

# MAYA ISABELLA MACKRANDILAL

Artist and Writer | Los Angeles

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## EDUCATION

- 2008-2011 School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), Chicago, IL  
Master of Fine Arts in Studio Art, Sculpture Concentration
- 2003-2007 University of Virginia (UVA), Charlottesville, VA  
BA Studio Art, High Distinction. Sculpture Concentration, English Minor, Dean's List

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2016-- *#NewGlobalMatriarchy* a 24/7 collaborative livestream event, ACRE TV, Chicago IL  
*Our Bodies are a Reckoning*, The Dojo, Chicago IL
- 2015-- *Kal Pani*, THE SUB-MISSION, special projects space at THE MISSION Gallery, Chicago IL
- 2008-- *Anchor Baby*, Off-Grounds Gallery, Charlottesville, VA
- 2007-- *Ritual Complex*, Off-Grounds Gallery, Charlottesville, VA

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2017-- *Queer Horizons*, online exhibition with the Center for Art + Thought  
*The Petty Biennial*, The South Side Arts Incubator, curated by La Keisha Leek and Sadie Woods, Chicago, IL  
*Archival Alchemy*, organized by the South Asian Women's Creative Collective, Abrons Arts Center, New York, NY  
*A Change is Gonna Come*, Avenue 50 Studio, Los Angeles, CA
- 2016-- *Un|Fixed Homeland*, Aljira Center for Contemporary Art, Newark, New Jersey  
*Batten Down the Hatches*, Chicago Artists Coalition, Chicago, IL  
*Winter Experiment: SAIC at MMG*, Monique Meloche Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2015-- *Tele-novella*, ACRE TV, curated by Robyn Farrell  
*Women as Witness*, TI Art Studios, Brooklyn, NY  
*Neon Dreams*, Threewalls Benefit Auction, Chicago, IL  
*Reference Rot*, 3-person show, Chicago Artist's Coalition, Chicago, IL  
*Flash*, presented by the Foundation for Asian American Independent Media, Gene Siskel Film Center, Chicago, IL  
*RESPOND*, Smack Mellon, New York, NY
- 2014-- *Hands Up Don't Shoot: Artists Respond*, multiple venues, Saint Louis, MO  
*Words We Live By*, multiple venues (North Branch Projects and White Box Studio Gallery) Chicago, IL  
*The Making of Artists*, Pedestrian Project gallery, Harold Washington College, Chicago, IL  
*Renaissance Revisited*, South Side Community Arts Center, Chicago, IL
- 2012-- *New Natural History*, Ruffin Hall Gallery, McIntire Department of Art, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
- 2011-- *Unearthed*, IX Project Space, Charlottesville, VA  
*Touched by Virginia*, Ruffin Hall Gallery, McIntire Department of Art, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA  
*Garbhagriha*, Two-person installation in SAIC MFA Thesis Exhibition, Sullivan Galleries, Chicago, IL  
*Sexier*, Zhou B Art Center, Chicago IL
- 2010-- *Uncommon Territories*, Heaven Gallery, Chicago IL  
*Permission to Work*, What It Is Gallery, Chicago IL
- 2009-- *Fake ID*, Betty Rymer Gallery, Chicago IL
- 2008-- *Legion*, RAWSTUFF Gallery, Charlottesville, VA (co-curator and participating artist)  
*Double Vision*, Touchstone Gallery, Washington DC
- 2007-- *Past Meets Present*, Off-Grounds Gallery, Charlottesville, VA  
*Art In the Gardens*, University Programs Council, Charlottesville, VA

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2016-- [The Impossibility of Art](#) and [Trouble at Mill Hill](#) (interview and critical essay), 60 Inches from Center, December 2016  
*#NewGlobalMatriarchy* (co-authored with Stephanie Graham) in the collection *Feminist Advice from the City of Broad Shoulders*, edited by Jessica Caponigro, December 2016  
[How to Be A Monster](#) (personal essay), Skin Deep Magazine, September 2016  
[An Ethnography of White Men by the Goddess Kali](#) (poetry), Drunken Boat #23, April 2016

- PUBLICATIONS (cont.) -

- 2016-- [\*Diverus: The Past, Present, and Future of "Diversity Work"\*](#) (critical essay), MICE magazine, Issue 1, April 2016  
[\*The Freedom to Oppress\*](#) (critical essay co-authored with Eunsong Kim), contemporary, Issue 1, April 2016
- 2015-- [\*The Virus of Scarcity and the Culture of Abundance\*](#) (critical essay), 60 Inches from Center, September 2015  
[\*Art Without Artists, Against the Artist CEO\*](#) (critical essay co-authored with Eunsong Kim) Sixty Inches from Center, February
- 2014-- [\*The Whitney Biennial for Angry Women\*](#), The New Inquiry, April 4, 2014. Selected as one of the best essays of 2014 by the editorial staff at artnet  
*Pedro Velez Poses Questions*, (conversant) 2014 Whitney Biennial Catalogue. Yale University Press p. 393-394

- PERFORMANCES + READINGS -

- 2016-- *Letters to White Boys with the Goddess Saraswati*. Performed as part of #NewGlobalMatriarchy at AcreTV and at the Chicago Home Theatre Festival, South Shore, both in Chicago, IL
- 2015-- *Bedtime Stories of White Supremacy with the Goddess Lakshmi*. Performance and installation in collaboration with FEMelanin, MANA Contemporary, Chicago, IL  
*Teenage Activist Slumber Party* as part of the performance collective FEMelanin, The Dojo, Chicago, IL
- 2013-- *Seated Woman*. Durational performance, The Fralin Museum of Art, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
- 2011-- *Lacuna*. Performance proposal, various locations, Chicago IL
- 2010-- *Manomaya*. Durational performance, Heaven Gallery, Chicago IL
- 2009-- *Aaji*. Video Installation and Durational Performance, Chicago, IL
- 2007-- *Alderman Circumambulation*. Performance, Alderman Library, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
- 2006-- *Thomas Jefferson Circumambulation*. Performance, The Lawn, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA  
*The Fortunate Ones*, short story reading, Undergraduate Reading Series, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

- LECTURES + PANELS -

- 2017-- (Upcoming) Open Platform project (with Stephanie Graham) at Open Engagement 2017, Chicago, IL  
*Practices of Transgression: Accessing the creative potential of liminal identities to imagine radical futures* panel co-chair, Critical Mixed Race Studies Conference, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA
- 2014-- *Lacuna*-- Panel presentation, Mixed Race Art: Hybrid Identities and Studio Practice, Critical Mixed Race Studies Conference, DePaul University, Chicago, IL  
*Lacuna*-- Panel presentation, *Miscegenating Racial Representations: Critical Mixed Race Strategies and the Visual Arts*, College Art Association Annual Conference, Chicago IL
- 2013-- *Lacuna*-- Panel presentation, *The Afterlives of Forms*, the Association of Asian American Studies Annual Conference, Seattle, WA  
*Strategies for Existence*-- (performative lecture) Adjunct Lecture Series, McIntire Department of Art, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
- 2011-- *A Theory of the Flesh*-- panel presentation ("Theorizing at the Intersection of Race, Gender, Sexuality, and Class") at the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Minority Graduate Student Association Conference, University of Chicago.
- 2010-- *This Bridge Called My Back*-- Sculpture Department Lecture, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, IL  
*Art/Writing*-- Lecture to Introduction to Foundry class, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, IL
- 2009-- *And Either I'm Nobody, or I'm a Nation*-- Sculpture Department Lecture, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, IL

- VISITING ARTIST -

- 2016-- Visiting Artist, Cities of Creativity and Change, Chicago, IL
- 2015-- Class visit and performance workshop. City Colleges of Chicago- Truman College, Chicago, IL
- 2014-- Delivered prompt for Critical Practices Inc. LaTableRonde: *Who Do You Speak For, Who Do You Speak To?* New York, NY  
Lecture and workshop. City Colleges of Chicago- Harold Washington College, Chicago IL.
- 2013-- Class visit and lecture. Museum of Contemporary Art/Schurz High School Teaching Partnership, Chicago, IL  
Individual critiques with high school students studying writing and video. Urban Gateways Summer Option Program in partnership with the SAIC Photography Department, Chicago, IL
- 2012-- Visiting Artist lecture, Associated Colleges of the Midwest: Chicago Program, Chicago IL  
Individual critiques with high school students studying writing and video. Urban Gateways Summer Option Program in partnership with the SAIC Photography Department, Chicago, IL
- 2011-- Individual critiques and gallery talk in conjunction with Touched By Virginia Exhibition. McIntire Department of Art, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

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## - AWARDS + RESIDENCIES -

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- 2015-- HATCH Projects Resident Artist: Chicago Artists Coalition, Chicago, IL  
2011-- Odyssey Travel Grant. The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Support travel and research in Guyana  
2009-- Jacob K. Javits Fellowship. The US Department of Education.  
2007-- Juried Member and Treasurer. Touchstone Gallery, Washington D.C.  
Aunspaugh Fellowship. The McIntire Department of Art at the University of Virginia. Post-baccalaureate fellowship which included a TA-ship, studio, and stipend.

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## - PRESS + ESSAYS + INTERVIEWS -

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- 2017-- Sargent, Antwaun. *Feeling Petty About the Art World? This Biennial Is For You*. Creators.vice.com, May 26  
Cotter, Holland. *10 Galleries to Visit on the Lower East Side*. The New York Times, April 27  
Kina, Laura and Jan Christian Bernabe. *Queering Contemporary Asian American Art*. University of Washington Press.  
2016-- Mitter, Siddhartha, *Vital Signs*, The Village Voice, July 28<sup>th</sup>  
Cooch and Cookies Episode 01, Dojo Radio podcast, April  
Ali, Hiba. *New Global Matriarchy*. VAM Magazine, February  
2015-- Burke, Stephanie. *Top 5 Weekend Picks! (4/24-4/26)*. Bad at Sports. April 23  
Cotter, Holland. *Raging at Racism, From Streets to Galleries*. The New York Times, January 22  
2011-- Brooks, Kimberly. *10 New Artists to Watch: School of the Art Institute of Chicago 2011 MFA Sculpture Grads*, The Huffington Post, June 17  
McLeod, Deborah. *Touched By Virginia* Catalogue. McIntire Department of Art, The University of Virginia. September  
2009-- Velez, Pedro, *Open Gates*, artnet, November 6  
2008-- Shaw-Eagle, Joanna, *60 Artists Show Off Their Own Interests*, The Washington Times, January 26

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## - TEACHING EXPERIENCE -

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### **Teaching Artist**, Urban Gateways

Chicago, IL (Summer 2016)

*Taught summer course for advanced high school students in poetry and video production*

- Supporting successful learning outcomes for students from traditionally underserved communities and school systems
- Encouraging students to find their creative voice and engage with critical issues within their lives, communities, and the city as a whole

### **Adjunct Lecturer**, Art History, The Illinois Institute of Art, Chicago

Chicago, IL (2015-2016)

*Taught Art History Survey: GEN 211 (Prehistoric to Middle Ages) and GEN 212 (Renaissance to Present)*

- Supporting successful learning outcomes for student population with a large proportion of first generation college students and veterans as well as students from underserved communities within the public school system
- Incorporating feminist and Black Marxist critical perspectives in a "big history" approach to the curriculum that encouraged thinking broadly across time and culture

### **Adjunct Lecturer**, Sculpture, The University of Virginia

Charlottesville, VA (2013)

*Taught Introduction to Sculpture and Intermediate/Advanced Sculpture, exploring traditional and new media.*

- Lesson planning and student evaluation
- Art practice as creative and critical thinking strategy within a Liberal Arts education
- Community participation: organized student shows, lectures, etc.

### **Teaching Assistant**, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Chicago, IL (2009-2011)

*Classroom management and mentoring in Contemporary Practices, Sculpture, Early College Program (Painting and Drawing), and Foundry departments*

- Lesson planning and student evaluation
- Technical and conceptual skills development
- Led site visits to museums and material resources

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## OTHER EXPERIENCE

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### **Freelance Quality Assurance Specialist, Pearson (formerly Embanet)**

Remote position (2011-2016)

*Tested online graduate courses for functionality, copyedited text, and ensured that courses met school standards.*

- Familiar with the functionality and capabilities of a wide range of LMS (including Blackboard, Moodle, and Canvas)
- Editing and copyediting
- Knowledge of user interface design and online learning best practices

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## ARTS + EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION EXPERIENCE

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### **Fine Arts Coordinator, Community Services Department, City of Buena Park**

Buena Park, CA (2016-Present)

*Coordinated a wide variety of arts and cultural programming including art exhibitions, festivals, concerts, youth and civic theatre, cultural excursions, and special city events like the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting.*

- Assisted in overall planning and program administration, point of contact for artists, performers, and vendors as well as community partners
- Wrote press releases, copy for city publications, scripts for promotional videos, etc.
- Designed promotional materials, advertisements for print, social media promotions, and city marquees
- Managed staff at events
- Maintained Fine Arts Division web pages on city website, as well as Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts.

### **Freelance Arts Administration and Production**

Chicago, IL (2011-2016)

*Coordinated a wide variety of cultural events, from exhibitions, performances, and sketch comedy shows to video shoots and set design. Managed budgets, built successful social media campaigns, websites, designed postcards, posters, etc. Highlights include:*

- Founding member of FEMelanin, a woman of color identified performance collective
- Created programming for a 24/7 live-stream for Acretv.org, an artist-run internet TV station
- Production and marketing coordinator for *History Meat*, a sketch comedy show
- Set design and video/projections production for *Generation Sex* for Teatro Luna, a pan-Latina theatre organization
- Studio Assistant for Pedro Vélez as he prepared for his participation in the Whitney Biennial

### **Program Coordinator, Gallery Weekend Chicago**

Chicago, IL (2014-2015)

*Coordinated with participating galleries, cultural partners (including EXPO Chicago), and restaurant partners to execute events that promoted art in Chicago.*

- Managed program budget and timelines
- Managed social media accounts and website, wrote press releases and copy for promotional materials
- Planned and executed events and tours, oversaw catalogue production, graphic design for web and print

### **Gallery Assistant, Monique Meloche Gallery**

Chicago, IL (2014-2015)

*Assisted with a wide variety of administrative projects in support of the gallery*

- Exhibition planning, installation, shipping, coordinating with artists, institutions, and art handlers
- Writing and designing press releases, email campaigns, and exhibition publications
- Planning and executing events, professional customer service
- Data and image management, checklists

### **Internship Associate and Program Assistant, Associated Colleges of the Midwest: Chicago Program**

Chicago, IL (2012-2013)

*Oversaw internship administration, managed student services (housing, activities, equipment), managed office and classrooms.*

- Event organizing, travel planning
- Wrote and edited program materials
- Managed petty cash and expense reports

**COMPUTER + WEB**

Mac & PC expertise  
MS Office (*Word, Excel, Outlook, PPT, Microsoft 365*)  
Adobe Acrobat Pro  
HTML and CSS  
Online Content Platforms (*Wordpress, Blackboard, etc.*)  
A/V troubleshooting  
Google Drive, Dropbox, other FTP and collaboration tools  
Constant Contact, MailChimp, etc  
Database software (*Artsystems Gallery Pro*)

**WRITING + EDITING + RESEARCH**

Academic and creative writing (*journal publication, online publication, web content development, academic lectures*)  
Proposal Writing  
Editing  
Research best practices

**PHOTOGRAPHY + GRAPHIC DESIGN + VIDEO**

Equipment (*DSLRs, lighting, etc.*)  
Adobe Creative Suite (*Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign*)  
Design of promotional materials  
Web video production  
Final Cut Pro, iMovie, Adobe Premiere

**COMMUNICATION**

Public Speaking (*lectures, classroom, gallery talks, tours, etc.*)  
Presentation Design (*custom PowerPoint design, Prezi, brochures, posters*)  
Marketing (*web and print media*)  
Social Media promotion

**MANUAL SKILLS**

Fine art installation and shipping  
Carpentry  
Metalwork (*casting, welding, light metals, etc.*)

*Thanks for Reading!*