

Ricky Lee Gordon

A Midnight Cascade

An exhibition of natural pigment paintings

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RICKY LEE GORDON (@rickyleegordon)

Born in Johannesburg, (South Africa) in 1984, Ricky Lee Gordon is an artist and curator with a studio practice that sees him create natural landscapes on canvas using pigments and dyes found only in nature, a deeply personal process he likens to meditation for the manner in which it illuminates the interconnectedness of all life. Working under the aegis of painting nature with nature, he explores a variety of mediums, seeking harmony through the alchemy of materials and form in processes that include oxidizing plant dyes, batik printing with beeswax, cyanotypes, lithographs, copper and acid engraving, wood carving and brass casting. With the ocean remaining an ever-present source of inspiration. Ricky is now based between Sri Lanka where he founded Sunyata residency and Bali where he founded SUN.CONTEMPORARY gallery & project space.

Nacido en Johannesburgo (Sudáfrica) en 1984, Ricky Lee Gordon es un artista y curador que trabaja en su estudio creando paisajes naturales sobre lienzo utilizando pigmentos y tintes que sólo se encuentran en la naturaleza, un proceso profundamente personal que él compara con la meditación por la forma en que ilumina la interconexión de toda la vida. Bajo la premisa de pintar la naturaleza con la naturaleza, explora diversos medios, buscando la armonía a través de la alquimia de materiales y formas en procesos que incluyen la oxidación de tintes vegetales, la impresión batik con cera de abeja, los cianotipos, las litografías, el grabado en cobre y al ácido, la talla en madera y la fundición en latón. Con el océano siempre presente como fuente de inspiración. Actualmente Ricky vive entre Sri Lanka, donde fundó la residencia Sunyata, y Bali, donde fundó la galería y espacio de proyectos SUN.CONTEMPORARY.

A Midnight Cascade

An investigation of materiality and harmony through painting as a practice.
A process whereby information and knowledge is successively passed on as each work informs the next.

Action to reaction, cause and condition, everything is interconnected.

From the sky to the mountain, the river flows to the sea and back up to the heavens.

The sun falls to the horizon.

A midnight cascade.

The sun rises.

Earth, wind, fire and water held by the stars.

Tending to a garden of this natural world.

Una investigación de la materialidad y la armonía a través de la pintura como práctica. Proceso mediante el cual la información y el conocimiento se transmiten sucesivamente así como cada obra influye en la siguiente.

Acción a reacción, causa y condición, todo está interconectado.

Del cielo a la montaña, el río fluye hacia el mar y regresa a los cielos.

El sol cae hacia el horizonte.

Una cascada de medianoche.

Sale el sol.

Tierra, viento, fuego y agua sostenidos por las estrellas.

Cuidando un jardín de este mundo natural.



Ricky Lee Gordon C.V.
b. 1984 Johannesburg South Africa
Lives and works between Bali and Sri Lanka

MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS

2024 We are the sea Installation with Rodrigo Moran, Museo De Historia Natural Y Cultura Ambiental Mexico City
2023 Arte Vico group show Museo De Arte Moderna Mexico City

ART FAIRS

2024 ZONAMACO / MAIA Contemporary
2023 ZONAMACO / MAIA Contemporary

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024 Lily Garden, Circle Culture Gallery Berlin
2023 TIDES, Times Beach Warung, Bali
2022 The Ocean our Teacher of a Romantic Realism, The Slow, Bali
2015 The Abstract and Absolute, Dangerfork Gallery, Melbourne
The Nature of Our Presence, Worldart Gallery, Cape Town
2012 Ways of Seeing, A WORD OF ART Gallery, Cape Town

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024 SUN.CONTEMPORARY. The Inaugural group show Bali
2024 Good Vibration, The Curators x Galerie Gardette Paris
2022 Portals, group exhibition of past Sunyata artists-in-residence, MAIA Contemporary, Mexico City
2017 Noa Noa, Martina's Gallery, Milan
2017 LADTW, Inner State Gallery, Detroit
2016 Entry Point: Exploring the New Contemporary Movement, Fullerton Museum Center, California,
One Year Anniversary, Athen B Gallery, Oakland
2013 Urban Art, DO ART Foundation, Los Angeles

COMMISSIONS

2023 The Ocean Our Teacher Our Healer, United Nations, Houston
2018 Horizon, Dubai Municipality, UAE
Waiting for Love in the Middle of the Sea/La Metamorphosis, Antonio Oriente, Sapri, Italy
Sunrise. Sunset. We all share the same sun, Fund Sobranie Moscow, Satka, Russia
2017 Beautiful Orchestra, Live painting for Venice Family Clinic fundraiser, Google, Los Angeles
2016 Migration, Bonobo album artwork Los Angeles
Edward Snowden: Three things cannot be long hidden, the sun, the moon and the truth, Wright for Rights, Amnesty International, New Orleans
WAC Big Walls, Colombia College, Chicago
Anywhere, Everywhere, DO ART Foundation, Los Angeles
2014 A Tribute to Nelson Mandela, Maboneng Precinct and the Nelson Mandela Foundation, Johannesburg
Google Doodle Freedom day, Google, Cape Town

2013 Earth Hour, WWF, Cape Town & Johannesburg
Within the Wisdom of the Sands, 350.org Global Power Shift conference, Istanbul
Moving Mountains, The Philadelphia Mural Art Program, Philadelphia
2012 Kings and Castles Floating on Acrylic Mountains, Open Walls Festival, Baltimore
Untitled, Langa Township Experience, Cape Town
Acrylic Walls, Cape Town & Johannesburg
2011 Untitled, Live Painting, Coachella music festival

MURALS

2019 A sacred gesture the beautiful dance, St+art Festival, Goa, India
2018 SORGE SULLA VALLE | UNA LUNA CHE INSEGNA UN PASSATO
INFINITO | UN FUTURO SENZA FINE, Fra.me.IT Festival, Frezzano, Sicily
Young Poseidon, Paxos Biennale, Greece
Landscapes in Ceremony, SODO Track Festival, Seattle
Monument, VukovART Festival, Vukovar, Croatia
2017 A truth which is beauty. A beauty, which is truth, Amnesty international x
NuArt Festival, Stavanger, Norway
Rest in stillness like sky, mountain lake, UPEA Festival, Helsinki, Finland
Throw a drop of water into the sea to prevent it from drying up, Crystal Ship
Festival, Oostende, Belgium
Lyg jeros sro ves sus ieljame / The river will lead you to the sea, EDIT Festival,
Klaipeda, Lithuania
Die Sonne wird im Ozean versinken (The sun will sink into the ocean)
Der Mond und das Wasser werden steigen (The moon and tides will rise)
Diese Könige in ihren Schlössern werden weggewaschen. (These kings and
their castles will wash away), Urban Nation, Berlin
2016 EVERY RIVER FLOWS TO THE SEA / КОЖНА РІКА ВПАДАЄ В МОРЕ
THE WAVES OF THE SEA WILL SOFTEN THE STONE / І ХВИЛІ МОРЯ
ТОЧАТЬ КАМІНЬ, United Artists, Kiev
The Memory of Water, Memorie Urbane Festival, Gaeta, Italy
Gentle Hearts, #NotACrime Street Art Campaign for Education Equality, Harlem, New
York
OCEAN POET, Pow Wow Hawaii Festival, Honolulu
2015 The Road to Solidarity/ Rua de Soladrite, Walk & Talk Festival, Azores, Portugal
Untitled, Matharan Green Festival, Mumbai
2014 A faded memory of an island, Festival D'art Urbain, Antananarivo, Madagascar
2013 Untitled school rejuvenation mural, Muralist Festival, Kathmandu
Untitled, Wall Therapy, Rochester, New York
I AM BECAUSE WE ARE, Living Walls Festival, Atlanta
Kurema, Kureba, Kwigu collaborative mural with local artists, Kigali, Rwanda

RESIDENCIES/ AWARDS

2023 Sunyata, Bali
2021 Sunyata, Sri Lanka
2018 Underdogs Gallery, Lisbon
2017 Noa Noa, Bali
RVCA Artist Network Program International Team Member (ongoing)
Los Angeles Academy of Figurative Art Scholarship
2015 La Zona Residency, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
Everfresh Residency, Melbourne
2014 Peace Revolution artist meditation retreat and residency, Bangkok
2011 Happy Studios Residency, Portland

