

Jolene Mok

Artist Statement

I was invited to be one of the guest resident artists for a major scientific research expedition to explore deep-sea seeps off Barbados on R/V ATLANTIS with Duke Marine Laboratory in summer 2012. Through exposing myself in such a disoriented and remote environment, my experience of being at sea affects the way I perceive the world and my art practice tremendously.

R/V ATLANTIS has always functioned as a mobile scientific laboratory. As an experimental documentarian, I regard the process of documentation and my experience in collecting visual documents as events themselves. I believe documentary should not only be about showcasing interesting happenings or characters, but should also be about the way a documentarian takes in and understands the subject matter.

Apart from documenting onboard scientific activities, I was very much fascinated by the unique spatial narratives of a scientific cruise ship. So I conducted a video research of the shipboard structure wishing to keep record of such a unique space. I wish to share with viewers the unique aesthetic and spatial characteristic through re-inventing the shipboard structure.

Through creating *shipboard romance*, I wish to represent the motion characteristic on a shipboard environment, so to invite viewers to join me for a contemplative sea journey.

*Please kindly visit <http://jojolenelene.net/triptych/> for the documentation & further info of *shipboard romance*.