

Rajni Perera

B. 1985, Sri Lanka. Lives and Works in Toronto, Canada

Education

2011 BFA: Drawing & Painting, OCAD University, Toronto, ON, Canada

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2025 දුම් ලෝකය (*Dhum Lōkaya*), Rajiv Menon Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA, USA
- 2024 *It Comes to me in Waves*, Patel Brown, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2024 *Expo Chicago 2024*, Patel Brown, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2023 *The Vessel With Two Mouths*, Patel Brown, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2023 *Rajni Perera: Futures*, McMaster Museum of Art, Hamilton, ON, Canada
- 2023 *Phylogeny*, Galerie Hugue Charbonneau, Montreal, QC, Canada
- 2023 *Rajni Perera: Futures*, Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa, ON, Canada
- 2022 *Beyond the Words of Earth*, Temple Contemporary at the Tyler School of Art and Architecture, Philadelphia, PA, USA
- 2022 *Rajni Perera: Futures*, McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Kleinburg, Canada
- 2022 *Colomboscope - Language Is Migrant*, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2021 *Sobey Art Award: 2021 Rajni Perera*, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Canada,
- 2019 *Banners For New Empires* (duo with Nep Sidhu), The Mackenzie Gallery, Regina, SK, Canada
- 2019 *TRAVELLER*, Patel-Division Projects, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2018 *(m)Otherworld Creates and Destroys Itself*, Project Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2018 *Banlieue! Triennial*, Salle Alfred Pellan, Maison Des Arts de Laval, QC, Canada
- 2017 *Everyday Objects*, Art Metropole, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2017 *In Pursuit Of The Perfect Pose*, Gallery 44, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2017 *Controller*, Superchief Gallery (Duo, with Reginald Pean), Brooklyn, NY, USA
- 2016 *Colombo Art Biennale*, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2016 *Surreal Body*, Saskia Fernando Gallery, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2015 *True Mirage—Printed works by Todd Westendorp* (Curatorial), HUNTCLUB, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2015 *The Embellished Lens*, Saskia Fernando Gallery, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2014 *Afrika Galaktika*, Art League Houston, Houston, TX, US

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2025-2026 *Efflorescence / The Way We Wake*, Lyon Museum of Contemporary Art (macLYON), Lyon, France

- 2025 *Sharjah Biennial 16*, Sharjah City, Al Hamriyah, Al Dhaid, Kalba, Al Madam and other locations across the Emirate of Sharjah; UAE
- 2024 *Toronto Biennial of Art*, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2024 *POWER*, OCADU Onsite Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2023-2024 *Efflorescence / The Way We Wake*, PHI Foundation, Montreal, QC, Canada
- 2023 *The Armory Show 2023* (with Marigold Santos), Patel Brown, New York, NY, USA
- 2022 *Art Toronto 2022*, Patel Brown, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2022 *Wonder Women*, Jeffrey Deitch Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
- 2022 *Zona Maco 2022*, Patel Brown, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2021 *Artifacts of the Horizon, Part 2: Setting into Space*, Patel Brown, Toronto, Canada
- 2021 *Art Toronto 2021*, Patel Brown, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2021 *Rajni Perera & Nep Sidhu: In the Realm of Lightning*, Patel Brown, Toronto, Canada,
- 2020 *Relations: Diaspora & Painting*, Centre PHI Foundation, Montreal, QC, Canada
- 2020 *Adapt and Pivot*, Patel Brown, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2020 *Made of Honey, Gold & Marigold*, The Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Canada
- 2019 *Face Of The Deep*, Project Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2018 *Believe*, The Museum Of Contemporary Art, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2017 *Migrating The Margins*, Art Gallery of York University, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2017 *Colombo Art Biennale Showcase: Return In Search Of Stillness*, Summerhall, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK
- 2017 *HEAT*, OTA Fine Arts, Tokyo, Japan
- 2016 *Scope Art Fair*, The Public House Of Art, Basel, Switzerland
- 2016 *Identity Kit*, The Public House Of Art, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2016 *Art Dubai*, Saskia Fernando Gallery, Booth F6, Madinat Jumeirah, Dubai, UAE
- 2015 *Object Manipulating Economy/Economy Manipulating Object*, August Frohls, Mönchengladbach, Germany

Awards & Grants

- 2023 Canada Arts Council Explore and Create
- 2021 Sobey Art Award (shortlist)
- 2019 York Wilson Memorial Award, Canada Arts Council
- 2019 Canada Arts Council Project Grant, 2019
- 2018 Toronto Arts Council Individual Artists
- 2016 Canada Arts Council Travel Grant
- 2015 Ontario Arts Council Emerging Artist Grant
- 2013 Ontario Arts Council Emerging Artist Grant
- 2011 Medal for Drawing and Painting, OCAD University
- 2011 Nora E. Vaughan Award, OCAD University

Selected Publications & Press

- 2022 *Making space in outer space: Rajni Perera's sci-fi odyssey lands at the McMichael*, by Leah Collins, CBC Arts

- 2021 *Minds Rising Spirits Tuning: Matters of Mutation*, Natasha Ginwala and Defne Ayas, Publication of the 13th Gwangju Biennale, 2021
- 2021 *Vision Of Hope: Rajni Perera Uses Her Art To Uncover Truth*, by Sadiya Ansari, Toronto Star, March 14th 2021
- 2020 *Made of Honey, Gold, and Marigold*, essay for the exhibition by Genevieve Wallen, McLaughlin Art Gallery, 2020
- 2019 *Rajni Perera: Traveller*, by Esmé Hogeveen, Artseen, The Brooklyn Rail
- 2018 *In a postcolonial society, artists contend with official fictions*, by Jyoti Dhar, Aperture Magazine, Issue 233, Winter
- 2018 *Featured artist: Reading Rajni Perera*, by Negarra A. Kudumu, Cmagazine, Issue 137, Spring
- 2017 *A Grand Nationalist Reckoning in the Art World in 2017*, by Murray Whyte, The Toronto Star, Dec. 26
- 2017 *Unearthing The Creativity Within Toronto's Suburbs*, by Chris Hampton, The Globe And Mail, Oct. 5
- 2017 *Video: In The Studio with Rajni Perera*, Canadian Art Online, May
- 2016 *Interview: Meet Rajni Perera*, The Canadian Artist Taking on the Global Market, by Rea Macnamara, THE FADER, May 26
- 2016 *Interview: Rajni Perera's Stunning Sci-fi Neo-Amazonians*, by Amanda Parris, CBC Arts, Feb. 24