

2016  
2018

Coral Gables / Miami

Sibylle Pasche

# Sibylle Pasche

Coral Forest & Secrets of the Sea  
Coral Gables / Miami

# Sibylle Pasche

Coral Forest & Secrets of the Sea  
Coral Gables/Miami





<b>Contracting Authority</b>	City of Coral Gables (Florida, USA)
<b>Streetscape Architects</b>	Cooper Robertson, New York <a href="http://www.cooperrobertson.com">www.cooperrobertson.com</a>
<b>Artist</b>	Sibylle Pasche <a href="http://www.sibyllepasche.com">www.sibyllepasche.com</a>
<b>Location East</b>	Giralda Plaza on Giralda Avenue Coral Gables (Coral Forest)
<b>Location West</b>	Giralda Avenue at Ponce de Leon Boulevard Coral Gables (Secrets of the Sea)

## Coral Forest & Secrets of the Sea

*Permanent public art installation by Sibylle Pasche, realized for the City of Coral Gables on Giralda Avenue, 2016 – 2018.*

The City of Coral Gables commissioned a site-specific artwork from the Swiss artist Sibylle Pasche. Her project was carried out in collaboration with Cooper Robertson Architects, whose landscape refurbishment helped turning Giralda Avenue into a vibrant pedestrian zone.

The installation features spherical sculptures that remind us of living and breathing pieces of coral and sea organisms of the underwater world.

This booklet is a token of the artist's gratitude towards all the individuals and institutions without whose support the project could never have happened.





## Coral Forest & Secrets of the Sea

**Coral Forest** consists of three grouped sculptures which, in their shapes and textures, are reminiscent of coral formations lying on the sea-floor. The individual carvings, at once fragile and robust, create clear visual accents, diversifying but also blending naturally into the environment designed by the New York architects Cooper Robertson.

The angular surfaces are divided into countless honeycomb cells, which contrast with the pieces' smooth, round outlines, thus breaking up the surface tension and endowing the stone with a sense of softness and lightness. Voluminous spherical bulges counterpoint with the expanding and contracting cells, which effect gives the carvings a tense poise and allows the changing light to elicit fleeting patterns and textures from the stone. In the morning, shadows fall from the palm leaves dance across the cool white marble, and heavy afternoon showers send pearls rolling down over the smooth surface, revealing the stone's natural marbling in their glittering wake.

**Secrets of the Sea** is a large solo sculpture, lying like a boulder in a primordial mangrove swamp. Located at the crossing of Ponce de Leon Boulevard, it complements *Coral Forest* at the opposite end of the newly designed Giralda Avenue. Glittering white and uniform on all sides, the sculpture attracts the visitors and ushers them into the heart of Coral Gables. As they explore the pedestrian zone, they are accompanied by the guiding presence of an invisible line extending from *Secrets of the Sea* in the west to *Coral Forest* on Giralda Plaza in the east.

*Coral Forest* and *Secrets of the Sea* are meant to be experienced close-up, through touch as well as sight. For a brief moment, the carvings allow visitors to escape into another world, far removed from the hustle and bustle of

everyday life. They plunge viewers into the calm of a gravity-free underwater world, leading them back into times when nothing stood between water and earth except lush mangrove vegetation — long before the history of Florida began with the first settlers, and pioneer George Merrick laid down the first stone of Coral Gables.

The sculptures emanate timelessness and permanence, creating a soothing contrast with the hectic superficiality of modern life. They are poetry carved into stone, which speaks to the senses, touches the soul, and outlasts everything.



Coral Forest	Marble Bianco Carrara 63 x 88½ x 76¾ inch 47¼ x 72¾ x 67 inch 31½ x 47¼ x 41¼ inch 2017/18	9.0 t 5.5 t 1.5 t
Secrets of the Sea	Marble Bianco Carrara 50½ x 70¾ x 63 inch 2017/18	5.5 t

## Coral Forest & Secrets of the Sea

**Coral Forest** besteht aus drei Objekten, die, scheinbar aus dem Boden gewachsen, an Korallenformationen in der Meerestiefe erinnern. Die einzelnen Skulpturen, massiv und fragil zugleich, setzen klare Akzente und integrieren sich dennoch ganz natürlich in die Umgebungsgestaltung von Cooper Robertson Architects (New York).

Die kantig gestaltete Oberfläche ist in unzählige viele konkave Elemente aufgeteilt, was einen Kontrast zu den sanft gerundeten Volumen bildet, die trotz des beträchtlichen Gewichts leicht und weich erscheinen. Abwechselnd wird die Oberflächenstruktur durch Verdichtungen und «aufgeblasene» Rundungen rhythmisch gegliedert, wodurch die Skulpturen ruhig und bewegt zugleich wirken und wobei auch das Spiel mit dem wechselnden Licht verstärkt wird. Durch die Palmenblätter entstandene Schatten tanzen auf dem kühlen weissen Marmor und während der heftigen Nachmittagsgewitter perlen Regentropfen von der glatten Oberfläche ab, lassen den Stein glänzen und seine natürliche Maserung sichtbar werden.

**Secrets of the Sea** ist eine einzelne Skulptur, die wie ein Findling vor Urzeiten in den Mangrovensümpfen «gestrandet» ist. Sie ergänzt die Skulpturengruppe *Coral Forest* am anderen Ende der neu gestalteten Giralda Avenue, an der Kreuzung zum Ponce de Leon Boulevard. Diese von allen Seiten gleichwertige Skulptur zieht von überall her die Blicke auf sich und lockt die Menschen in die attraktive Fußgängerzone im Herzen von Coral Gables, wobei *Secrets of the Sea* und *Coral Forest* wunderbar miteinander kommunizieren. Die Passanten werden an beiden Eingängen von diesen hell strahlenden Skulpturen empfangen und lustvoll zum Flanieren und Verweilen eingeladen.

*Coral Forest* und *Secrets of the Sea* können von ganz nah erlebt und berührt werden. Sie lassen den Betrachter für einige Momente in eine andere Welt, jenseits der Hektik des Alltags, eintauchen und die Ruhe und Schwerelosigkeit der Unterwasserwelt spüren. Sie führen ihn in Zeiten zurück, als an den Berührungspunkten von Wasser und Erde nur die üppige Vegetation der Mangrovensümpfe existierte, bevor die Geschichte Floridas mit den ersten Einwohnern begann und später der Pionier George Merrick die Stadt Coral Gables aus dem Nichts entstehen liess.

Die Skulpturen strahlen Zeitlosigkeit und Beständigkeit aus und bilden einen wohltuenden Kontrast zur Schnelllebigkeit und Oberflächlichkeit unserer Zeit. «Poesie aus Stein», die die Sinne anspricht, die Seele berührt und alles überdauert.



Coral Forest	Marble Bianco Carrara	
	160 x 225 x 195 cm	9.0 t
	120 x 185 x 170 cm	5.5 t
	80 x 120 x 105 cm	1.5 t
	2017/18	
Secrets of the Sea	Marble Bianco Carrara	
	128 x 180 x 160 cm	5.5 t
	2017/18	













































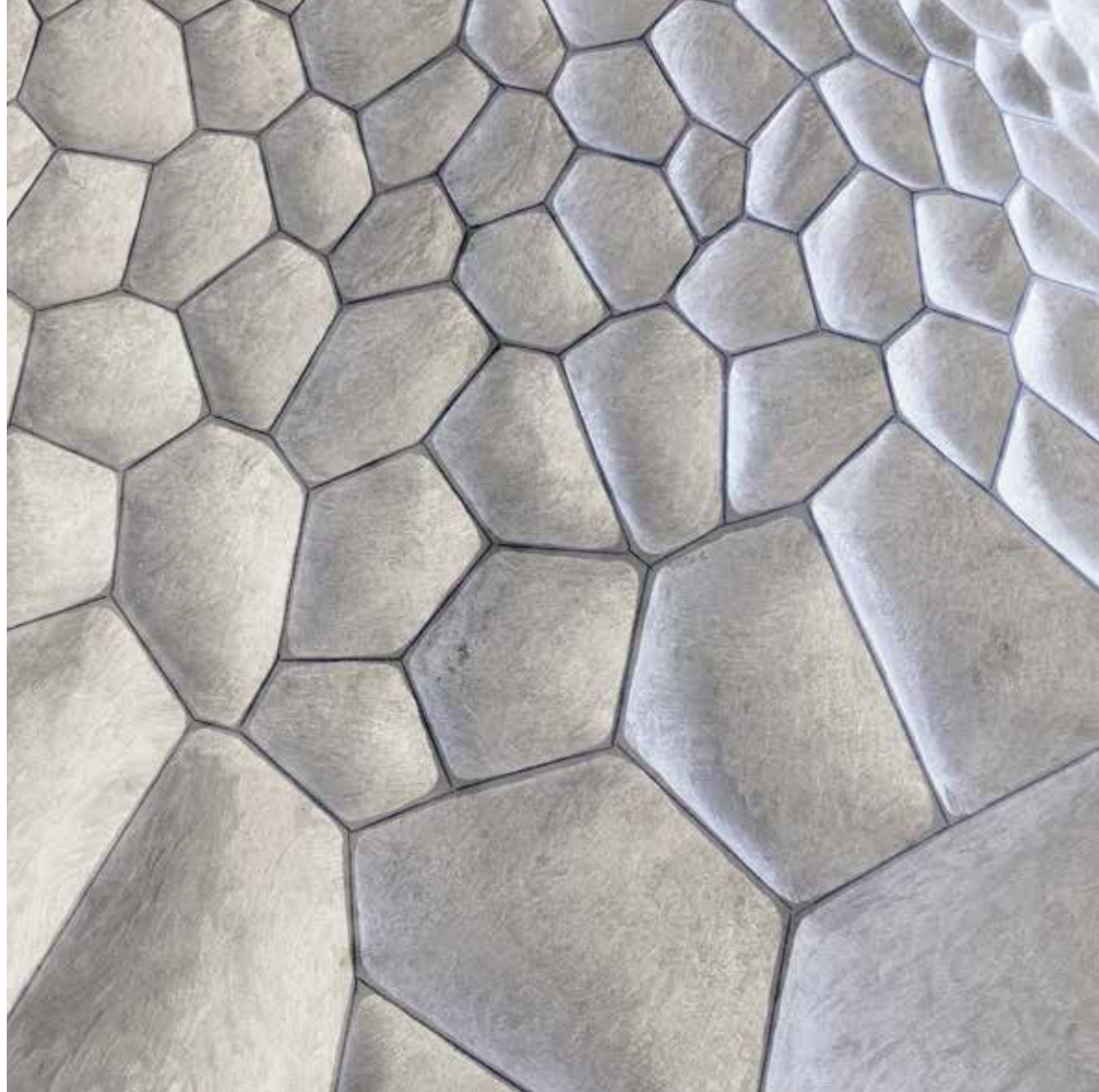
















































2200  
PONCE DE LEON







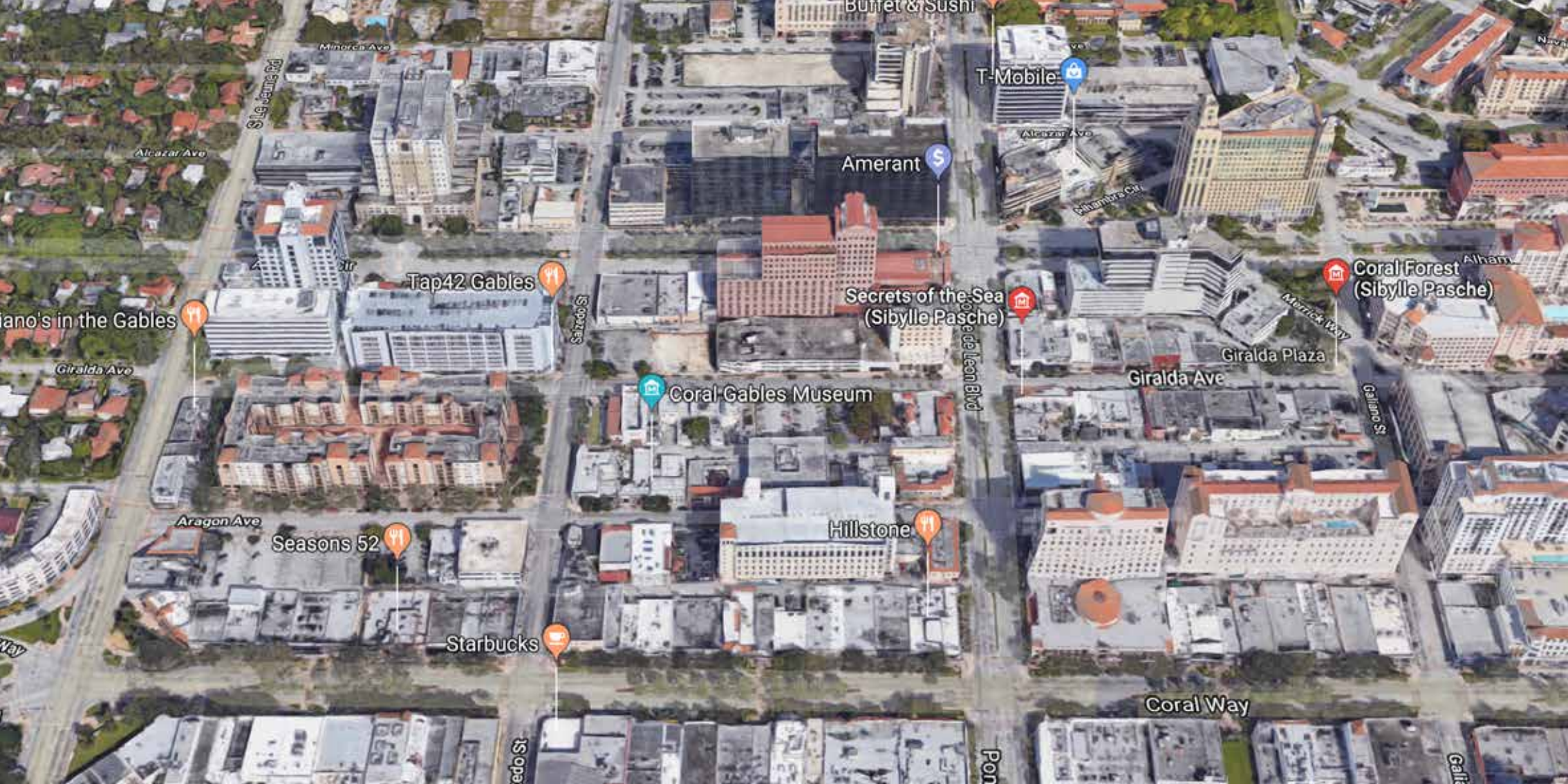












Burret & Sushi

T-Mobile

Amerant

Tap42 Gables

Secrets of the Sea  
(Sibylle Pasche)

Coral Forest  
(Sibylle Pasche)

Piano's in the Gables

Coral Gables Museum

Giralda Plaza

Giralda Ave

Seasons 52

Hillstone

Starbucks

Coral Way

St Le...

Minorca Ave

Alcazar Ave

Alcazar Ave

Merrick Cr

Alham

Giralda Ave

Aragon Ave

Jose de Leon Blvd

Gallardo St

Isopa

Pon

Gall



A big thank you to ...

**Dona Spain** (Director) and **Catherine Cathers** (Arts & Culture Specialist) of the Coral Gables Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Department; they both were tremendously supportive throughout the project.

The architect **Earl Jackson** (Cooper Robertson), for being an insightful collaborator and establishing an enriching creative dialogue between our two artistic media; he was a true anchor of stability during all the project's phases.

Mayor **Raúl Valdés-Fauli**, Vice Mayor **Vince Lago**, the Coral Gables City Commission, and the Coral Gables Cultural Development Board, who selected and funded my project.

**Todd Bressi** (Artful Places), **Meridith McKinley** (Via Partnership), and the Coral Gables Arts Advisory Panel, for introducing my work and supporting my proposal.

The business owners of Giralda Avenue, the community members, and the population of Coral Gables, who gave me and my artworks such a warm welcome.

My dear artist friend **Oriano Galloni**, who, as a Miami resident himself, was an indispensable help on site, both before and during the installation.

**Ernesto Pino**, **Walter Lesser**, and the whole Coral Gables Public Work Crew, as well as **Mike Harrison**, **Dave Harrison**, and the Harrison Crane team, who all did such an amazing job during the installation.



My wonderful team of the Studio d'Arte Telara in Carrara, Italy: **Maria-Teresa Telara** (Owner), **Adriano Gerbi** (Sculptor), and **Mauro Tonazzini** (Sculptor), who so patiently helped me realize this huge project.

**Beatrice Rolli Zinsstag** and **Silvio Zinsstag**, for their guidance in turning the essence of my work into German and English words.

My husband **Samuel Krays**, for all the administrative support, second opinions, night shifts, documentation, and installation support.

My parents, for taking care of our two boys at home during the installation week—not to mention their unwavering support in general, both as parents and grandparents.

Finally, a special thanks goes to Samuel, Lionel and Enzo for giving me the time to create and loving me for what I do and the way I do it.





**Art Project** Sibylle Pasche  
Toggwilerstrasse 147  
CH-8706 Meilen (ZH)  
Switzerland  
M +41 79 708 97 32  
sibylle.pasche@bluewin.ch  
www.sibyllepasche.com  
www.facebook.com/sibyllepasche  
www.instagram.com/sibyllepasche

**Studio** Studio d'Arte Telara  
Via Carriona 263  
I-54033 Carrara (MS)  
Italy  
T +39 0585 857351  
www.telarastudiodarte.com

**Design** Philippe Hort, Zollikon (ZH)  
Sibylle Pasche, Meilen (ZH)

**Photography** Sibylle Pasche, Meilen (ZH)  
Samuel Krayss, Meilen (ZH)  
Studio d'Arte Telara, Carrara (IT)

**Text** Sibylle Pasche, Meilen (ZH)

**Print Edition** Arti Grafiche Pezzini, Viareggio (IT)  
1000

© 2019 Sibylle Pasche





