

The Mariwai Project x LifeShip "Pyramid on the Moon."

15 january, 2025 1:11 AM EST Florida time 16:11 in PNG

Moon Launch Imminent

Ben Handelman, founder of LifeShip invited Shiva Lynn Burgos to the MOON! to curate a collection of her artworks produced in the 3rd largest rainforest on earth to compliment his pyramid, a record of earth in its diversity of arts, ideas and biodiversity. Portraits of the original inhabitants and her clan family, alongside 360VR leading edge technology filmmaking and more depict the ancestral ceremonies of remote East Sepik Province, Papua New Guinea. As well, Shiva invited her Shin-Do co-founder, Skinder Hundal to participate in Shannon Mullen O'Keefe's Museum of Ideas, also on board for its future millenia on the lunar surface.

This historic mission will fly with LifeShip on the SpaceX Falcon 9, Firefly Aerospace Blue Ghost mission. The launch is scheduled for Wednesday, 15 january 1:11 AM EST Florida time, 16:11 in PNG pending weather and technical conditions. The mission includes several key stages: orbital flight, propulsion to the moon, moon orbit (approximately 16 days), and the anticipated landing on Mare Crisium, Moon, roughly five weeks after launch.

Why It Matters

This moon mission is not just a feat of technology but a testament to humanity's imagination and creativity. It preserves and elevates the stories of Earth—its biodiversity, arts, and ideas—for future generations, while spotlighting the ancestral heritage of Papua New Guinea.

Follow the Mission

Watch the launch live: LifeShip.com/launch

Learn more about LifeShip's pyramid:

LifeShip.com/pyramid

Key moments, including the launch and landing, will be communicated via live updates, with plans to further engage Papua New Guinea media and global audiences as the mission unfolds.



In Photos

Top: Portrait of James Risho of the Insect People, Swagup PNG as featured in Fotofestival Lenzburg, Switzerland 2019

Right: Sepik River Portraits Project by S.L.Burgos, Ambunti Crocodile Festival, August 2018

Featured PNG Artworks

Sepik River Portraits Project

In August 2018 Burgos set up a field photo studio to capture portraits of 100 individuals from the Sepik River community. In addition to the images she recorded each individual's name, tribe and village affiliation. The format, pose and lighting reference classic formal Flemish portraiture.



Featured PNG Artworks



Inside Tokimba (Short)

Inside Tokimba is an immersive experience that takes the viewer into the heart of both the public and secret spectacular initiation ceremonies for the inauguration and naming of a new spirit house along the Sepik River named Tokimba. Directed by artist Shiva Lynn Burgos and invited filmmaker Nick Hunter of Paper Moose this 360-degree Virtual Reality film is the result of The Mariwai Project, Burgos' long-term artistic and cultural collaboration with the Kwoma people of Mariwai Village, Papua New Guinea, which enabled the privileged access to these rare and extraordinary events.

Watch here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwQtyOH3Aws>

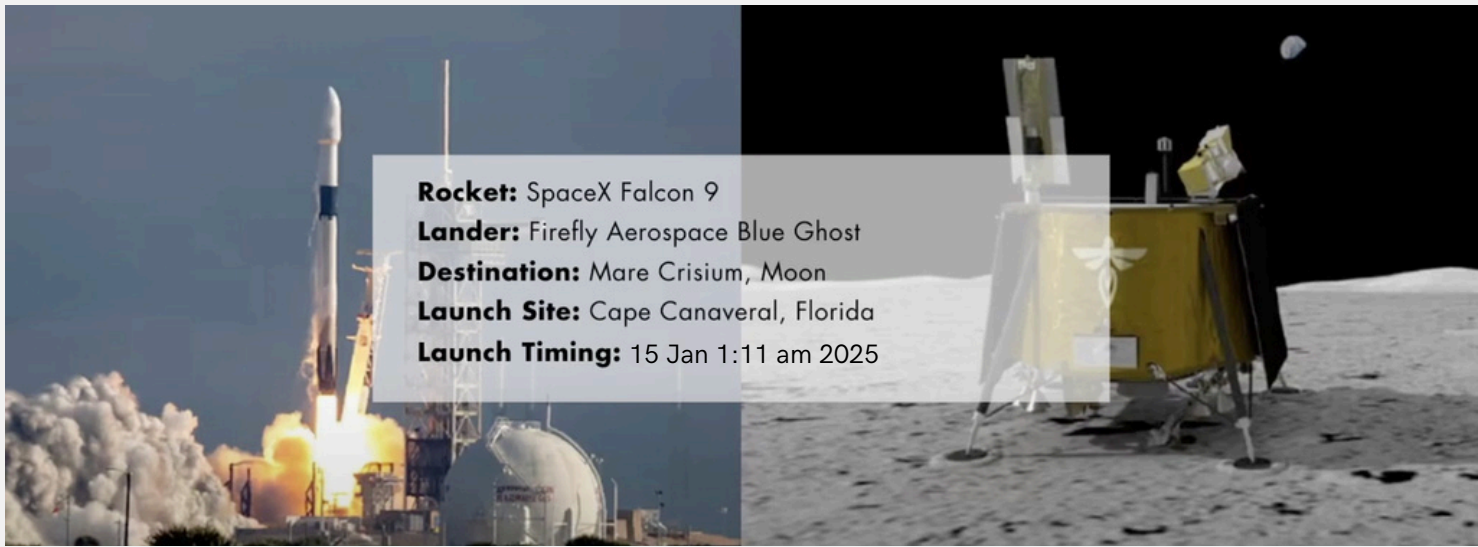


Tokimba Spirit House

Shiva Lynn Burgos was commissioned by the Ethnologisches Museum in the new Humboldt Forum at the Berlin Palace. The permanent collection features her photographic work and the new film Tokimba Spirit House which introduces The Mariwai Project, her intimate involvement with the carvers and painters of Papua New Guinea.

Watch here: <https://vimeo.com/922008508>

The Mariwai Project in Space



Rocket: SpaceX Falcon 9
Lander: Firefly Aerospace Blue Ghost
Destination: Mare Crisium, Moon
Launch Site: Cape Canaveral, Florida
Launch Timing: 15 Jan 1:11 am 2025

LifeShip is a space-time capsule program with a unique mission to preserve and send human markers to space, particularly the Moon. Here are the key aspects of LifeShip:

For LifeShip's next mission to the Moon, The Mariwai Project has curated a selection of artworks, and other content as part of their Library of Humanity.

"At LifeShip, we believe that humanity has an important part to play in continuing the cycle of life in the Universe and expanding life outwards from our planet.

We believe in preserving the genetic blueprint of Earth's incredible biodiversity as it is today for future generations.

We believe in furthering the human story into the cosmos so that we leave a legacy and are never forgotten.

We believe that we can achieve this by taking small steps towards seeding life beyond Earth and extending humanity to the stars.

We believe in making space accessible to everyone. After all, exploration is in our DNA!"

LifeShip's concept combines elements of space exploration, genetic preservation, and consumer space tourism, offering people a unique way to feel connected to space missions and potentially contribute to the long-term preservation of Earth's genetic diversity.

A Monument to Life from Earth

- The LifeShip Pyramid on the Moon is a **monument, seed bank, cultural archive, time capsule, and messenger probe**, carrying Earth's essence beyond. This historic monument represents a giant leap forward in our mission to preserve and continue life from Earth. It is one small step towards spreading life and consciousness across the cosmos. Its timeless geometric form symbolizes humanity's resilience and monumental achievements, while **its placement on the Moon honors our boundless spirit of exploration and expansion**. This is a mission in service to life from Earth.
- The spacecraft will spend **25 days in Earth orbit** before performing a translunar-injection burn to begin a four-day transit to orbit around the moon.
- Blue Ghost will spend another **16 days in lunar orbit**, phasing into a descent trajectory to land on the surface of the moon. The lander will touch down autonomously, using vision navigation software to guide its descent.
- There will be **live video of the landing** and you will get invited to a community watch party where we stream the thrilling landing. Blue Ghost and the LifeShip Pyramid on the Moon will remain there forever.

Uplift Aerospace Art x Space



Being no stranger to the possibilities of art and space technology, in 2021 **The Mariwai Project** collaborated with **Uplift Aerospace**, a pioneering space technology company as part of Uplift's **Art x Space** program. Shiva Lynn Burgos was selected to paint a rocket panel for Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin rocket. She chose to depict the Moai spirit, a traditional **Papua New Guinea figure representing the soul's ascendance to the cosmos** in the afterlife in the form of a comet or shooting star.



The Mariwai Project's involvement represents another way in which it directs resources to important and cutting-edge causes while expanding the boundaries of what is possible through the integration of art, technology, and space exploration, the commitment to advancing cross-cultural exchange, technological innovation, and positive social impact.



Uplift offers comprehensive manufacturing and logistics services to help brands and creators build innovative products in space. The company has established a network of strategic partnerships and agreements with prominent organizations, including NASA, the **Smithsonian Institution**, the **University of Arizona**, the **University of Wisconsin**, the **University of Central Florida**, **Blue Origin**, and the **Orbital Reef Space Station**. These collaborations allow Uplift to leverage cutting-edge space-based resources and expertise to support the development and production of groundbreaking products for its clients, providing them with end-to-end solutions to bring their space-based innovations to life.

The Museum of Ideas: The Moon Exhibition No. 1 – "What is an Idea?"



In partnership with LifeShip, an organization created to make space accessible to everyone, The Museum of Ideas is creating a capsule of ideas. The ideas will be a small part of a big mission to preserve a part of us in space. To do this, we are gathering ideas to send to the moon to be eternalized. The mission to the moon is real—the project is also a symbolic gesture, a testament to ideas and to the thinkers who receive them.

The Moon Capsule Interviews: A Curated Collection of Ideas

The Moon Exhibition No. 1 is a raw exploration into the most basic question about ideas: What is an idea? The interviews featured in the exhibition offer a glimpse into the minds of today's thinkers, creators, and visionaries. The project aims to immortalize these ideas on the Moon, ensuring their preservation for generations to come.

The ideas explored in this exhibition aren't just theoretical; they're sparks of insight and innovation that represent the transformative power of human thought.



Shiva Lynn Burgos on the Role of Recognition in the Formation of Ideas

For Shiva Lynn Burgos, an idea is fundamentally about recognition. It is about understanding one's sense of self and how that self relates to the outside world. For Shiva, an idea is born from the process of self-discovery and the dynamic relationship between the individual and the surrounding environment. Ideas arise through the recognition of one's role in the broader tapestry of life, sparking deeper understanding and thought about our place in the world. In her interview, Shiva elaborates on how this recognition manifests in the creative process, allowing individuals to engage with and reinterpret their surroundings. For her, ideas aren't just abstract thoughts; they are an extension of the self—a conversation between the inner world and the outer world.



Skinder Hundal on the Nonlinear Nature of Ideas

For Skinder Hundal, ideas transcend the linear and pragmatic. He believes ideas emerge not from structured thought processes but from the interplay of creativity and imagination. Ideas are spontaneous and free-flowing, unable to be confined within a fixed framework. To Skinder, ideas are expressions of pure thought that often defy conventional boundaries, transcending logic and expectation. In his interview, Skinder emphasizes the importance of imagination in the formation of ideas. He suggests that they arise in moments of inspiration, without calculation, and can lead to new pathways of thinking and doing. Ideas, when allowed to flourish, possess the power to disrupt the status quo and create something entirely new.

2 Private Lunar Landers Head toward the Moon in a Roundabout Journey



CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — In a two-for-one moonshot, SpaceX launched a pair of lunar landers Wednesday for U.S. and Japanese companies looking to jumpstart business on Earth's dusty sidekick.

The two landers rocketed away in the middle of the night from NASA's Kennedy Space Center, the latest in a stream of private spacecraft aiming for the moon. They shared the ride to save money but parted company an hour into the flight exactly as planned, taking separate roundabout routes for the monthslong journey. It's take 2 for the Tokyo-based ispace, whose first lander crashed into the moon two years ago. This time, it has a rover on board with a scoop to gather up lunar dirt for study and plans to test potential food and water sources for future explorers. Lunar newcomer Texas-based Firefly Aerospace is flying 10 experiments for NASA, including a vacuum to gather dirt, a drill to measure the temperature below the surface and a device that could be used by future moonwalkers to keep the sharp, abrasive particles off their spacesuits and equipment.

Firefly's Blue Ghost — named after a species of U.S. Southeastern fireflies — should reach the moon first. The 6-foot-6-inches-tall (2-meter-tall) lander will attempt a touchdown in early March at Mare Crisium, a volcanic plain in the northern latitudes.

The slightly bigger ispace lander named Resilience will take four to five months to get there, targeting a touchdown in late May or early June at Mare Frigoris, even farther north on the moon's near side.

"We don't think this is a race. Some people say 'race to the moon,' but it's not about the speed," ispace's chief financial officer Jumpei Nozaki said this week from Cape Canaveral.

Both Nozaki and Firefly CEO Jason Kim acknowledge the challenges still ahead, given the wreckage littering the lunar landscape. Only five countries have successfully placed spacecraft on the moon since the 1960s: the former Soviet Union, the U.S., China, India and Japan.

We've done everything we can on the design and the engineering," Kim said. Even so, he pinned an Irish shamrock to his jacket lapel Tuesday night for good luck. The U.S. remains the only one to have landed astronauts. NASA's Artemis program, the successor to Apollo, aims to get astronauts back on the moon by the end of the decade. Before that can happen, "we're sending a lot of science and a lot of technology ahead of time to prepare for that," NASA's science mission chief Nicky Fox said on the eve of launch. If acing their respective touchdowns, both spacecraft will spend two weeks operating in constant daylight, shutting down once darkness hits. "Once lowered onto the lunar surface, ispace's 11-pound (5-kilogram) rover will stay near the lander, traveling up to hundreds of yards (meters) in circles at a speed of less than one inch (a couple centimeters) per second. The rover has its own special delivery to drop off on the lunar dust: a toy-size red house designed by a Swedish artist.

NASA is paying \$101 million to Firefly for the mission and another \$44 million for the experiments. Nozaki declined to divulge the cost of ispace's rebooted mission with six experiments, saying it's less than the first mission that topped \$100 million.

Coming up by the end of February is the second moonshot for NASA by Houston-based Intuitive Machines. Last year, the company achieved the first U.S. lunar touchdown in more than a half-century, landing sideways near the south pole but still managing to operate.



A Private US Spacecraft Headed to the Moon captures a Glorious View of Earth

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — A private U.S. spacecraft bound for the moon has captured stunning images of Earth one week into its flight. Still circling Earth, Firefly Aerospace's lunar lander fired its thrusters Thursday to put it on a path to reach the moon in over a month. Dubbed Blue Ghost, the spacecraft beamed back photos and video of the Blue Marble, our planet. The Texas company released the images Friday. It carries experiments for NASA, part of the space agency's effort to return astronauts to the moon this decade.

Blue Ghost is one of two lunar landers launched from Florida by SpaceX on Jan. 15. It's targeting a moon touchdown on March 2. The other lander is sponsored by the Japanese company ispace and taking an even longer route, with a landing in late May or early June.

Links

<https://apnews.com/article/moon-landings-nasa-japan-spacex-8b6e29d17c463e8760c9baa2a75db54a>
<https://apnews.com/article/moon-firefly-lunar-lander-blue-ghost-ccd693e7b94e2962f89b8a23fa6c5d>

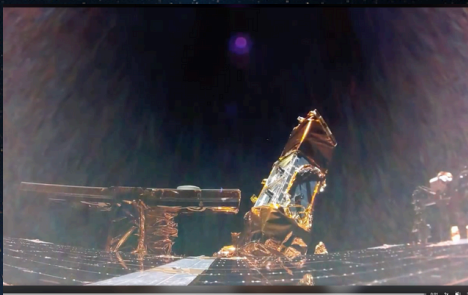
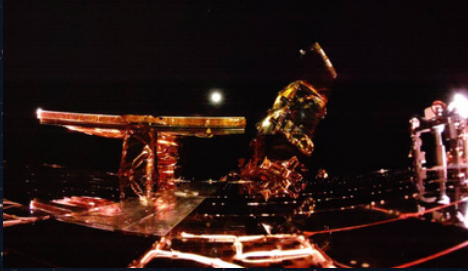
It's the first moonshot for Firefly and the second for ispace, which crashed its first lander into the moon in 2023. Tokyo-based ispace's latest lander, Resilience, is still orbiting Earth and performing all its maneuvers to close in on the moon.

Blue Ghost's First Two Weeks:

Milestones and Progress on the Road to the Moon

Source

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/fireflyspace/>



January 29, 2025

Monitoring Progress: Firefly Focuses on Blue Ghost's Upcoming Trans-Lunar Injection

As Blue Ghost continues its Earth orbit, Firefly Aerospace remains focused on the ultimate goal: the Moon. The team is carefully monitoring the spacecraft's progress as it prepares for its upcoming trans-lunar injection. During its second critical engine burn, Blue Ghost captured stunning views of Earth from orbit. With just over two weeks remaining in Earth orbit, the team continues to operate NASA payloads and collect valuable science data on its journey toward the Moon.

January 31, 2025

Blue Ghost's Scenic Route: Orbital Mechanics and Thermal Dynamics at Play

Week 2 of the Blue Ghost mission brings a lesson in orbital mechanics and thermal dynamics. The "GhostRiders" explain how taking the scenic route is beneficial to the spacecraft's trajectory as it makes its way toward the Moon.

February 1, 2025

Blue Ghost's Epic View and Team Inspiration

Blue Ghost captured a breathtaking view of Earth eclipsing the Moon during its journey, with the "GhostRiders" continuing to share postcard-worthy moments as the lander nears its final destination. Meanwhile, Jose Luis Lacavex, Electrical Engineering Manager for Spacecraft Avionics at Firefly, reflects on the inspiration he draws from his team as they work to get Blue Ghost to the Moon. Lacavex, originally from Mission, TX, has been with Firefly for nearly two years, leading his team with passion and enthusiasm every step of the way.

February 5, 2025

Blue Ghost's Trans-Lunar Journey and 715,000 Miles Traveled

Blue Ghost is just five days away from its trans-lunar injection, having skipped the third Earth orbit maneuver after successful burns. The spacecraft is now on track for the Moon, with stunning Earth shots shared by the "GhostRiders." Meanwhile, the mission has already traveled 715,000 miles, with its space passport filling up. Carrying 10 NASA instruments, Blue Ghost continues its lunar journey, providing behind-the-scenes updates.

Milestones and Progress on the Road to the Moon

Source

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/fireflyspace/>



February 6, 2025

Preparing for Trans-Lunar Injection: Blue Ghost Week 3 Update

As Blue Ghost continues its journey, Firefly Aerospace shares its Week 3 mission update. The spacecraft has downlinked over 11 GB of data, and the team remains focused on the upcoming trans-lunar injection burn, a critical step toward lunar orbit.

February 7-9, 2025

Blue Ghost Begins Journey to the Moon with Stunning Earth Imagery and Critical Maneuvers

Blue Ghost captures a striking image of Australia before departing Earth. With trans-lunar injection successfully completed on February 8, the spacecraft begins its four-day journey to the Moon. A trajectory correction on February 9 ensures a precise path to lunar orbit.

February 10-12, 2025

Blue Ghost Achieves Data Milestone, Perfects Lunar Trajectory, and Captures Stunning Imagery

Blue Ghost downlinks 13 GB of data, supporting NASA payloads, including tests on radiation-tolerant computing and magnetic fields. The spacecraft also captures stunning images of Earth with the Moon in the distance, along with a reflection of Earth on its solar panel.

February 13-20, 2025

Final Descent Preparations

A 4-minute burn inserts the spacecraft into lunar orbit, followed by a timelapse of its approach. A second maneuver on February 18 lowers its orbit, capturing the Moon's far side. Now 2.2 million miles in, with 18.7 GB downlinked, the team monitors its final descent toward the March 2 landing.

February 24, 2025

Lunar Descent Begins: Final Orbit Maneuver Completed

Blue Ghost successfully completes its third and final lunar orbit maneuver with a 16-second burn. The spacecraft now enters a near-circular low lunar orbit, preparing for its March 2 descent to Mare Crisium.

