

Ajay Kurian

Born 1984, Baltimore
Lives and works in Brooklyn, NY

Education

2006 BA, Columbia University, Visual Arts, Art History

Solo Exhibitions

- 2025 *Peanuts (Deluxe)*, 47 Canal, New York
- 2024 *Peanuts*, Von Ammon Co., Washington D.C.
- 2022 *Missing Home*, 47 Canal, New York
- 2020 *Polyphemus*, Goucher College, Silber Art Gallery, Baltimore
- 2019 *Possessions*, Sies + Höke, Düsseldorf, Germany
- 2018 *Nine Flags*, 47 Canal, New York
- 2017 *American Artist*, Sies + Höke, Düsseldorf, Germany
- 2016 *incubator*, CAPRI, Düsseldorf, Germany
The Dreamers, 47 Canal, New York
The Childhood of Jesus, White Flag Projects, St. Louis, MO
Unilateral Educational Disarmament, JOAN, Los Angeles
- 2015 *Work Harder Under Water*, Rowhouse Project, Baltimore
- 2014 *Tapetum Lucidum*, Artspeak, Vancouver
- 2013 *Proleptic*, 47 Canal, New York
Ajay Kurian, Jhaveri Contemporary, Mumbai
- 2011 *Petrichor*, Audio Visual Arts, New York
The Sheltering Sky, Callicoon Fine Arts, Callicoon, NY

Group Exhibitions

- 2024 *Into the Abyss*, Embajada, San Juan, Puerto Rico
- 2023 *Focus Group 4*, Von Ammon Co., Washington D.C.
And the Moon be Still as Bright, Harper's, New York
Drawings by Sculptors, Helena Anrather, New York
- 2022 *Water Works*, The International Studio & Curatorial Program, New York
Concrete Spiritual, Morán Morán, Los Angeles

Group Exhibitions (continued)

- 2021 *On Nationalism: Borders and Belonging*, The James Gallery, City University of New York, New York
- 2019 *A Field of Meaning*, Callicoon Fine Arts, New York
FOCUS GROUP, Von Ammon Co., Washington, D.C.
Horology, organized by Elizabeth Jaeger and Silke Lindner-Sutti, Jack Hanley Gallery, New York
- 2018 *100 SCULPTURES*, Anonymous Gallery, Mexico City
GWTW, Martos Gallery, New York
Pine Barrens, Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York
Emerald City, K11 Art Foundation, Hong Kong
- 2017 *The Trick Brain*, Aïshti Foundation, Lebanon
Lodgers, Curated by Veit Loers, Haus Mödrath - Räume für Kunst, Kerle, Germany
Citizen X - Human Nature and Robot Rights, Øregaard Museum, Copenhagen
Vertical Gardens, Antenna Space, Shanghai
Whitney Biennial Exhibition, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
Back to Mulholland Drive, La Panacée, Montpellier, France
Worlding, Richmond Center for Visual Arts, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI
30th Anniversary Exhibition: Attics of My Life, Jack Hanley Gallery, New York
- 2016 *Freud's Mouth*, Cooper Cole, Toronto
Goulding the Lolly, Gavin Brown's Enterprise, New York
- 2015 *Greater New York*, MoMA PS1, New York
In Appearance of Order, curated by 247365, Water McBeer, New York
A Rare Earth Magnet, Derek Eller Gallery, New York
The Visitors, curated by Tom Eccles and Ruba Katrib, Art CommissionsGI, Governor's Island, New York
Finally Every Dimension of the Soil, American Medium, New York
Open Source: Art at the Eclipse of Capitalism, curated by Lisa Schiff, Leslie Fritz, and Eugenio Rebaudengo, Galerie Max Hetzler, Paris and Berlin
- 2014 *Flet*, SpazioA, Pistoia, Italy
Elusive Earths, Etablissement d'en face, Brussels
Human, Evolution, Machine, Galerie Hussenot, Paris
Flat Neighbors, Rachel Uffner, New York
Rockaway!, MoMA PS1, Fort Tilden and Rockaway Beach, NY
More Material, Salon 94, New York
nature after nature, Fridericum, Kassel
Memory Palaces, Carlier Gebauer, Berlin
Border Food, Loyal Gallery, Malmö, Sweden
- 2013 *Desert Plains and Internet Memes*, Galerie Art:Concept, Paris
Stigmergy, Ajay Kurian and Maria Antelman, 247365, New York
ProBio, EXPO 1: New York, MoMA PS1, New York
do it (outside), curated by Hans Ulrich Obrist in collaboration with ICI, Socrates Sculpture Park, New York
Weird Science, Jack Hanley, New York
Let it Come Down, Hannah Barry, London

Group Exhibitions (continued)

- The Fifth Dimension*, Ricou Gallery, Brussels
Great Skin, BODEGA, Philadelphia
- 2012 *Ur*, Room East, New York
==, organized by Matt Keegan, Michèle Didier, Paris
Born Digital, CAM Raleigh, Raleigh, NC
Cave In, organized by Ramekin Crucible, Cueva Arcillas, Puerto Rico
- 2011 *White Columns Annual*, organized by Nick Mauss and Ken Okiishi, White Columns, New York
Harvest Moon, organized by Ryan Foerster, Brighton Beach, NY
Drawings, Drawing, Photographs, Rachel Uffner, New York
HOW DO YOU DO, NOMA Gallery, San Francisco
- 2010 *Which Witch is Which? And/or Summertime*, organized by Ajay Kurian, White Flag Projects, St. Louis, MO
Now or Never, Rincon Projects, Bogota
Structures Within an Intervention, curated by Meenakshi Thirukode, The Guild Gallery, New York
And so on, and so on, and so on..., organized by Matt Sheridan Smith, Harris Lieberman, New York
- 2009 *The living and the dead*, organized by Darren Bader, Gavin Brown's Enterprise, New York
- 2008 *SINGULAR FRIENDS: Heaving up on one another's shoulder's*, Gresham's Ghost, New York
- 2006 Senior Thesis Exhibition, LeRoy Neiman Gallery, Columbia University, New York Projects

Artist Talks

- 2013 *A Proposition by Ajay Kurian: The Persistence of Gardens - Nuclear, Digital and Otherwise*, New Museum, New York
- 2011 *No More Presence and Robert Filliou*, The Artist's Institute, New York
- 2010 *Beneath the finest silks and the coarsest stuff, he calls*, edited by Elena Bajo and Warren Neidich "INPUT Magazine" #2

Curatorial Projects

- 2012 *GRAN PRIX*, in collaboration with Nudashank, Nudashank, Baltimore
- 2010 *PROLEGOMENA: a collaboration between Shifter Magazine and Gresham's Ghost*, Jack Hanley Gallery, New York
Which Witch is Which? And/or Summertime, organized by Ajay Kurian, White Flag Projects, St. Louis, MO
No More Presence...Corinne Jones and Leigh Ledare, online project and forthcoming book project, New York
No More Presence.. Jacob Kassay and Amy Granat, Enid's 560 Manhattan Avenue, Brooklyn
No More Presence. Liam Gillick and Uri Aran, USA Bar, New York
- 2009 *CAVE PAINTING: Installment #2* organized by Bob Nickas, Gresham's Ghost, New York

Curatorial Projects (continued)

CAVE PAINTING: Installment #1, organized by Bob Nickas, Gresham's Ghost, New York
Unaddressed Circumventions: Folds From a Failed Suicide, Gresham's Ghost, New York

2008 *SINGULAR FRIENDS: Heaving up on one another's shoulders*, Gresham's Ghost, New York

Published Writings

- 2024 Kurian, Ajay, "Make Art Great Again? A Response to the Nostalgia and Backlash in Dean Kissick's Clickbait Manifesto," *Cultured*, December 4, 2024
- 2023 Kurian, Ajay, "Revisiting the Studio Visit," *Discovery*, Spring 2023
- 2021 Kurian, Ajay, "A Progress Report from Titus Kaphar's NXTHVN," *Frieze*, August 23, 2021.
- 2017 Asega, Salome; Bhabha, Homi K.; Bordowitz, Gregg; Kee, Joan; Kurian, Ajay; Kuo, Michelle; and Satterwhite, Jacolby, "Cultural Appropriation: A Roundtable," *Artforum*, Summer 2017.
- 2016 Kurian, Ajay, "The Ballet of White Victimhood: On Jordan Wolfson, Petroushka, and Donald Trump," *ArtSpace*, November 15, 2016.
Kurian, Ajay, "Ajay Kurian on Jordan Wolfson and the universal body," *e-flux conversations*, November 17, 2016.
Kurian, Ajay, "Artists and Identity," *Artforum*, Summer 2016.
- 2015 Kurian, Ajay, "How Making Public Art Almost Broke Me — and Why Everyone Else Wants to Break Public Art," *Artspace*, September 11, 2015.

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- 2023 Veitch, Mara, "With NewCrits, These 16 Artists Are Revolutionizing Art School," *Cultured*, July 20, 2023.
- 2022 Creahan, D., "New York-Ajay Kurian: 'Missing Home' at 47 Canal through July 9th 2022," *Artobserved*, July 8, 2022.
Anania, Billy, "Your Concise New York Art Guide for July 2022," *Hyperallergic*, June 29, 2022.
Chan, Dawn, "What to See in N.Y.C. Galleries Right Now," *The New York Times*, June 22, 2022.
Fateman, Johanna, "Goings on About Town," *The New Yorker*, June 10, 2022.
- 2021 Wu, Danielle, "Getting On Our Own," *Art in America*, May 18, 2021.
Kotecha, Shiv, "Ajay Kurian," *BOMB Magazine*, March, 2021.
- 2020 John, Jones, "Ajay Kurian deconstructs some absurdities of marginalisation through his installations," *StirWorld*, June 22, 2020.
Russeth, Andrew, "Quarantine Culture: 7 Ways to Experience Design and Art Without Leaving Your Home," *Surface Magazine*, April 13, 2020.
Herriman, Kat, "Ajay Kurian Visits COVID-Cancelled Exhibitions Through Conversation," *Cultured*, April 13, 2020.
Masharani, Vijay, "Interviews: Ajay Kurian on Cyclopes and Racial Caricature," *Artforum*, March 25, 2020.

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Steinhauer, Jillian, "Artist Withdraws Work from Gallery Group Show Inspired by Peter Sellers Brownface Film," *The Art Newspaper*, August 14, 2018.
Kurian, Ajay and Masharani, Vijay, "Who's Invited to 'The Party' at Anton Kern?," *ARTnews*, August 3, 2018.
Liang Hong, En, "Life On The Grid: 'Emerald City' at K11 Art Foundation, Hong Kong," *Frieze*, April 19, 2018.
Scheper, Moritz, "Ajay Kurian at Sies & Höhe, Düsseldorf," *ArtReview*, March 2018.
- 2017 Lynne, Jessica, "Ajay Kurian: Young Artists 2018," *Cultured*, December 2017.
Droitcour, Brian, "Overview: The National Exhibition MOSCOW AND NEW YORK, at the Garage Museum and the Whitney Museum," *Art in America*, June 1, 2017.
Maldonado, Devon Van Houten, "A German Art Space's Inaugural Exhibition Transforms it Into a Haunted Haus," *Hyperallergic*, May 29, 2017
Weiner, Andrew Stefan, "Winter In America: The 2017 Whitney Biennial," *Biennial Foundation*, April 25, 2017.
Berman, Eliza, "Art In the Age of Trump," *TIME*, March 30, 2017.
Vogel, Wendy, "Cultural Sensitivity or Cultural Authority?," *Art Review*, 2017.
Eckardt, Stephanie, "Meet the Kids in the Hall at the Whitney Biennial," *W Magazine*, March 18, 2017.
Russeth, Andrew, "The 2017 Whitney Biennial Is a Moving, Forward-Looking Tour de Force—a Triumph," *ArtNews*, March 14, 2017.
Lehrer, Adam, "10 Art Works You Must See At The 2017 Whitney Biennial," *Forbes*, March 14, 2017.
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Editors, "A Whitney Biennial on Fifth Avenue? Tiffany & Co. to Host Provocative Artist Collaborations in Its Fabled Windows," *artnet News*, February 21, 2017.
Sharp, Sarah Rose, "How Art Making is Like World Building," *Hyperallergic*, January 30, 2017.
- 2016 Russeth, Andrew, "The Year in, and Beyond, the Galleries of New York: a Relatively Concise Chronicle of Highlights and a Top 10 List," *ArtNews*, December 19, 2016.
Halle, Howard, "Ajay Kurian," *Time Out New York*, October 12, 2016.
Graf, Josephine, "Ajay Kurian," *Frieze*, October 4, 2016.
Smith, William S., "Lookout: Ajay Kurian," *Art in America*, September 22, 2016.
Duffy, Owen, "Futures Long Since Past: an Interview with Ajay Kurian," *MOMUS*, September, 2016.
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Editors, "Ajay Kurian at White Flag Projects," *Contemporary Art Writing Daily*, May 5, 2016.
Editors, "Ajay Kurian at Whitehouse Flag Projects, St. Louis," *Artnews*, April, 2016.

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Kitnick, Alex, "Greater New York," *Artforum*, January 2016.
- 2015 Ebony, David, "David Ebony's Top 10 Most Memorable Artworks of 2015," *artnet*, December 23, 2015.
Editors, "The Art of Curation," *V Magazine*, December, 2015.
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"Ajay Kurian," *Interview Magazine*, December 2, 2015.
Korman, Sam, "Ajay Kurian Rowhouse Project / Baltimore," *Flash Art*, November 12, 2015.
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- 2013 Indrisek, Scott, "The Best Art of 2013: A Definitive Survey," *Blackbook*, December 24, 2013.

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- 2012 Woods, Baynard, "Digital Dada," *City Paper*, December 5, 2012.
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- 2011 Zelehoski, Michael, "NADA Much," *ARTslant*, December 6, 2011.
Molinaro, Kate, "Audio Visual Arts Gallery Presents Sweet New Exhibit," *NearSay*, November 29, 2011.
Solomon, Serena, "Gobstoppers Challenge Ideas of Nature at East Village Art Gallery," *DNAinfo.com*, November 28, 2011.
Rutland, Beau, "Critics' Pick," *Artforum*, June 17, 2011.
Russeth, Andrew, "The Artist's Institute: Jo Baer, Robert Filliou, and Bread Making," *16 Miles of String*, February 14, 2011.
Asfour, Nana, "The Art of Giving," *The Paris Review Daily*, January 27, 2011.
- 2010 Hong, Grace, "Which Witch is Which? and/or Summertime at White Flag," *St. Louis Art Map*, November 2, 2010.
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Public Collections

Aïshti Foundation, Lebanon
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Whitney Museum of American Art, New York