



## ARTIST BIOS

### **Nathan Eugene Carson**

Nathan Eugene Carson's heavily layered paint and collage works explore hybrid creatures, animals and human figures - both fictional and historical. His subjects emerge from richly-pigmented surfaces, and shed light on narratives that weave together themes of Black identity and history, personal memories, and charged symbolism. Carson holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Ontario College of Art and Design. His drawings and paintings have been featured in several solo and group exhibitions across Canada. Carson's recent travelling solo-exhibition, *Cut From The Same Cloth* (2020-2021), was presented at the Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery and the Meridian Arts Centre, Toronto. He is currently the RBC Artist-In-Residence at the Art Gallery of Hamilton where he is completing a yearlong exhibition titled *Black Carnival* (2023).

### **Maria Hupfield**

Maria Hupfield (she/her) is a Toronto based artist and transdisciplinary maker working with Industrial felt at the intersection of performance art, design and sculpture. She is currently the inaugural ArtworxTO Legacy Artist in Residency with the City of Toronto, Ravines, and a Mellon Fellow, Center for the Imagination in the Borderlands, Arizona State University, USA, 2022; which follows her inaugural Borderlands Fellowship for the project *Breaking Protocol* at The Vera List Center for Art and Politics at the New School and the Center for the Imagination in the Borderlands at Arizona State University (2020-2022). A recipient of the Hnatyshyn Mid-career Award for Outstanding Achievement in Canada (2018) she has exhibited and performed her work through her first major touring solo exhibition *The One Who Keeps On Giving* (organized by The Power Plant 2017-2018), and solo *Nine Years Towards the Sun*, at the Heard Museum, Phoenix, 2019-2020. She has exhibited extensively including recent projects at: Art Gallery of Ontario, National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa; and in New York at CARA (Center for Art Research and Alliance), Abrons Art Center, the New York Museum of Art and Design, BRIC House Gallery, the Bronx Museum, Boston Museum of Fine Arts, and the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of the American Indian; amongst others. An Assistant Professor and Canadian Research Chair, Transdisciplinary Indigenous Arts at the University of Toronto, Hupfield is Martin clan and off-rez member of the Anishinaabe Nation belonging to Wasauksing First Nation, Ontario, Canada. Maria Hupfield is co-owner of Native Art Department International with her husband artist Jason Lujan and founder of 7th Generation Image Makers, Native Child and Family Services of Toronto.

### **Shary Boyle**

Shary Boyle lives and works in Toronto. She is the recipient of a 2021 Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from the Ontario College of Art and Design University where she graduated from in 1994, developing a multidisciplinary practice centred on drawing, sculpture and performance. Boyle's work considers the



social history of ceramic figures, animist mythologies and folk-art forms to create a symbolic, feminist and politically charged language uniquely her own.

Creating deeply imaginative, idiosyncratic, and unsettling worlds, Boyle was an early innovator of live-drawing techniques using overhead projectors referencing shadow puppetry and cell animation. Boyle activates her practice through collaboration and mentorship, engaging other creative communities and disciplines with a characteristically inclusive spirit. Boyle has received the Gershon Iskowitz and Hnatyshian Award and represented Canada at the Venice Biennial in 2013. Her solo touring exhibition *Outside the Palace of Me* is currently on display at the Vancouver Art Gallery and will continue to the Museum of Arts and Design (MAD), New York in 2023.

### **Rajni Perera**

Rajni Perera was born in Sri Lanka in 1985 and lives and works in Toronto. She explores issues of hybridity, futurity, ancestorship, immigration identity/cultures, monsters and dream worlds. All of these themes marry in a newly objectified realm of mythical symbioses. In her work she seeks to open and reveal the dynamism of the icons and objects she creates, both scripturally existent, self-invented and externally defined. She creates a subversive aesthetic that counteracts antiquated, oppressive discourse, and acts as a restorative force through which people can move outdated, repressive modes of being towards reclaiming their power. Recent exhibitions include *Traveller* (2022) at Eastside Projects in Birmingham, *Colomboscope* (2022) Sri Lanka,  *Holding A Line in Your Hand* (2021) Kamloops Art Gallery, the *Gwangju Biennale* (2021) in South Korea, as well as *RELATIONS: Diaspora and Painting* (2020) at the Foundation PHI, Montreal. Perera's work is in the collections of the Art Gallery of Ontario, the National Gallery of Canada, the Sobey Foundation, and the Musée D'Art Contemporain in Montreal.

### **Muriel Ahmarani Jaouich**

Muriel Ahmarani Jaouich is a Canadian artist of Armenian, Egyptian, and Lebanese descent, whose paintings focus on genealogy, intergenerational trauma and historical violence. Ahmarani Jaouich creates a narrative based on the history of her family; one of diaspora, immigration, and genocide. Her research is based on oral histories, photographic archives and objects bequeathed to her. Ahmarani Jaouich transforms this knowledge and creates narratives using memory and imagination. The work speaks of ancestral grief. Such grief work invites an ongoing practice of deepening, caring, and listening. Ahmarani Jaouich believes that dealing with undigested anguish of our ancestors frees us to live our present lives. In turn, it can also relieve ancestral suffering in the other world.

Muriel Ahmarani Jaouich is currently living on the unceded indigenous lands of Tiohtià:ke / Montreal, QC, Canada, of the Kanien'kehà:ka Peoples. She is the recipient of the Lilian Vineberg scholarship, the Merit scholarship as well as the Tom Hopkins Memorial award. In recent years, her work has been presented in exhibitions, including the Museum of Fine Arts in Montreal, Patel Brown in Montreal, Centre CLARK, Articule, Printemps du Musée d'Art Contemporain de Montréal, as well as AucArt in the UK. Ahmarani Jaouich's works are present in corporate and private collections in New York, Los Angeles, Prague, Barcelona, Milan, Toronto and Montreal.



**Winnie Truong**

Winnie Truong is a Toronto artist working with drawing and animation to explore ideas of identity, feminism, and fantasy and finding its connections and transgressions in the natural world. She has exhibited her work internationally and was a 2017 recipient of the Chalmers Arts Fellowship. Her work has been included on the CBC program *The Exhibitionists*, and in her recent survey exhibition at Saw Gallery in Ottawa (ON). She has been an artist in residence at the Brucebo Scholarship in Gotland (Sweden) and a past resident at Doris McCarthy Fool's Paradise in Scarborough (Ontario). Truong received her BFA from OCAD University.