

SCI-ARC

Media Inquiries:

Stephanie Atlan, news@sciarc.edu, 213-356-5395

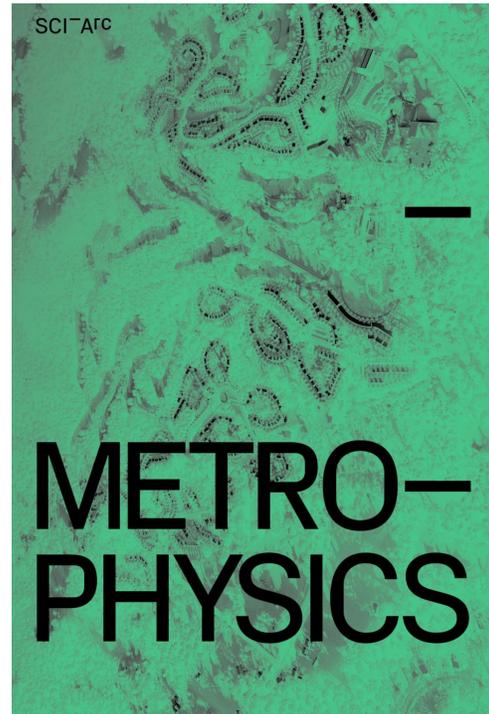
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCI-ARC GALLERY EXHIBITION

**Michael Sorkin Studio &
Terreform**
Metrophysics

October 21 – December 4

Friday, October 21, 7pm
Opening Reception



Los Angeles, CA (September 20, 2016) – SCI-Arc is pleased to announce, *Metrophysics*, an exhibition by Michael Sorkin Studio and Terreform opening October 21 in the SCI-Arc Gallery.

Architecture lives as both object and aggregation: buildings and cities. If the pursuit of an environment that is sustainable, equitable, beautiful, and rich with difference is common at every scale, the valence of these values varies by situation. *Metrophysics* foregrounds projects rooted in the urban, including buildings and sites designed with both practical and polemical intent. The work is from a team that operates as both a “traditional” architectural studio responding to clients, and as a research practice that formulates its own agenda of investigation and intervention. Discoveries are passed back and forth and what Terreform has learned over the years from *New York City (Steady) State* – an elaborate speculation meant to determine just how autonomous our city can become – informs “official” projects Sorkin Studio has undertaken in Wuhan, Xi’an, or Istanbul and vice versa. All, however, test the limits of *physical* design to serve and enlarge broader human and planetary needs and desires and to represent ideas about happiness.

Michael Sorkin Studio and Terreform

In 2005, Michael Sorkin Studio underwent a mitosis with the founding of Terreform. Given a long history of polemical and activist work in a variety of registers, including design, advocacy, and writing - there'd been a long simmering desire to find a form of practice that was more transparent with the non-commercial – even utopian – projects and ambitions that engaged us. Not wanting to give up the prospect of “ordinary” building, however, we formalized the conceptual split into a “straight” architectural practice and an organization doing research, unsolicited interventions, publishing, and propositions. The studio works in a single spirit with a focus on questions of city, on its morphology, systems of equity, and metabolic behavior. Each side serves as the lab for the other but we're all on the same page: the iron fiscal curtain between the two entities is a membrane that's completely porous to ideas.

--

SCI-Arc exhibitions and public programs are made possible in part by a grant from the City of Los Angeles, Department of Cultural Affairs.

Public Programs

SCI-Arc public programs are subject to change beyond our control. For the most current information, please visit www.sciarc.edu or call 213-613-2200.

Parking and Hours

The entrance to SCI-Arc's parking lot is at 350 Merrick Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013, between Traction Avenue and 4th Street in Los Angeles. The SCI-Arc Gallery is open daily from 10am–6pm.

About SCI-Arc

Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-Arc) is dedicated to educating architects who will imagine and shape the future. It is an independent, accredited degree-granting institution offering undergraduate and graduate programs in architecture. Located in a quarter-mile-long former freight depot in the Arts District in Downtown Los Angeles, the school is distinguished by its vibrant studio culture and emphasis on process. SCI-Arc's approximately 500 students and 80 faculty members, most of whom are practicing architects, work together to re-examine assumptions, create, explore and test the limits of architecture. SCI-Arc faculty and leadership have garnered more than 500 national and international design awards and recognitions, including Progressive Architecture awards, American Institute of Architects (AIA) awards, and the prestigious Jencks and Pritzker architecture prizes. U.S. SCI-Arc is located at 960 E. 3rd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013. www.sciarc.edu