waterpod™ financial activities are conducted through this entity. Waterpod Project™ is an undertaking of M-Two, Inc., an LLC. M-Two, Inc. will

execute the Bareboat Charter agreement for the barge and will continue as an LLC after the completion of Waterpod Project™. All members of the Waterpod™ team are working on a pro-bono volunteer basis. *Blank Rome, LLP* acts as counsel in a pro bono basis to Waterpod Project™, and M-Two, Inc.

- In another environment and under different circumstances with regards to permits and bylaws, we would be able to live off our natural surroundings through aquaculture in the form of oyster and seaweed farming, agriculture including a small dwarf orchard and diverse vegetable gardens, an innovative hydroponics system, local foraging, hunting, chicken egg protein and year round water collection. Many aspects of this survival system will be implemented during the installation of Waterpod™, though many may not be able to reach maximum production due to the time constraints of the project or would be dangerous given the current environmental condition of New York's waterways. Though we will have to supplement our dietary needs during the installation, and will choose locally produced products to do so, we are looking to showcase an attainable solution to sustainability.
- Waterpod™ will be open to the public on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8am – 4pm, and on the weekend from 11am – 7pm, with occasional evening events. All educational equipment and art loaned to the project will be obtained with a temporary donation release, for temporary donation. Children must be 16 years old or accompanied by an adult. Signage will be posted showing evacuation routes and walkways.

BUILD OUT DETAILS

Build-out will be conducted at Pier 36 on the Lower East Side of Manhattan.

- One of the goals of this project is to show that reused construction materials can be made into functional, safe, and aesthetically pleasing structures. The domes and dome covers are being constructed by Waterpod™'s team of builders. The soil for growing experiments has been collected by the National Parks Service, and has been tested and certified to comply with all of New York's Department of Environmental Conservation regulations. The wooden walkways have been donated by NY Wastematch and are fireproof. Additional materials have been donated from Materials for the Arts, a NYC DCA Organization, the Parks Department, and NY Wastematch.
- An inspection will be conducted before and after use of the barge by Waterpod™ Project. An independent marine survey will be performed on a pro bono basis by a nautical engineer from Martin Ottaway.
- The barge will rely solely on it's own power sources, including a vertical wind turbine, solar PV panels, bicycle power, and a picohydro system. No fuel of any kind will be on board. Marine batteries will be used for power storage, sealed in 2kw boxes, off limits to the public. The primary power sources for Waterpod™ will be the hybrid solar/wind system set up to run all equipment on board, secondary sources include bicycle powered rechargeable batteries and a picohydro system.
- The living quarters will consist of: four rooms with bed/shelf/personal items/two exits for each room, including one guest room. In accordance with **RCNY** Chapter 28 3-3.1, the living units and kitchen/shower structures will have battery-operated smoke and carbon monoxide detectors placed above appropriate throughways. (a) Battery power will provide at least one year of operational life and will be tested weekly. (b) A distinctive audible trouble signal will be emitted should the battery become inoperational due to aging, terminal corrosion, and other factors). There will be one fire extinguisher in each space and fire retardant coats on all wood/canvas structures. An emergency and fire evacuation map will be posted within each room and building structure on board.

- Waterpod™ will be in compliance with all city safety regulations. The gangway and walkways are all ADA compliant, with the maximum ramp rise being 30” between 60” long transition landings. It will have a continuous handrail, 36” high. All walkways and ramps will be a minimum of 36” clear, and often four feet wide. The NYPD will have assigned security officers for the duration.
- In the event of a hurricane or other sufficiently severe meteorological conditions, Waterpod™ will be towed to a secure location. The structures have been designed and engineered to withstand 70-knot winds.

BUILDING SUPERVISORS

Waterpod™ is working closely with the NYC Mayor’s Office to comply with all appropriate building, electrical, and fire codes, as well as Department of Health requirements.

- Waterpod™’s electricians and certified electrical engineers, including *Tim Corrigan* and *R. David Gibbs*, are responsible for power. David has designed within a diverse array of industries, including: custom cabinetry, theatrical set carpentry, construction, interior and furniture design. David is involved in sustainable energy and remote, off-grid living systems. He was the general manager and graphic designer at Susitna Energy Systems involving photovoltaic and solar thermal system design, installation, and product development with RELAB (Renewable Energy Laboratory), altPOWER, and American Solar Works.
- *Carissa Carman* is leading the Waterpod™ Living Systems team, the permaculture gardening and landscaping division. Her team includes Andrew Faust from the NY Botanical Gardens and The Center For Bioregional Living. They will grow food for the crew only; unfortunately the public will not be allowed to sample any of the food products grown on board Waterpod™.
- *Derek Hunter*, our technical director/lead builder and designer, is a construction contractor and visual artist from Vancouver BC, currently living in NYC. He has built safe public entertainment projects in NYC such as the New York Health and Racquet club’s Astor Place/Cooper Square climbing wall and hot tub. His work as an artist has included a wind powered record player and a series of cassette players powered by hand cranked egg beaters. His most recent installation *Time Machine* featured a film produced with a custom 65-unit bullet time camera. He is currently completing his masters’ degree at Simon Fraser University.

This project has been engineered with the help of:

- *Martin, Ottaway, van Hemmen & Dolan, Inc.*
172 Monmouth Street, Suite 201
Red Bank, NJ 07701
Office Phone: 732 224-1133
Rik van Hemmen of Martin, Ottaway, van Hemmen & Dolan, Inc. is providing the Waterpod with pro bono marine engineering services.

DIRECTORS/PRODUCERS

- *Audrey J. Boguchwal* is an executive producer of Waterpod™ Project. She is a freelance curator, writer and artist. She has worked at the American Museum of Natural History, Ellis Island National Monument, and she currently conducts research for the Skyscraper Museum. Audrey has curated for several nonprofit art ventures, including the *Emergence* gallery show and the *FIGMENT* participatory art event on Governors Island, and the NYC *Decompression* show produced by Circle Arts. Audrey developed her interest in interactive culture while working in media, advertising and online business at Dow Jones

(*Wall Street Journal*) and Time Warner (*Fortune*, *InStyle*). She recently completed her masters' degree in Museum Anthropology at Columbia and received her bachelors' in history from Harvard.

- *John McGarvey* is the Executive and Maritime Director of Waterpod™. John is a local and international Art/Technology/Creative consultant, as well as a political art activist. For the past 10 years, he has been a devoted kayaker and maritime environmental proponent in the NY Waterways. He is the primary organizer for the Long Island Community Boathouse, which is a free, volunteer kayak group that provides water access and education for the public on the East River. He also currently acts as the Director of Development for the Action Arts League and sits on the Board of Directors of Millennium Film Workshop. John is also working on the Sundance Jury Prize Winning film, *The Greatest Silence*.

ARTISTS LIVING ONBOARD

- *Stephanie Dedes* is an artist and renderer based in Brooklyn, NY. Stephanie has a bachelors' in Fine Art from Pratt and Yale Universities, and has completed art residencies at Duende Ateliers in the Netherlands and OpenArt Residency in Greece. Her work has been published and exhibited internationally. She has worked for her own company, DP Renderings, for the past 6 years, making hand renderings for interior designers and project managers. Stephanie is working as a Co-Producer for the Waterpod project.
- *Veronica Flores* was born in 1974 in Guadalajara, Mexico. Flores' is an emerging artist working between Guadalajara and NY. She studied Architecture in Guadalajara and completed a degree in sociology and development in London at Roehampton University. In 1997 she discovered an interest in carpentry while working in a wood workshop in London and has since designed and produced several pieces of furniture. Flores' background in architecture and sociology informs her newly found interest in art. She started her art practice at the end of 2005 and has since been involved in alternative plastic techniques. She was an International artist in residence at Braziers workshop 2007 in Oxfordshire, England. She has exhibited at the Raul Anguiano Museum and in the City Museum of Guadalajara. Her work is represented by the Curro y Poncho Gallery in Guadalajara.
- *Mira Hunter* is a visual/performance artist and environmentalist. Born in Vancouver, she lives and works in New York and Istanbul. Mira has a bachelors' from NSCAD and Yale, where she met Mary Mattingly and Stephanie Dedes. For the past 10 years she has collaborated with Turkish born, Canadian producer/musician/DJ Mercan Dede, performing at international events all over the world. She was featured in David Michalek's *Slow Dance* project that was exhibited at the Venice Biennale in 2008. She recently returned from a tour in Switzerland with the avant-garde performance group Stimmhorn, and a series of events including the Dubai International Film Festival and the Istanbul Modern Museum.
- *Mary Mattingly* is a photographer and sculptor based in New York. Mary created the original concept of the Waterpod™. In 2007, she exhibited *Fore Cast*, a multimedia opera at White Box in Manhattan, *Frontier* with Galerie Adler in Germany, and *Time Has Fallen Asleep* at the NYPL. In 2006 her photo and web work documenting "Wearable Homes" that she has been creating for future conditions headlined *Ecotopia*, the triennial at the International Center of Photography. She exhibits her artwork at Robert Mann Gallery in New York, and studied at Pacific Northwest College of Art, Parsons School of Design, and Yale School of Art, where she met Mira Hunter and Stephanie Dedes. She has co-curated several water-based exhibitions, alongside the Miami Basel art fair, the Venice Biennale and the Istanbul Biennale. Currently, her work is on view at the Palais de Tokyo in Paris, as part of a show celebrating the launch of the Prix Pictet Awards for

Photography and Environmental Sustainability. In April, 2009, she will open *Nomadographies* at Robert Mann Gallery.

- *Eve K. Tremblay* is an artist working between Berlin, New York and Montreal. She is an artist, creative advisor, and co-curator of the Waterpod. Eve is also an advisory member of the administrative council of Occurence in Montreal, for the Waterpod™. Her works have been exhibited and published internationally. She has upcoming projects with the Musée National Des Beaux-arts Du Québec in Quebec city, Abbaye Saint-André Centre D'art Contemporain, Meymac, France, as well as Program in Berlin. Her work is represented by Galerie Donald Browne in Montreal, and she recently presented her ongoing project *Becoming Fahrenheit 451* at a solo show in New York.
- *Alison Ward* is an artist whose work incorporates performance, video and sculptural installation. She focuses on issues of identity interpreted through physical humor. Exhibitions include Mastel+Mastel Gallery, Haven Arts, Dumbo Arts Center, Diesel Gallery and the Bronx Museum in New York and Liquid Blue Gallery and Red Dot Project in Miami, as well as the CCCB Museum in Spain and Castlefield Gallery in England. She has performed at Smack Mellon Gallery, Dumbo Arts Center, and the Philadelphia Fringe Festival. She has done residencies at Raw Space in Australia, The Artist in the Marketplace Program, and the LMCC studio program.

WORKING with NATIONAL, STATE, and LOCAL OFFICIALS and BUSINESSES

- Moran Towing Corporation will provide all towing, secure mooring, and regular inspections of Waterpod™.
- Water will be tested once a week to insure potability. An outdoor solar parabolic solar cooking unit (which reflects the sun's light onto boiling water) will be used away from sources of combustible plant matter and any building materials.
- The Waterpod™ team is working closely with the U.S. Coast Guard to ensure compliance with all appropriate maritime codes and regulations. Pre-inspections and regular inspections have been arranged. The Coast Guard will conduct public seminars on water safety. The crew will be trained in first aid skills and fire drills will be regularly carried out. Public Address systems will be operational. USCG-approved floatation devices will be proportional to the maximum capacity for public and crew.
- Waterpod™ has generated and will generate significant international publicity. Waterpod™ Project actively supports organizations that provide in-kind goods or services, supplying banners, acknowledgements, and other emoluments based on contribution level.

We are currently working with the NYC Department of the Mayor Special Projects Department to secure our locations and mooring dates.





Image 1. Waterpod™ from Above, showing from Left to Right: Gardens; Public space; Workspace, Composting Toilet; Watertower; Kitchen/Shower facility; Garden sphere; and living accommodations.



Image 2. Waterpod™ detail.

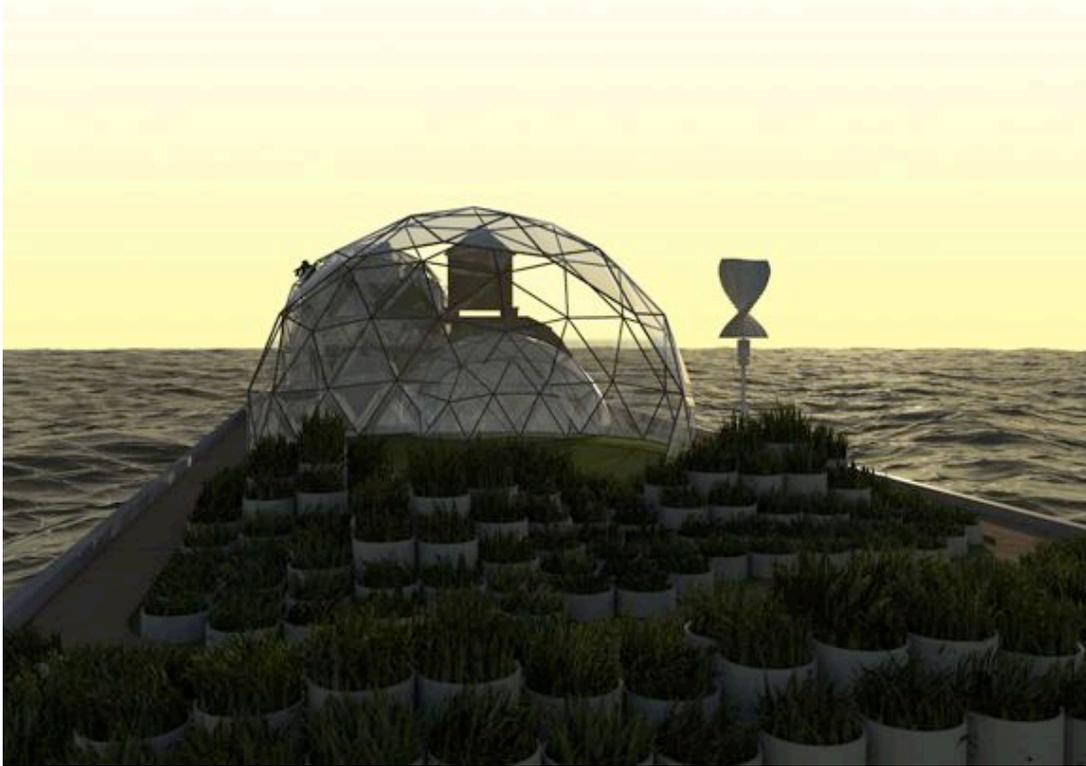


Image 3. Waterpod™ Garden, without dome cover for visual clarity.

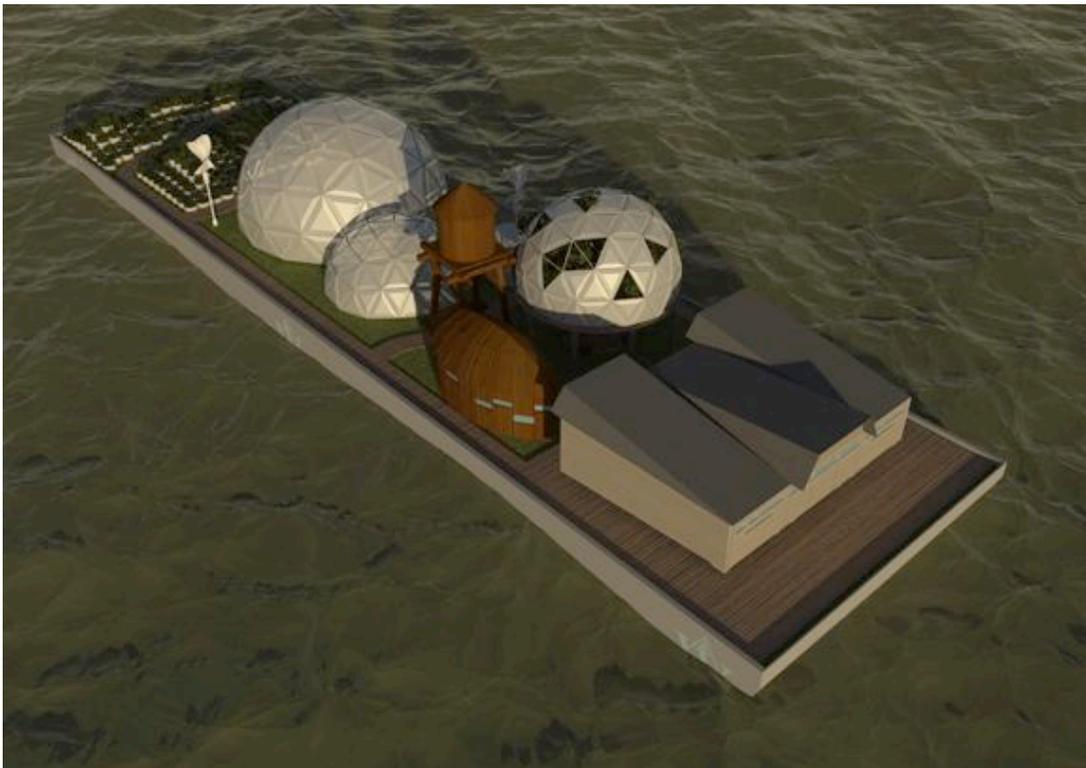


Image 4. Waterpod™, Port Side view.

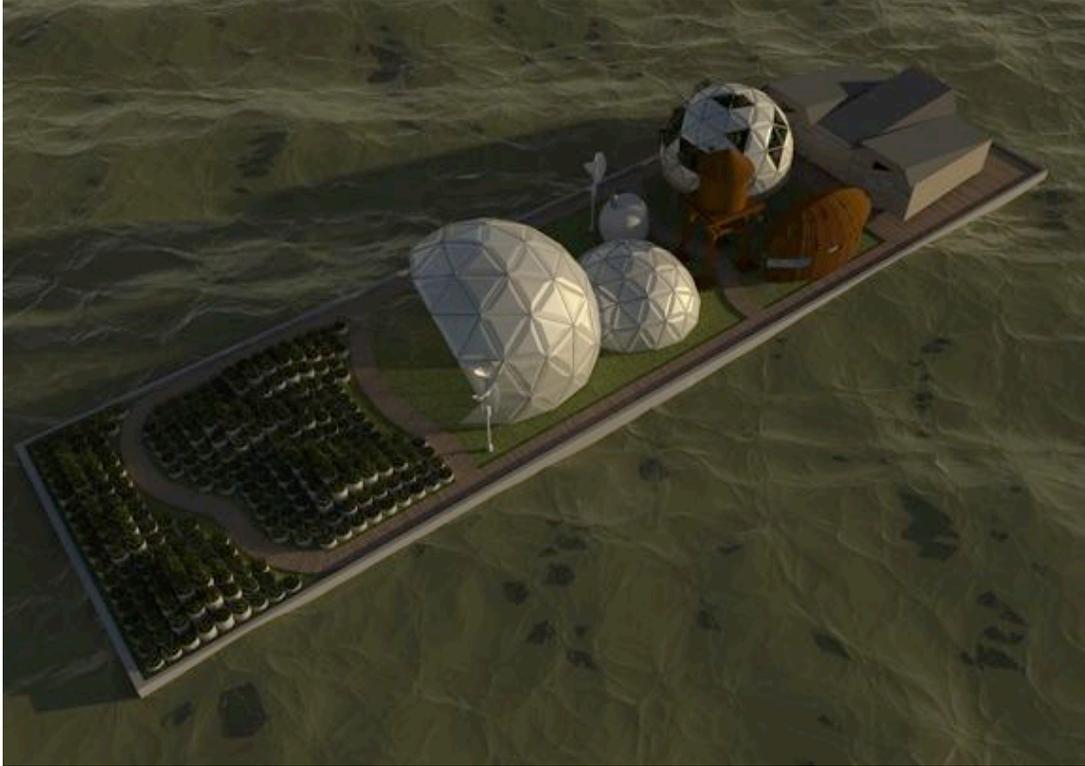


Image 5. Waterpod™, Starboard Side View.

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