



RAJINDER SINGH (B.1964)

Rajinder Singh (B. 1964, Ipoh, Malaysia) is an artist, mathematician and researcher who holds an enduring interest in South Asian magico-religious belief systems, and the shape and space that they deny us. In 1993, he obtained a PhD in Engineering & Mathematics at the Queen's University Belfast (QUB), UK. In 2010, he achieved his Masters degree in Fine Arts from LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore, and has been a full time artist ever since. His art practice is multifaceted, as he explores the variety of ways the human body unfolds at the intersections of the world of the otherworldly and the dynamics of global modernity.

In 2020, Rajinder did a solo presentation entitled *Border Tours* as part of the Tulca Festival of Arts, in the An Post Gallery, Galway, Ireland. In the same year, he also presented *Un-migrant-ing*, a solo exhibition of painting, drawing, installation, sculpture at the LinenHall Arts Centre Gallery, Mayo, Ireland. The artworks presented are based on a text on the 19th century unverified sighting of the Purple Martin in Dublin, from the Museum of Science and Art (National Museum of Ireland). The show is developed around an 'unverified report' on the said bird.

In 2019, Rajinder launched his project *Un-migrate-ing*, at the Botanic Gardens in Dublin, Ireland. The project is an umbrella for his practice-led inquiries into questions of migrants in Ireland. It began with the premise that Ireland is a bountiful bird-feeder environment; however, migrant birds have been invading its nature, taking advantage of the free and accessible food. Each of the ten parts of the commission at the Botanic Gardens is an open prison birdhouse named after the ten worst Direct Provision Centres in Ireland. The installation provides shelters where migrant birds can be isolated away to protect the local fauna and flora. In the same year, he also took part in the international group show *'Paralogical Machines: When Images Meet Us in Space and Time'* curated by Dr. Kenneth Feinstein.

In 2018, he presented a special performance project called *'The Undiscovered Country - a reflection on mortality through performance art'* at Art Stage Singapore, Marina Bay Sands Exhibition Centre. The performance was led in collaboration with Italian artist Daniela Beltrani. Together, they have invited four fellow artists to perform a piece about the meditation of death and dying. The award-winning performance artists involved were Ezzam Rahman, Sophia Natasha Wei, Isabelle Desjeux and Tinu Verghis.

'Woundbloom' was a project that was conceived in 2017, where the idea of the wound in its many different forms, physical, mental and metaphorical sense is a recurrent motif in much of Rajinder's work. Rajinder sees the wound as failure of language when the wound itself becomes the language, articulating secrets in the presence of pain through the testimony of cut and ripped skin. Rajinder's wounds speak impossibly not only of a trauma in the past but reanimates the boundary between existence and non existence to reveal conditions of possibility that exceed the limits of the suffering flesh and gives us a glimpse of that blurry unity, the great throbbing consciousness beyond. These aspects of language and



the wound are embodied especially in Rajinder's assembled gods that are at once scarred fragmented deities and healing, embracing unities.

'Cage of Deliverance' (2016) returned Rajinder to his distant past, to a life in Malaysia, to a pageantry of human spirit triumphant over flesh, in order to construct spacious cages in his paintings, free to roam about in, their oceanesque tranquility oblivious to the trauma transcribed onto their very walls.

Other exhibitions include *'Common Ground'*, Chan Hampe Gallery, Singapore (2015); *'The ceiling floats away with a sigh'*, Wei-Ling Gallery (2014); *'Muestra Colectiva de Verano'*, Isabel Anchorena Gallery, Buenos Aires (2014); *Fold*, ICA, Singapore (2012); *MOLC*, Chan Hampe Gallery (2012); *'Ya-ad'*, ICA, Singapore (2011); *'Ellaline'*, Stephanie Hoppen Gallery, London (2011). Rajinder was also represented in Bologna Fiere SH Contemporary at Shanghai Exhibition Centre, China in 2014 and London Art Fair in 2012.



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EDUCATION

- 2010 Master's Fine Arts (supervisor - Dr Ian Woo) - LASALLE, Singapore
1993 PhD (Engineering & Mathematics) - Queen's University Belfast (QUB), UK

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 Border Tours as part of Tulca Festival of Arts, An Post Gallery, Galway, Ireland - Nov
Un-Migrant-ing, LinenHall Arts Centre, Gallery, Mayo, Ireland
- 2019 My Sister's Coven as part of Tulca Festival of Arts, Engage Art Studios, Galway, Ireland -
Ireland as Borderland as part of Landscapes of Hope and Displacement - a look at border
policing at its worst, FireStation Studios, Ireland, July 2019
- 2018 The Undiscovered Country - a reflection on mortality through performance art, Art Stage
Singapore 2018, Marina Bay Sands Exhibition Centre, Singapore
- 2017 Woundbloom, performance art in collaboration with Dublin based German dancer and
choreographer Alina. Maria. O., Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Wound Bloom, Art Stage Singapore 2017, Marina Bay Sands Exhibition Centre, Singapore
- 2016 Cage of Deliverance; Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2014 '...the ceiling floats away with a sigh..', Essay by Rachel Jenagaratnam; Wei-Ling
Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2013 Number-Trance-Face; Curated by Isabel Anchorena(paintings); Isabel Anchorena Gallery,
Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 2012 FOLD; Curated by Dr Charles Merewether (installation); Institute of Contemporary Arts,
Singapore
M.O.L.C.; Curated by Ben Hampe (paintings); Chan Hampe Gallery@Raffles, Singapore
- 2011 Ya-ad; Curated by Jody Neal (installation); Institute of Contemporary Arts, Singapore
Ellaline; Curated by Charlotte G. (paintings); Stephanie Hoppen Gallery, London
Number-Trance-Face; Curated by Michele B. (paintings); Essay by Dr Kenneth Fernstein;
Boscia Art Gallery, Melbourne, Australia
Assemblage- A mid career retrospective for artist Rajinder Singh; Curated by Nicolas
Olivry (paintings); Nomu on Monu galleries, Singapore
- 2010 Cause & Defect; Curated by Jasdeep Sandhu (paintings); Essay by Lawrence Chin; Gajah
Gallery, Singapore
Curio; Curated by Paul Manem (paintings); Essay by Rachael Jenagaratnam; Chinese
House Gallery, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Curio; Curated by N. Olivry (paintings); Hong Kong Expo Centre, Hong Kong
Curio; Curated by Yusof Majid (paintings); Essay by Rachael Jenagaratnam; PACE Gallery,
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Curio; Curated by N. Olivry (paintings); Fullerton Hotel for ParkerAsia event, Singapore



- The Traumatized Body; Curated by Ian Woo (installation); Tri-Space, LASALLE School of Arts, Singapore
- 2008 Number-Trance-Face; Curated by Savaad Felich (paintings); Essay by Dr Kenneth Fernstein; Yering Art Gallery, Melbourne, Australia
- Number-Trance-Face; Curated by Yusof Majid (paintings); Essay by Dr Ian Woo; PACE Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Number-Trance-Face; Curated by N. Olivry (paintings); Hong Kong Expo Centre, Hong Kong
- Number-Trance-Face; Curated by J. Manuel (paintings); Essay by Milenko Prvacki; O.Fournier Galleries, Argentina
- 2007 Faces; Curated by N. Olivry (paintings); Tower Club Galleries, Singapore
- Faces; Curated by N. Olivry (paintings); The Universal gallery, Singapore
- Faces; Curated by N. Olivry (paintings); De Taillan Galleries, Bordeaux, France
- source_code; Curated by Yusof Majid (paintings); Essay by Dr Carmen Nge; Darling Muse Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2006 In the becoming; Curated by Joseph Benjamin (Sketches and Drawings); Tavolo@BoonTat Street, Singapore
- 2005 I come from over there; Curated by S. Swank (paintings); Essay by Rene Daniels; PPH Public Art Space, Singapore
- I can SMELL your BAD breath; Curated by David Clarke (illustrations); Merbau Gallery, Singapore
- Anthro (paintings); Anthropology Gallery, Singapore
- Gridlocked; Curated by James Holdsworth (paintings); Block43 Art Gallery, Singapore

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 100 Pieces: Art for All, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Fragilità, curated by particle in collaboration with Fondazione ICA Milano (Online exhibition)
- 2020 Un-Migrant-ing, Connected, Kilkenny Arts Festival, Kilkenny, Ireland
- The Past Three Months, Courthouse Gallery, Clare
- Imagine, with Art Nomad at Christchurch Cathedral, Dublin
- Transhumance: The Nomadic Artist : Part Of This Land, with Art Nomad at Phizzfest The Space, Dublin
- Performance lecture, Creative Collaboration and Transdisciplinarity, LSAD, Ireland
- Jali, Wei Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2019 18@8 Turning Points, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Art Jakarta 2019, Jakarta Convention Center (JCC) Senayan, Jakarta, Indonesia
- 2019 Paralogical Machines: When Images Meet Us in Time and Space, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2018 Patriots: By Malaysians for Malaysians, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



- Teh Tarik with The Flag, curated by Wei-Ling Gallery, in association with The National Visual Arts Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Art Stage Singapore 2018, Marina Bay Sands Exhibition Centre, Singapore
Ex-Voto the body + the institution, curated by Maeve Mulrenan, Galway Arts Centre, Galway, Ireland.
- 2017 Art Stage Singapore 2017, Marina Bay Sands Exhibition Centre, Singapore
- 2016 The Past Is Never Where You Think You Left It, curated by Gowri Balasegaran, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2015 18@8 Heirlooms, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Common Ground; Curated by Samantha Segar (paintings); With Ahmad Abu Bakar, Alvin Ong, Belinda Fox, Chanker, Dawn Ng, Esmond Loh, Eugene Soh, Green Zeng, Jason Lim, JS Rajinder, Kumari Nahappan, Michael Lee, Mike HJ Chang, Ruben Pang, Safaruddin Abdul Hamid (Dyn), and Sookoon Ang; Chan Hampe Gallery, Singapore
- 2014 Muestra Colectiva de Verano 2014; Curated by Isabel A. (paintings); With artists D'Arienzo, Hoffmann, Cuttica, Cetner, Bianchedi, Ronsino, Vega, Vattuone, Durmuller, Monferran, Aitala, Sanchez Fantino, Genovesi; Isabel Anchorena Gallery, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 2013 Spice; Curated by Yusof Majid (paintings); Pace Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2012 Timeless; Curated by Lim Wei Ling (paintings); Wei Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Pace Gallery Anniversary 2012; Curated by Yusof Majid (paintings); Pace Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
London Art Fair 2012 with Stephanie Hoppen Gallery, London
- 2011 18@8 Save the Planet; Curated by Lim Wei Ling (vinyl toy and paintings); Wei Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Interchange: The Tribute Edition; Curated by Gillian Nelson (installation and paintings); With Patrick Storey, Lynn Lu, Andy Yang and Rajinder Singh; Chan Hampe Galleries, Singapore
The Lasalle Show'11 Exhibition; Curated by Dr Charles Merewether (installation); ICA Galleries, Singapore
Spice (paintings); With Jailani Abu Hassan, Ilham Fadzli, Yusof Majid, Regina Noakes, Stephen Menon, Ali Nurazmal; Curated by Yusof Majid; Pace Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2010 4/12; Curated by Ian Woo (installation); With Natacha Arena, Matthew Bax, Cui Liang, Igor Delic, Isabelle Desjeux, Lucinda Law, Steven Lim, Edith Podesta, Rubin Hashim, Tim Xie Ying and Zaki Razak; ICAS Galleries, Singapore
Trapolle; Curated by Daniella Beltrani (installation); With Ken Feinstein, Ezzam Rahman, Matt Bax and Zaki Razak; Curated by D. Beltrani; Art Trove gallery, Singapore
Object; Curated by Ian Woo (installation); Praxis Space, LASALLE School of Arts, Singapore
- 2009 pace gallery: anniversary 2009 (paintings); With Ahmad Zaki Anwar, Jaliani Abu Hassan, Yusof Majid, Ivan Lam, Rajinder Singh, Nurazmal Yusoff, Husin Hourmain, Samsuddin



- Lappo, Samsudin Wahab, Faiz Sukor, Fauzin Mustafa, Daud Rahim; Curated by Yusof Majid; PACE Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Aliya and Farouk Khan Collection Show, Iskandar Malaysia; Contemporary Art Show 2009 (paintings); Curated by Shushi Shamsuddin; Danga City Mall, Johor Bahru, Malaysia
- 2008 Force of Nature (paintings); With Ahmad Shukri Mohamed, Ahmad Zakii Anwar, Annuar Rashid, Bayu Utomo Radiikin, Choy Chun Wei, Faiz Sukor, Fauzin Mustaffa, Hamidi Hadi, Ilham Fadhli, Ivan Lam, Khairina Khairuddin, Nurazmal Md Yusoff, Samsuddin Lappo, Yusof Majid and Zulkiflee Zainol Abidin; Curated by Yusof Majid; PACE Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- pace gallery: anniversary2008(paintings); With Jalani Abu Hassan, Yusof Majid, Annuar Rashid, Ahmad Shukri Mohamed, Umibaizurah Mahir Ismail, Daud Rahim, Ernesto Pujazon, Hamir Soib, Awang Damit Ahmad, FaizShukor, Fauzulyusri, Hamidi Hadi, Husin Hourmain, Ilham Fadhli, Masnoor Ramly, Mohd Hafiz, Yau Bee Ling, Zuraimi Daud; Curated by Yusof Majid; PACE Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2007 pace gallery: the opening 2007 (paintings); With Ahmad Zaki Anwar, Jalani Abu Hassan, Yusof Majid, Bayu Utomo Radjikin, Ivan Lam, Aswad Ameir,Ahmad Shukri Mohamed, Umibaizurah ahir Ismail, Daud Rahim, Ernesto Pujazon, Hamir Soib, Nelson Dominquez, joelcouloigner; Curated by Yusof Majid (paintings); PACE Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- What else is there? (paintings); With animator Chris Shaw; Curated by Christopher Shaw; Royal Plaza on Scott, Art Space, Singapore
- 2006 Symbiosis (paintings); With artists Donna Ong and ChngNai Wee; Curated by ChngNai Wee (paintings); Marina galleries, Singapore
- 2005 Racial Harmony; Curated by James Holdsworth (paintings); Bradell Heights CC Art Room, Singapore
- Chip Bee Artist Boheme; Curated by Ketna Patel (paintings); Michi Gallery, Singapore
- 2004 Batch No 3; Curated by James Holdsworth (paintings); Block 43 Art Gallery, Singapore
- Vision and Illusion- Reconstruction of a city; Curated by Michelle Lim (installations); Singapore Art Festival 2004 St James Power Station, Singapore
- Malcolm's Chicken; Curated by James Holdsworth (paintings); Block 43 Art Gallery, Singapore
- 2003 Nascent: Beginning to be; Curated by James Holdsworth (paintings); Block 43 Art Gallery, Singapore

RESIDENCIES, FAIRS & AWARDS

- 2020 Awarded project studio TempleBar Gallery and Studios.
Workshops - as a response to Paula Rego exhibition - IMMA Ireland
Guest Artist - Maynooth University, Geography, MA Spatial Justice 2019 - 2021
Artist in Residence, University College Dublin commissioned by MA Race and Decolonial Studies
- 2020 Awarded project studio TempleBar Gallery and Studios.



- 2020 Workshops - as a response to Paula Rego exhibition - IMMA Ireland
Guest Artist - Maynooth University, Geography, MA Spatial Justice
Performance lecture, Creative Collaboration and Transdisciplinarity, LSAD, Ireland
Basic Talk - Hugh Lane Gallery, Dublin
Speaker at International Literature Festival, Dublin Ireland as Borderland workshops at The Lab, Dublin.
- 2019 Art's Council R&D funding with mentor (Anthony Haughey) with Create Ireland AIC scheme.
Art Jakarta 2019
Create Ireland and FireStation Studio AIC Scheme Residency
- 2018 Curator for performance section, Art Stage, Singapore
- 2017 Solo exhibition, Art Stage, Singapore
- 2014 Bologna Fiere SH Contemporary Shanghai Exhibition Centre
Final worldwide of '100 Painters of Tomorrow', a London based initiative bet
- 2013 2nd round selection finalist, BP Portrait Award, National Portrait Gallery, London
- Jan 2012 London Art Fair
- Sept 2011 Finalist in Summer Open Call, 3rd Ward, New York
- 2010 One of thousand worldwide artists listed on the Amsterdam based biannual compendium of artist Thousand Living Painters
- July 2008 Three lithographs on plate and stone Residency at IDEM (former Murlot Studios), Paris, France
- Nov 2007 Energy 20 artists of Asia, TT Awards, Hong Kong
- 2006/2009 Artist Ambassador for Capannelle Wine, Italy