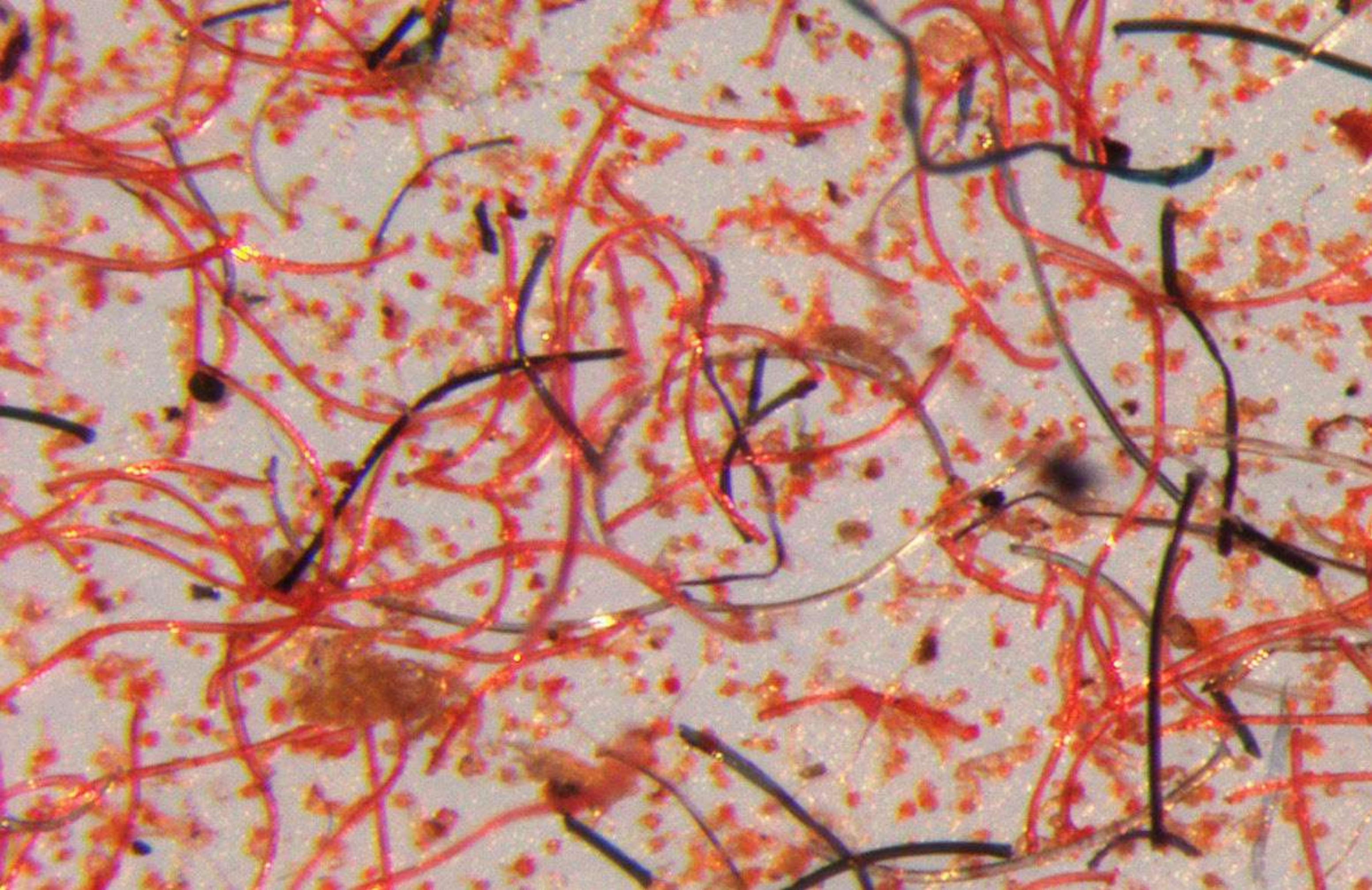


Anna Hagadorn / Kevin Oh / Camille Vance

# Microfibers in Our Oceans

What are microplastic fibers?

Microfibers are tiny pieces of plastic that can pollute the environment, measuring around 5 mm in length.



Where do they come from?

Microfibers come from synthetic fabrics such as **acrylic** and **polyester**. These fabrics are commonly found in everyday clothing items such as fleeces, yoga pants, or even underwear.

[storyofstuff.org](http://storyofstuff.org)

How do they contaminate  
our oceans?

Every time we do our laundry an average of **9 million** microfibers are released into wastewater treatment plants that cannot filter them. Because of that, these fibers end up in the ocean.

[www.oceancleanwash.org](http://www.oceancleanwash.org)

How do they contaminate  
our oceans?

There's a **billion trillion** microfibers contaminating our oceans today. Many of them end up harming marine life and even ending up in the bellies of fish, which in turn end up in our stomachs. \*gross\*

[www.oceancleanwash.org](http://www.oceancleanwash.org)

So is there a solution?

There seems to be **no distinct solution** at this time, and not many people seem to be aware of this problem. Although some have started to use microfiber-proof bags in their washer machines .

# The Process



**Materials Tested**

White T shirts

Wallpaper paste

Fabric Stiffener

Glue

Water

Mogepodge

Wire

Scissors

Thread

Clay

Hot Glue

Cardboard

Spray Paint

A projector

A-whole-lotta-trial-and-error

**Materials Actually Used**

White T shirts

Wallpaper paste

Fabric Stiffener

Glue

Water

Mogepodge

Wire

Scissors

Thread

Clay

Hot Glue

Cardboard

Spray Paint

A projector

A-whole-lotta-trial-and-error

## Crafting the Marine Life



## Shooting the Video



## Putting Together the Installation





WASHABLE  
MADE IN  
USA  
100% COTTON  
WASH IN WARM  
WATER WITH  
MILD DETERGENT  
DO NOT BLEACH  
DO NOT IRON  
NEW YORK

WASHABLE  
MADE IN  
USA  
100% COTTON  
WASH IN WARM  
WATER WITH  
MILD DETERGENT  
DO NOT BLEACH  
DO NOT IRON  
NEW YORK

## The Final Product





## The Marine Life

We created an environment of underwater creatures that reside among living coral and other organisms that serve as a home to the species. They are all covered in white (second-hand) fabric and some include tags that insinuate that they are made from synthetic material.



A FOUND

C CLOTHING.

## Our Projections

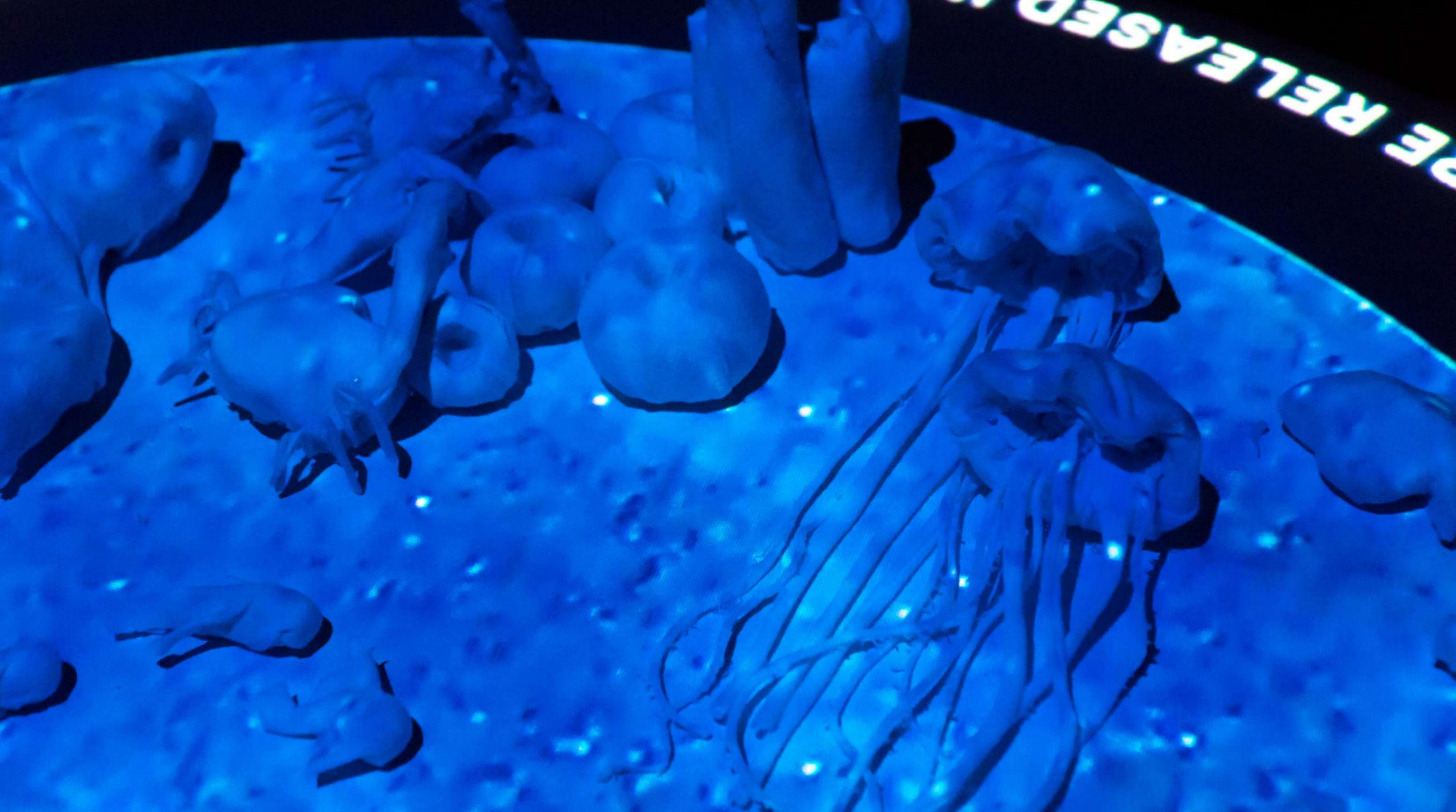
Our installation includes **3 different stages of projections** on our marine life: the ocean, the laundry machine, and the microfibers.

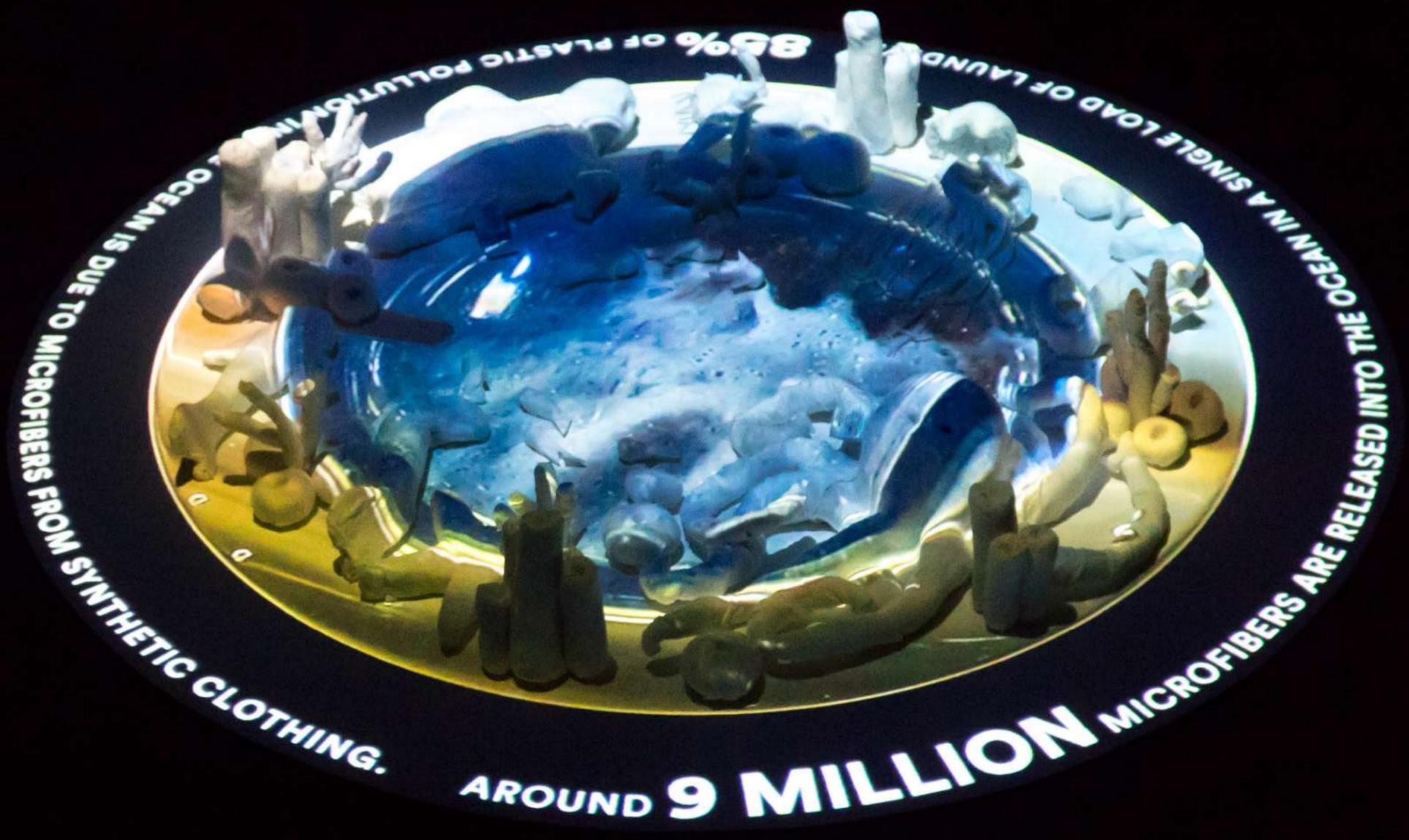


## The Ocean

The subtle waves, light reflections , and gentle water sounds bring the viewer into the marine context.

... RELEASED INTO THE OCEAN IN A SINGLE





85% OF PLASTIC POLLUTION IN THE OCEAN IS DUE TO MICROFIBERS FROM SYNTHETIC CLOTHING.

AROUND 9 MILLION MICROFIBERS ARE RELEASED INTO THE OCEAN IN A SINGLE LOAD OF LAUNDRY.

## The Washer Machine

The violent noises and sloshing of the washing machine shines light onto the dangers of this seemingly-harmless, common activity.

POLLUTION IN THE OCEAN IS DUE TO MICROFIBERS FROM SYNTHETIC CLOTHING.





**85%** OF PLASTIC POLLUTION IN THE OCEAN IS DUE TO MICROFIBERS FROM SYNTHETIC CLOTHING

AROUND 9 MILLION T-SHIRTS ARE RELEASED INTO THE OCEAN IN A SINGLE LOAD OF LAUNDRY.

## The Microfibers

The microfibers float among and entangle the marine life, commenting on the **negative effect they have on our oceans**. Ominous, dark sounds indicate the impending dangers they can bring to our oceans and furthermore our own bodies.



ESTILO:  
F63222  
SIZE: 10  
97% POLYESTER/  
POLIESTER/  
3% SPANDEX/  
SPANDEX  
MADE IN INDONESIA  
HECHO EN INDONESIA  
SEE REVERSE FOR CARE  
VER AL DORSO PARA  
CUIDADO  
RM# 51735



VG.  
AROUND 9 MILLION

## Our Installation

Our installation does not point out a specific solution to this issue, but rather seeks to call attention to this silent killer by forcing viewers to think differently about a common activity—doing the laundry—and make better decisions about the kinds of fabrics they chose to purchase.

Thank you!