Tosca Terán

Interdisciplinary artist-instructor

She/They

As a first-generation Mexican-American, primarily self-taught interdisciplinary artist, my practice is rooted in navigating and reimagining systems not designed for me. The lack of institutional access has shaped both the methodology and spirit of my work, fostering an approach that values curiosity, persistence, and material dialogue over formal training.

Working across art, science, and technology, I treat creative practice as an act of decolonization: a refusal to separate intellect from intuition, nature from culture.

As a woman in male-dominated, Eurocentric fields, I've often encountered barriers that exposed how knowledge and authority are unevenly distributed. These experiences inform my drive to create work that is inclusive, experimental, and relational, spaces where collaboration replaces hierarchy. By engaging directly with living materials, such as fungi, and bio-electrical data, I explore interdependence and ecological intelligence as vital forces that shape both art and life.My installations aim to foster encounters that dissolve boundaries between humans and the environment, technology and organisms, reminding us that creativity, like the natural world, thrives through connection, adaptation, and mutual transformation.

https://www.toscateran.com/
Sound Works: https://www.nanotopia.net
https://www.nanotopia.bandcamp.com
Soundcloud: https://soundcloud.com/nanotopia
Instagram: @MothAntler @nanotopia_net

Installation/performance (select list):

2026: PXR installation-performance of Symbiosis, Theatre Passe Murialle, Toronto & VIVO Media Arts Centre, Vancouver, Canada

2025: Ukrainian Biennale of Digital & Media Art. Performance of Symbiosis/\Dysbiosis, The Museum of the History of Kyiv.

2025: HEAT Festival invitation to perform hybrid VR theatre of Symbiosis/\Dysbiosis, Alliance Français Cape Town, South Africa.

2025: Raindance Film Festival Immersive, world premiere of HOMMAGE VR experience. Nominated for Best Art World and Best Art Experience awards.

2024: Symbiosis/\Dysbiosis: Sentience XR installation-performances. Invited world premiere at the Venice International Film Festival Immersive. 36 sold out shows over the course of the festival.

2023: Symbiont::MyceliOhms 7-month installation w/ live quadraphonic performance for Symbiosis opening reception at the AGGV, British Columbia

2022: Live quadraphonic & VR performance of Mycelia for Nordwind Festival Berlin- Cyber Attack: Digital Art & Activism at Sensorium Space, York U, Ontario.

2022: MycoDome-quadraphonic-biosonification performances at Larry Spring Museum, Fort Bragg California - Funding provided by California Arts

2022: Biodata Live electronic performance & presentation at Hallwalls Contemporary Art Center, NY Sponsored by the National Endowment of the Arts for Coalesce Center of Biological Art.

2021: Chaos Consortia • Sound & visual performance for "In Space Grey" DARC Ottawa & Knot Gallery Space

2021: Ars Electronica invitation to install 6 channel soundscape of Forest UnderSound at Kepler's Garden, Linz Austria

Publications/media (select list):

2026: Fungal Matters, publication mentions my work/recipes with mycelium as an alternative sculpting material. Catherine Euale

2025: Symbiosis/\Dysbiosis: Abstract https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/3721244.3742444

2025: Voices of VR, interview w/Kent Bye for HOMMAGE

2024: Birdmen Magazine Italia – Intervista a Tosca Terán aka Nanotopia

2024: Creating Reality interview, Tosca Terán joins Michael Barngrover of XR4Europe

2024: Dr VR Podcast - Sentience and the Future of Participatory XR

2022: CBC's Undercurrents Podcast, interview w/Jarrett Martineau - Pilot episode

2021: Embodied Forest, Ecoart Space publication features Forest UnderSound

2021: Forest UnderSound, Glasna Music Magazine feature interview for Fall issue

2021: Play that Fungi Music, Ferment Radio w/Agnieszka Pokrywka

2021: Song of the Mushrooms, featured in The Mushroom UK, Spring/Summer issue

2021: Interview for NAISA's Making Waves program, aired and archived at Wavefarm, NY

2020: Interview for DubLab's Sound Science podcast with neuroscientist Dr Yewande Pearse

2019/2021: Mycelium Martian Dome project cited by NASA Ames Research, Fungi OffPlanet

2019: Slime Mould in Arts and Architecture, Chapter 8 Slimedia: Physarum as Medium and Cultural Mediator, Edited by, Adam Adamatzky

Awards/Residencies (select):

2026: Mustarinda AiR. 2-month residency Finland

2026: Vanha Kaivos Residency North Karelia

2024: awarded Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg grant for Symbiosis/Dysbiosis

2023: Awarded Ontario Arts Council project grant

2022: Awarded Canada Arts Council Research and Creation grant and Composite grant

2022: Awarded 2-month residency at Larry Spring Museum, Fort Bragg California - Impact grant from the California Arts Council

2021: Awarded the Spirit of the Festival award for Mycelia, Raindance Film Festival

2021-22: Invited GEM Coalesce Artist in Residence at the Coalesce Centre for Biological Art University at Buffalo

2021: Ars Electronica Honourable Mention for Forest UnderSound

2020: Dames Making Games in partnership with Trinity Square Video: Remote Realities residency recipient.

2019: Jury's Choice award for Grow Op at the Gladstone Hotel, the Award is presented for exceptional work that best responds to the conceptual direction behind the show.

2019: BigCi Environmental Award recipient for Bilpin International Ground for Creative Initiatives. Unesco heritage site in Wollemi National Park, Greater Blue Mountains, Australia

Experience (instructor and other-select):

2025: Creative Europe, guest artist instructor Avatars & World Building in VR Brussels, BE

2022- 2023: Invited tutor/artistic director at The Venice Biennale Cinema College VR, Venice Italy.

2021: Brilliant Labs - Designing with Nature guest artist instructor. Presentation for Middle School students and teachers across Canada via Zoom.

2021: Guest artist-instructor, BioArt Lab Windsor University, On, Canada

2018-present: Guest artist-instructor, InterAccess.org, Toronto, Canada

2018-2020: iSkills Guest Artist-Instructor, University of Toronto, ON, Canada

2016: Guest Editor, ICEView Magazine, Skagaströnd/Reykjavik Iceland

2016: Volunteer Docent and Fox trainer/care-taker, Arctic Fox Centre/Melrakkisetur, Su∂avik Iceland
2007-2012: Creative Science guest artist-instructor, Ontario Science Centre, ON
2006-2013: Guest lecturer/visiting artist-instructor at Mary Ward HS, Toronto, ON
2008: Guest artist instructor, Continuing education YMCA Special Ed Art Program,

Education (new media, select):

2016-2018: CRISPR-CAS9 Study with Dr Marta De Menezes
2017: Video mapping for theatre, ARKit, Wekinator, AR & Machine Learning, Processing I/A
2017: Indigenous Canada program certificate University of Alberta
2015/16: Audible objects- Arduino programming with Leif Blomquist of MDA- I/A Toronto
2015/16: Unity programming for VR/Augmented reality, I/A Toronto
2002-2003: Intro to sensors, PD, Max/MSP & Microcontrollers. Instructor: Various, I/A Toronto
1992-1998: Java script, Unix, html, Photoshop- College of Santa Fe, NM

Professional affiliations:

2025: invited member, Société des arts technologiques SAT Montréal
2021- present: member Canadian Association for Sound Ecology
2020-present: Founding Board member, The Mycelium Network Collective
2025: Founding member of the Sororitas ex Mycelio collective

Tosca Terán is an interdisciplinary artist working at the intersections of bioart, sound, and immersive technology. Her practice explores speculative futures and more-than-human ways of being, creating multisensory works that dissolve boundaries between species and systems. As an invited art director and tutor for the Venice Biennale Cinema College VR, Tosca is committed to expanding immersive storytelling, developing XR experiences that not only challenge but also inspire new, ecologically attuned encounters by breaking anthropocentric perspectives. Her projects integrate living organisms, sonic landscapes, and virtual environments, inviting audiences into intimate, interconnected worlds. Her work has been featured at Venice Immersive, Raindance Immersive, Ars Electronica, The Ontario Science Centre in partnership with MOCA Toronto, SONICA, Vector Festival and more.