

## Synergy: Karen Ristuben

### Performing artist, Environmentalist and Sculptor

Karen Ristuben is a true “field” artist, having travelled across the pacific gyre on a working scientific vessel. Karen assisted with the operations of the ship while also working with the scientists in researching plastic pollution in the ocean.

Karen's enthusiasm for her interdisciplinary research continues on land. With her visually intriguing sculpture and engaging performance lectures, she takes her message to the public with an active approach. It is this proactive approach to the collaboration of art and science that finds Karen to be part of *Synergy*.

Karen hopes that her interdisciplinary approach to the areas of art and science can reach a global audience in need of understanding the complex information she disentangles through her work.

### In Karen's words...

Over the next two years I would like to continue in trans-disciplinary partnership with marine scientists to reveal and communicate the paradox of how we humans affect the ocean, its ecosystems, and its ability to sustain life on earth, including our own. I am specifically interested in the causes and effects of ocean pollution and acidification, and I would like to engage in additional oceanographic field and lab work to learn as much as possible about these and related issues. I believe that the value of discourse during collaborative time spent sharing common concerns through different lenses cannot be overstated. While I would like to build on the content and method of delivery I've started, I realize that collaborative work is a dynamic collective leading to somewhat unpredictable forms, realized over time and work. I am excited by the many collaborative possibilities in the Synergy project.

*Last updated: December 9, 2012*



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Karen Ristuben



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Pool (Artwork: Karen Ristuben)

#### Related Links

- » [Karen is collaborating with Sophie Chu.](#)
- » [Karen Ristuben](#)

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