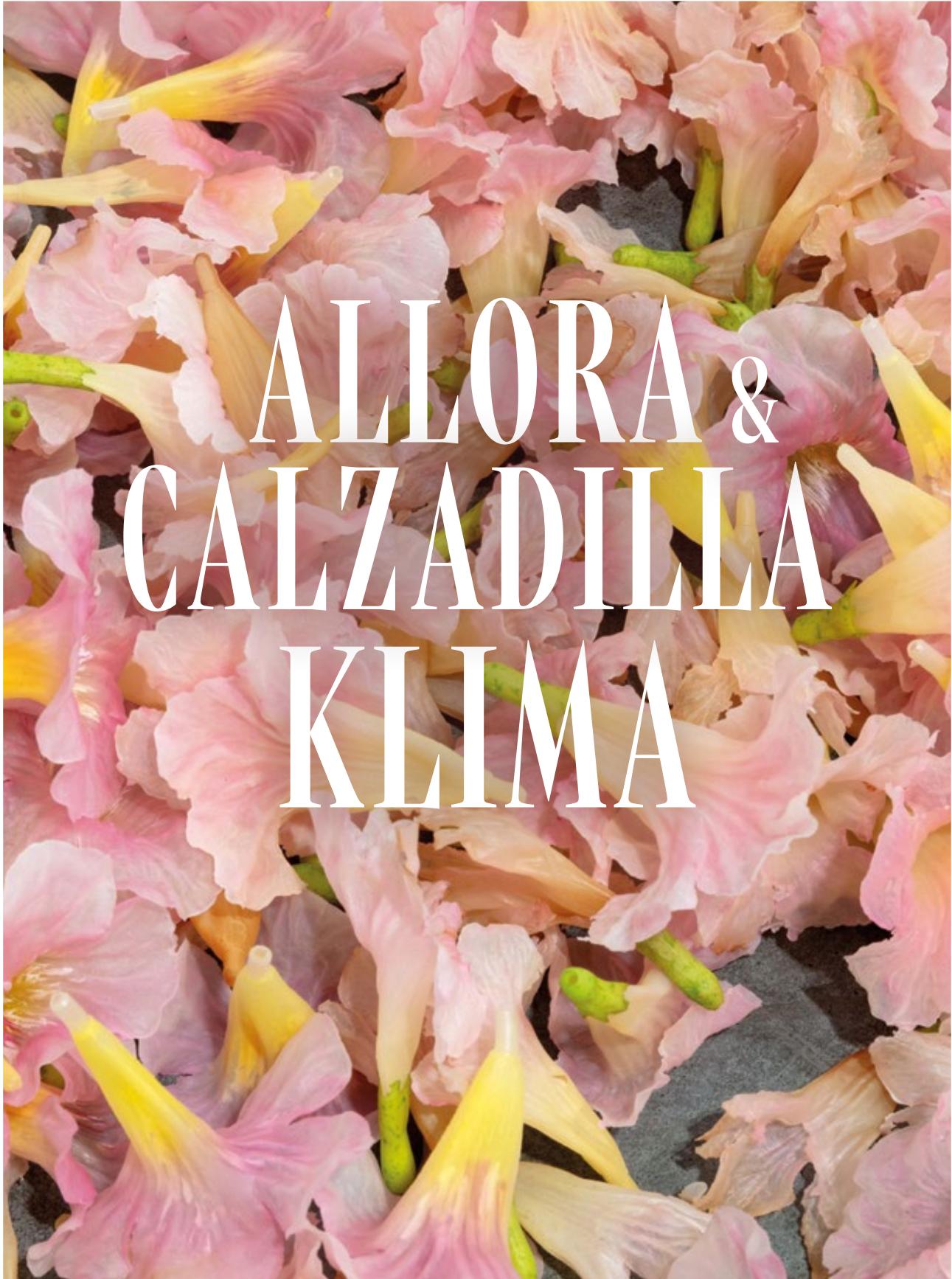


# EXHIBITION GUIDE



ALLORA &  
CALZADILLA  
KLIMA



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**TITLE:** ALLORA & CALZADILLA: KLIMA

**ARTISTS:** Jennifer Allora & Guillermo Calzadilla

**VENUE:** Azkuna Zentroa (Exhibition Hall)

**DATE:** 20<sup>th</sup> June 2024 to 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025

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# THE ARTISTS

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Jennifer Allora was born in the United States in 1974.

Guillermo Calzadilla was born in Cuba in 1971.

They live and work in San Juan,

capital of Puerto Rico.

## Themes of their works

Their works are based on research into the intersection and relationship between history, ecology and **geopolitics**.

**Geopolitics:** the study of the international policy and relations of a territory taking into account the geographical features of that territory.

To address these issues through art they use different artistic media such as: sculpture, sound, video, photography, painting and improvisation with the audience.

## Trajectory

Jenifer Allora's and Guillermo Calzadilla's collaborative practice began in 1995.

Since then, their work has been exhibited at some of the world's most important museums.

For example, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Serralves Foundation in Porto, and the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao.

In 2011 they represented the United States at the 54<sup>th</sup> International Art Exhibition in Venice.

They did so with a project that reflected a critique of the political, cultural and economic system in the United States.



Allora & Calzadilla. KLIMA

## THE EXHIBITION

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The title of this exhibition is “ALLORA & CALZADILLA: KLIMA”.

It depicts how different forms of life  
that have existed throughout history  
have sought to turn towards the sun.

Every piece in this exhibition makes sense  
on its own, on an individual basis.

And all of them together represent the union of the universe  
over the last 4 billion years.

This exhibition by Allora & Calzadilla  
addresses the main themes that have run  
through their entire oeuvre.

These themes are: time understood by major events  
of history, the evolution of life on Earth,  
environmental justice, the climate crisis,  
geopolitics and energy sources.

The **curator** of this exhibition  
is Fernando Pérez Gómez,  
Director of Azkuna Zentroa.

**Curator:** a person who is in charge of choosing the works in an exhibition; a subject matter specialist who prepares a theoretical discourse on what is exhibited.

### What works can we see in the exhibition?

We can see works created by Allora & Calzadilla  
over the years, including:

**Graft**, 2021.

This is an installation  
composed of 17,500 flowers.  
The flowers are made of plastic  
and paint-based recycled materials.

The purpose of this installation is to highlight the destruction of the Caribbean's natural environment and the loss of plants and animals due to the actions of humans.

### **Entelechy**, 2020.

This is a large coal sculpture made from a pine wood tree from a forest in France.

This tree was felled by lightning.

### **Penumbra**, 2020.

This work consists of a **digital animation** that casts shadows throughout the exhibition space.

**Digital animation:** a technique that consists of bringing figures, characters and objects to life with a computer.

It is a continuous, real-time representation of the position of the sun over Bilbao at any given moment.

A musical composition accompanies the movement of the shadows.

### **Cadastre**, 2020.

This piece is made from iron filings placed on a canvas.

It represents the artistic experiments carried out by Allora & Calzadilla with **electromagnetism** to explore the world of energy.

**Electromagnetism:** the field of physics that studies the relationship between electricity and magnetism. Many devices work by electromagnetism. For example, ovens and televisions.

**Lifespan**, 2014.

A 4-billion-year-old rock sample  
hangs from the ceiling of the room.  
Three vocalists whistle and blow on the rock,  
simulating the effect of the wind on its wear.

**The Great Silence**, 2014.

This work is screened in the Auditorium once a month.

It talks about the largest single-aperture  
**radio telescope** in the world.

This radio telescope, located in Puerto Rico,  
sends and receives radio waves  
from the farthest reaches of the universe.

**Radio telescope:** a very large antenna and powerful receiver that captures incoming waves from space.

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