

CURRICULUM VITAE

BIOGRAPHY

Sumugan Sivanesan is an anti-disciplinary artist.

He has produced exhibitions, performances and events at Yautepec Gallery (Mexico City 2011), 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art (Sydney 2010-11), Black and Blue Gallery (Sydney, 2009), Momentum (Sydney 2010), Sydney Underground Film Festival (2009), OK Video Festival (Jakarta, Indonesia 2009), Filmer la Musique (France 2009) GRANTPIRIE (Sydney, 2009), Gang Festival, (Sydney-Indonesia 2005-6, 2008), Underbelly (Sydney 2007-8), Transit Lounge (Berlin-Australia, 2006 & 2008), Transmediale (Berlin 2006), Videobrasil (Brasil 2005), Electrofringe (Australia 2003), Abstraction Now (Vienna 2003), New Forms (Canada 2003), The International Symposium for Electronic Art (Japan 2002), d>ART (Australia 2002 & 2004), Liquid Architecture (Australia 2002 & 2004-5), Experimenta (Australia 2001).

He is a member of theweathergroup\_U, an experimental documentary collective formed for the Biennale of Sydney 2008 focussed on indigenous-non-indigenous exchange and collaboration. They recently produced the work *Koongarra* for *In the Balance: Art for a Changing World*, at the Museum of Contemporary Art Sydney 2010.

He is active with cross disciplinary media/art gang boat-people.org, who engage in actions, projections, installations and interventions – most notably on the Sydney Opera House, on the eve of the 2001 federal elections. They have been curated into a range of major shows such as *Terra Nullius: Contemporary Art from Australia* (ACC Gallerie, Germany 2009), *Lines in the Sand: Botany Bay stories from 1770* (Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, Sydney, 2008), *The Independence Project* (Galeri Petronas, Malaysia 2007) and *2004* (Australian Centre for the Moving Image, Melbourne, 2004), amongst others.

He has recently undertaken residencies at SOMA, Mexico City (2011) Broken Hill Art Exchange (2009), Serial Space, Sydney (2009), Performance Space, Sydney (2009), Frasers Studios Residency, Sydney (2008), the Bundanon Trust (2008) as part of Gang: Indonesian–Australian exchange; as well as the artist run Sounds Unusual: Northern Territory Festival New Music and Art, 2007 and Transit Lounge, Berlin-Australia (2006 & 2008).

He has delivered academic papers at *Critical Ethnic Studies and the Future of Genocide* University of California, Riverside 2011, *Under Construction: Gateways and Walls* European Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies, Bogazici University, Istanbul 2011 and *Parimaanam: Images, Embodiments and Contestations* Tamil Studies Conference the University of Toronto, 2011.

His label, *Musique Provocateur*, documents his collaborations and experiments with sound art, radio and pop. In 2008 he travelled to Indonesia to work with local hip hop artists, supported by Australia Council for the Arts. With Sydney video installation artist Sam Smith he co-produced a multichannel surround sound DVD / installation, *Plywood Box 2006* also with assistance from Australia Council for the Arts. He has released a collection of sound and video works *Spare Your Speakers* on international media label, Cronica.

He was co-director for Electrofringe in 2005-6, an annual skills and development festival of digital, electronic, & experimental culture aimed at young and emerging practitioners.

He lectures *Experimental Film and Video* at the College of Fine Arts, University of New South Wales.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS/PERFORMANCES

2011	<p>Dos Sicarios... Audio/Video</p>	<p>A clip posted on the notorious true crime blog 'El Blog del Narco' is subject to a series of sound treatments. <i>After Effect</i> 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, Sydney. Curator: Olivier Krischer</p>
	<p>El Beso Negro (The Black Kiss) Performance/Social Media Event</p>	<p>In which two teenage hitmen who have had their faces tattooed in prison, in turn have their faces tattooed on the ass of a contemporary art collector. Yautepec gallery Mexico City</p>
2010	<p>A Children's Book of War Mixed Media</p>	<p><i>A Children's Book of War</i> addresses the issue of contesting sovereignties in Australia. <i>Helen Lempriere Travelling Art Scholarship Finalists Exhibition</i>, Artspace Sydney</p>
	<p>Koongarra theweathergroup_U with Susan Norrie and David Mackenzie Video Installation</p>	<p>Documentary video installation made in collaboration with Jeffrey Lee, the sole senior custodian of <i>Koongarra</i>, a projected mining lease enclosed within Kakadu National Park. <i>In the Balance: Art For a Changing World</i> Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney. Curator: Rachel Kent</p>
	<p>What's Eating Gilberto Gil? Lecture/Performance</p>	<p>Investigates the cannibal trope from its colonial beginnings to its current resonances in art and popular culture. <i>Momentum International Forum for Contemporary Video Art, New Media and Performance</i> Commissioned by 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, Sydney.</p>
	<p>Jump Ship with WT Norbert Endurance/Performance</p>	<p>The tattooing tradition of sailors is deployed to recount a history of South Asians at sea. The performance marked the decolonizing role of 'Lascars' in Australia and the effect of Indian dissent on the European imagination. Gaffa, Sydney</p>
2009	<p>Nice Dreams with Gustavo Böke Mixed Media</p>	<p><i>Nice Dreams</i> employs a macabre humour to illustrate what many consider to be the first act of terrorism in Australia – the Battle of Broken Hill, 1915 – and its contemporary resonances. Made whilst in residence at Black &amp; Blue Gallery, Sydney and the Broken Hill Art Exchange.</p>
	<p>The Trouble with TJ Illustrations by James Hancock Mixed Media</p>	<p>A multi-faceted research project that recounts the circumstances surrounding the death of Aboriginal teenager Thomas "TJ" Hickey in February 2004, and the subsequent "Redfern Riots". GRANTPIRRIE Window, Sydney FraserStudios Residency, Sydney NG Art Gallery, Sydney</p>
	<p>Boat-people.org Retrospective installation Mixed Media</p>	<p><i>Terra Nullius: Contemporary Art from Australia</i> Curators: Frank Motz (Germany) and Deborah Kelly (Australia) ACC Galerie Weimar, Germany Halle 14 Leipzig, Germany</p>
2008	<p>theweathergroup_U with Susan Norrie, David Mackenzie, Dr Jeremy Walker, Bryce Anbinis-King, Will Tinapple and Danielle Green. Mixed Media</p>	<p>An experimental collective formed for the Biennale of Sydney, 2008. <a href="http://www.theweathergroup.org">www.theweathergroup.org</a> Biennale Artistic Director: Carolyn Christov-Bakargiev <a href="http://www.bos2008.com">www.bos2008.com</a></p>