



Discover in-depth art at Lanzarote's underwater sculpture museum

"YOU CAN GET a face that's covered by an octopus, pink sponges and intricate corals, and it's the most beautiful thing you've ever seen," says Jason deCaires Taylor. "Then you can look at another piece and it's covered with a green slime."

Jason is the British artist who's become famous around the world for his underwater sculptures, and he loves seeing these artificial reefs change, as marine flora and fauna make themselves at home.

He's spending this year installing a new sculpture garden off the coast of Las Coloradas, Lanzarote, an underwater museum that will be the first of its kind in Europe. The Museo Atlántico Lanzarote: Biosfera, Arte y Naturaleza will have its official

opening in January 2017, but it's already open to the public and there's plenty to see, with new sculptures going into the ocean all the time, including a gateway more than four metres wide, a botanical garden and tree-lined streets.

Featuring 300 sculptures,

It's all about art and nature; how art can integrate itself into a landscape

it's Jason's biggest project yet, following underwater museums in Grenada and Mexico and a recent installation on the shoreline of London's River Thames. Placed on the seabed at around 12 metres down, the Lanzarote sculptures are

accessible to scuba divers and snorkellers and can be viewed from glass-bottom boats, too.

The project is partly inspired by another artist, César Manrique, who's been a major influence on the planning and architecture of Lanzarote. "His work is all about art and nature; how art can integrate itself into a landscape," says Jason

The Lanzarote government wanted to provide more cultural opportunities for visitors, without affecting the island's iconic landscape, and Jason's work enables them to make use of the ocean instead.

Watch out for more on the Museo Atlántico Lanzarote in a future issue of Passport, and for more on Jason deCaires Taylor, visit underwatersculpture.com. 



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