

Title:

AUTOPHAGY UNVEILED ON CANVAS: ON THE ART & SCIENCE OF SELF-DEGRADATION



VERNISSAGE

WHEN

November 29, 2023
From 18:00 h onward

More information here:

<https://www.biophys.mpg.de/en>

WHERE


Max Planck Institute of Biophysics
Max-von-Laue-Straße 3,
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Scan to access
the CATALOG
of paintings

CONTACT THE ARTISTS

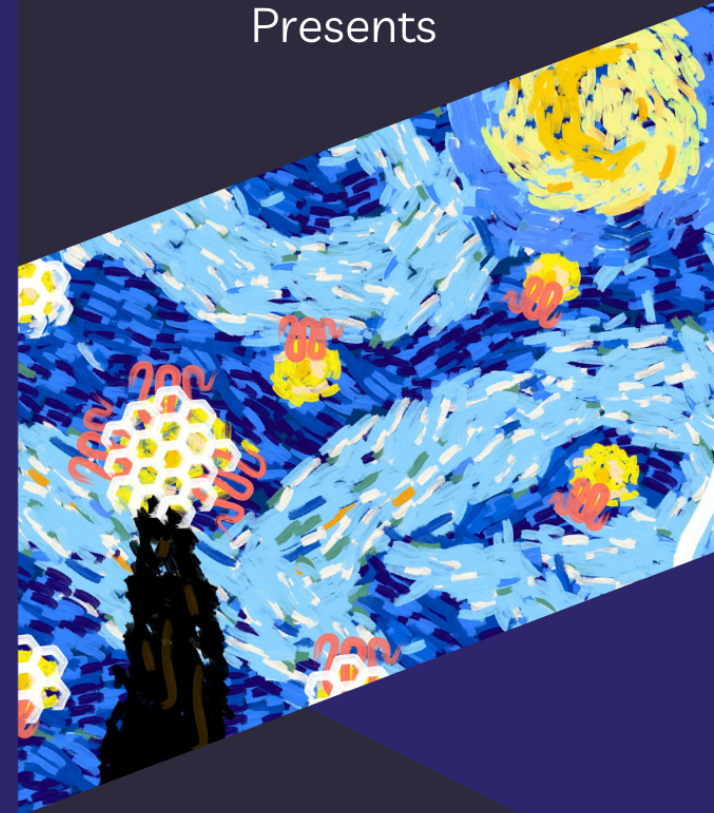
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The Max Planck Institute
of Biophysics
Presents



A SCIENCE- INSPIRED EXHIBITION

Dorotea Fracchiolla
& Ayelen Valko

MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE
OF BIOPHYSICS



AN ART & SCIENCE EXHIBITION



THE EXHIBITION

This visual journey is centered around the fascinating world of autophagy – a crucial biological process. During autophagy, cells respond to stress stimuli by embarking on a self-eating mechanism to ensure their survival. This paradox phenomenon – a degradative process and yet vital – possesses a philosophical beauty: it mirrors the delicate equilibrium governing life, resonating from individual cells to entire ecosystems. This intriguing biological dance inspired the artists and scientists Dorotea Fracchiolla and Ayelen Valko, who employ a wide array of resources and techniques to craft their artwork. Deliberately using metaphors and symbolisms, the artists enhance the emotional links with the artworks, and make biological knowledge accessible across dimensions – from tissues and cells to the very molecules that shape them.

THE ARTISTS

Dorotea Fracchiolla, an Italian-born scientist, holds a lifelong passion for visual arts and communication. She earned her degree in Medical Biotechnology from the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart in Rome and the University of Bari "Aldo Moro". Her Doctoral studies at the University of Vienna led her to the lab of Prof. Sascha Martens, where she delved into selective autophagy in budding yeast and humans. Currently, she works as a scientist and Project Manager as well as a freelance artist, as new scientific discoveries continue feeding her artistic intuition. Guided by the motto "If you can draw it, you have understood it to the very detail", Dorotea finds joy in collaborating with other scientists to illustrate their science and help them elaborate new questions and research avenues.

Ayelen Valko is an Argentine artist and cellular biologist exploring the intersection of art and science. After studying Biology at the University of Buenos Aires, she completed her Ph.D. at the Leloir Institute in Argentina. She joined Sebastian Schuck's Laboratory at Heidelberg University as a postdoctoral fellow, a journey that continued until late 2022. In parallel to her scientific education, she was trained in different art techniques at the National University of Art in Argentina, and subsequently, she specialized in scientific and naturalistic illustration. Currently, she is focused on creating science-inspired cover images for scientific journals, curating exhibitions, spearheading science popularization initiatives, and writing articles that interweave art and science.