

The inspiration behind this installation comes from my childhood summers at the beach and my fascination with jellyfish. This fascination started after a traumatic experience with a jellyfish at the age of 6, a sting that covered my entire midsection and brought me to the hospital. From that day, I found myself in awe of this creature so beautiful yet so capable of harm. This Floating Forest takes a potentially harmful organism and turns it into one of beauty and inspires a love of the ocean and all of the creatures in it.

This piece comes to life when it is hung from the ceiling and lights come down on the ceramic creatures from above. My vision for this installation is to have it appear to be a tide of jellyfish, floating in space. When viewed from the proper vantage point, however, the viewer is met with a path that allows them to walk through the installation offering a full immersion within the piece and space for a truly engaging experience. Within the space the jellyfish will be placed at varying heights according to the pictures that I have attached, this will create the illusion of being underwater. The piece, just as the creatures themselves, is living, breathing and ever evolving. Therefore, each iteration of this work is unique and site specific. This installation of the Floating Forest would be a great addition to the Rye Beach Boardwalk, creating a moment of joy and excitement for all those who engage with it.

~ Tatjana Kunst