

KARTHIK PANDIAN

Born in Los Angeles in 1981. Lives and works in Cambridge, MA.

EDUCATION

- 2023 Lama Rod Owens, Seven Homecomings Certification
2008 Art Centre College of Design, Pasadena: MFA
Staatliche Hochschule für Bildende Künste Städelschule, Frankfurt: Guest student, Willem de Rooij
2003 Brown University, Providence: BA with Honors in Art Semiotics and Comparative Literature

TEACHING

- 2017-present Harvard University: Associate Professor, Department of Art, Film, & Visual and Studies
2015-17 Bennington College: Faculty in Video, Visual Arts
2011-15 University of Chicago: Assistant Professor, Harper Fellow, Department of Visual Arts
2010-11 Otis College of Art and Design: Lecturer, Photography

CURRENT CYCLES

FORSYTHIA

- 2026 SURRENDUR (FEATURE FILM), Images Festival, Toronto (world premiere)
SURRENDUR (FEATURE FILM), Prismatic Ground, New York (US premiere)
Group exhibition: Dazibao, Montreal: The Art Gallery Problem
2025 Short film: 63rd New York Film Festival, New York: Anoka (world premiere)
Short film: Chicago Underground Film Festival, Chicago: Manasu (Theatrical Premiere)
Solo exhibition: Midway Contemporary Art, Minneapolis: Surrendur
Solo presentation: Art Dubai, Bawwaba sector, Federica Schiavo Gallery: Bodies of Water
Screening: 100th (manasu), The Blackwood Project, University of Toronto Mississauga
Group Exhibition: Blackwood Gallery, Toronto, The Art Gallery Problem
2023 Screening: In the River / Walker Art Center, Minneapolis
2022 Public performance, St. Paul, MN: Midway Contemporary Art, In the River (booklet)
Short film: Three Songs without Z. / Streaming: Criterion Channel / Prismatic Ground (premiere)
2021-22 Public artwork, Boston, MA: Video Commune
ATLAS (collaboration w. Andros Zins-Browne)
2021 Program: Triple Canopy, Liner Notes w. M. NourbeSe Philip, Hanif Abdurraqib, Evan Calder Williams
Digital project: Triple Canopy, Four Songs without Z.
2109 Solo exhibition: 80WSE, New York: Atlas Unlimited Acts VII-X Performa 19 Biennial
Solo exhibition: Logan Center Exhibitions, University of Chicago: Atlas Unlimited Acts V-VI
Performance: Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, Chicago

- 2018 Public artwork: Antwerp, Belgium: Atlas Unlimited Act IV
Solo exhibition: Netwerk Aalst, Belgium: Atlas Unlimited Acts I-III (booklet)
2017 Performance: Villa Empain, Brussels: Shouts & Berbers
Performance: Inteatro Festival, Polverigi, Italy: Atlas Revisited
Performance: Kaaitheater, Brussels: Atlas Revisited
2016 Performance: EMPAC, Troy, NY: Atlas Revisited (premiere)
2014 Short film: Atlas/Inserts / ICA Artists' Film Biennial, London (premiere)

ATLAS (collaboration w. Andros Zins-Browne)

- 2024 Screening: Museum of Contemporary Art and Design, Manila, Phillipines: Atlas
2023 Group exhibition: Kadist, San Francisco: from underwater mountains fire makes islands
2022 Short film: Three Songs without Z. / Streaming: Criterion Channel / Prismatic Ground (premiere)
2021 Program: Triple Canopy, Liner Notes w. M. NourbeSe Philip, Hanif Abdurraqib, Evan Calder Williams
Digital project: Triple Canopy, Four Songs without Z.
2109 Solo exhibition: 80WSE, New York: Atlas Unlimited Acts VII-X, Performa 19 Biennial
Solo exhibition: Logan Center Exhibitions, University of Chicago: Atlas Unlimited Acts V-VI
Performance: Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, Chicago: Entr'acte
2018 Public artwork: Antwerp, Belgium: Atlas Unlimited Act IV
Solo exhibition: Netwerk Aalst, Belgium: Atlas Unlimited Acts I-II (booklet)
2017 Performance: Villa Empain, Brussels: Shouts & Berbers
Performance: Inteatro Festival, Polverigi, Italy: Atlas Revisited
Performance: Kaaitheater, Brussels: Atlas Revisited
2016 Performance: EMPAC, Troy, NY: Atlas Revisited (premiere)
2014 Short film: Atlas/Inserts / ICA Artists' Film Biennial, London (premiere)

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 Federica Schiavo Gallery, Milan: Tamil Man
2014 Bétonsalon, Paris: Confessions
Federica Schiavo Gallery, Rome: Snails and Oysters
2013 Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago: The Incomparables Club
Michael Strogoff, Marfa: Indian Country
2012 Vilma Gold, London: Jubilee
2011 White Flag Projects, St. Louis: Elements of Style
2010 Whitney Museum of American Art, New York: Uneath
2010 Midway Contemporary Art, Minneapolis: Before the Sun (cat.)
2009 Richard Telles Fine Art, Los Angeles: Darkroom

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Kadist, San Francisco: from underwater mountains fire makes islands
2022 Pivô, Sao Paolo: from underwater mountains fire makes islands
Pearlstein Gallery, Drexel University: Lastgaspism
2017 Usdan Gallery, Bennington College: Black Spring (organized)
2016 Presentation House Gallery, Vancouver, Canada: Screens and Thresholds
2015 freiraum Q21 INTERNATIONAL in MuseumsQuartier, Vienna: Levitate
Laurel Gitlen, New York: Eraser
2014 Foxy Production, New York: Farm to Table USA
Grimm Gallery, Amsterdam: Trieste III, The Netherlands (cat.)
Present Future, Artissima, Torino
2013 Palais de Tokio, Paris: Nouvelles Vagues, La Fin de la Nuit, France (Partie 1)
Trieste II, Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York, USA (organized by Jay Heikes)
Palazzo Cavour, Artissima: Repertory, Turin, Italy (curated by Gary Carrion-Murayari)
2012 Statements, Art Basel: Atlas
Federica Schiavo Gallery, Rome: Trieste I, (cat.)
Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago: The Charm of Quasi-Parallel Lines
2011 Galleria Zero, Milan: Segalega
It'd, Los Angeles: The Long Range
LAXART, Los Angeles: On Forgery: Is One Thing Better Than Another?
2010 Musée Los Angeles, Los Angeles, USA
2009 Richard Telles Fine Art, Los Angeles: Round Up
2008 Five Thirty Three, Los Angeles: Joy and Misery
2001 Al Nitaq Art Festival, Cairo, Egypt

COLLABORATIONS

- 2017 Museum der Moderne, Salzburg: Photo Kinetics (with Mathias Poledna)
2016 Villa Vasillieff, Paris: Groupe Mobile (w. Paige K. Johnston), (Life after Life)
2015 Company Gallery, New York: Close to the Skin, USA (with Paige K. Johnston)
2014 Pro-Choice, Paris: Khan & Ass. (with Paige K. Johnston) (Life after Life)
Sponsored Post, Los Angeles: The Adoration of Collaborator (w. Barry Johnston)
2011 Generali Foundation, Vienna: unExhibit, (with Mathias Poledna)
Sammlung Haubrok, Berlin: Objectiv (with Mathias Poledna)
2010 Galerie Meyer Kainer, Vienna: Karthik Pandian/Mathias Poledna, (with Mathias Poledna)
2007 New Wight Gallery, UCLA, Los Angeles: UCLA New Wight Biennial (with Barry Johnston)
2005 Electronic Arts Intermix, New York: "Apposites Ottract", USA, (with Michael Bell-Smith)

SELECTED SCREENINGS

- 2025 Innis Town Hall, University of Toronto
2024 Museum of Contemporary Art and Design, Manila, Phillipines: Atlas
2018 Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, Cambridge: Vertical Cinema House (organized)
2014 Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago: The Old Spaghetti Factory, USA
(programmed)
Gallery 400, Chicago: And the Beat Goes On
Logan Center for the Arts, Chicago: Death by Cinema (with T. Gunning)
2010 Midway Contemporary Art, Minneapolis: Broken Sleep (programmed)
2009 Bidoun Video, Dubai
Chicago Underground Film Festival, Chicago, USA
Migrating Forms, Anthology Film Archives, New York, USA
Triple Canopy, Issue 8: Hue and Cry, "Sacrifice of the Banana" (cat.)
2008 Electronic Art Intermix, New York, USA
2007 Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, USA
Circus Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
New York Underground Film Festival, New York, USA

INVITED TALKS AND LECTURES

- 2023-24 Northeastern University
2022 Prismatic Ground, (w. Yasmina Price)
2021 Triple Canopy
2020 Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Art Center College of Design Graduate Seminar
2019 Georgetown University, (w. Andros Zins-Browne)
NYU Steinhardt Department of Art, (w. Andros Zins-Browne)
Ox-Bow School of the Arts
2018 Columbia University School of the Arts
Boston University College of Fine Arts
Tufts SMFA
University of Oregon
Tufts University Art Gallery, Decolonial Atlas Symposium
2017 Harvard University, Cambridge, USA
Mills College, Oakland, USA
School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA
2015 Bennington College, Bennington, USA
University of Pennsylvania School of Design, Philadelphia, USA
Bard College, Annandale-On-Hudson, USA
Reed College, Portland, USA
Emily Carr University of Art and Design, Vancouver, Canada
School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA
2013 University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, USA
2013-11 Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, (w. Hamza

Walker & David Hartt) Chicago, USA
 The Poor Farm, Manawa, USA
 2012 School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA
 University of Chicago, Chicago, USA
 2011 Jan van Eyck Academie, Maastricht, Netherlands
 Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles, USA

AWARDS & RESIDENCIES

2025 Yaddo Fellowship
 2024 MacDowell Fellowship
 LEF Fellowship at Camden International Film Festival
 2022 Creative Capital Award
 2020-23 Dean's Competitive Fund for Promising Scholarship, Harvard University Film Studies
 2022-23 Center Fellowship, Harvard University
 2020 Now + There Public Art Accelerator
 2010-18 Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts
 2017 Villa Empain / Boghossian Foundation / Artist in Residence
 2016 Headlands Center for the Arts / Artist in Residence
 EMPAC / Commission & Artist in Residence
 2015 Black Cinema House, Chicago / Rebuild Foundation / Artist in Residence
 2014 Institut Français / Centre international d'accueil et d'échanges des Récollets
 2011 Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Award

WRITINGS

2022 "Five Theses Towards a Gathering of Big Brown" w/ Anthony Romero, Lastgaspism, Soberscove, p. 135-45
 "Dear F.W.", In the River, Midway Contemporary Art, p. 5-8
 2015 "The Form-Giver: A Picasso Symposium", Art in America, September 2015, p. 88
 2010 "Grand Canyon Journal", Art21 Guest Blog: blog.art21.org/author/karthik-pandian/
 "Late Culture in the American Bottom", Catalog, Before the Sun, Midway Contemporary Art, Minneapolis, USA, p.4-7
 2009 "Berghain Boogie-Woogie", Motherwell, Vol. 1,
 "Moving Target: Shahab Fotouhi", Bidoun, Winter
 2007 "Endarkment: The Museum of Jurassic Technology and the Search for a New Order of Wonder", The Journal of the Valkenberg Hermitage, Vol. 1
 2006 "Abu Symbol: Egypt's Humpty Dumpty History", Bidoun, Spring/Summer

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

2025 Gadre, Soham, "NYFF63 CURRENTS Program 3: Common Ground", Millennium Film Journal, November 10, 2025

Eler, Alicia, "Review: Two solo art exhibitions in Minneapolis ponder past, present, and future", The Minnesota Star Tribune, April 15, 2025
 Sandler, Teddy, "Convene to the Present: A Review of Karthik Pandian at Midway Contemporary Art", New City, May 7, 2025
 2021 Brooks, Vic, "Atlas Unlimited Acts VII-X", On the Town: A Performa Compendium, p. 220-5 (cat. essay)
 2019 Welsh, Gabrielle, "The Last Acts", theseenjournal.org, February 25
 2018 D'Souza, Aruna, "The Migratory Work of Atlas Unlimited", Atlas Unlimited Acts I-III, Network Aalst
 2016 Weinstein, Tresca, "'Atlas Revisited' at EMPAC Makes a Political Statement", Times Union, March 30
 D'Souza, Aruna, "Atlas Revisited", Digital booklet
 Cigainero, Jake, "The Mecene: Villa Vasillieff", Blouinartinfo.com, March 3
 2014 Stolfi, Carmen, "Karthik Pandian: Federica Schiavo Gallery", Flash Art, November/December, p. 105
 Quiles, Daniel, "Karthik Pandian: Bétonsalon - Centre for Art and Research", Artforum
 Berentson, Maria, "Karthik Pandian", Modern Painters, June
 2013 Yood, James, "Karthik Pandian: The Incomparables Club at Rhona Hoffman", art ltd., May/June
 Sherlock, Amy, "Review: Karthik Pandian", Frieze, Issue 152, January-February
 2012 Nagesh, Asitha, "Artforum.com Critics' Picks: Karthik Pandian, Jubilee", October
 Griffon, Jonathan, "Review: Made in LA 2012", Frieze, Issue 149, September, p. 185
 Nathan, Emily, "Art Basel 43: Staking Claims at Art Statements", Artnet.com, June
 Sharp, Chris, "La Triennale: Intense Proximity", Art-agenda.com, April 26
 Freedman, Alex, "Marrakech Drift", Rhizome.org, March 22
 Finkel, Jori, "Culture Monster", Latimes.com, March 14
 May, Selvi, "Some Like it Hot", i-D, Issue 317, Pre-Spring, p. 265
 2011 Knight, Christopher, "Art Review: The Long Range", Los Angeles Times, Saturday, October 28
 Berardini, Andrew, "Way Out West", The Art Newspaper, Issue 228, October
 Thirukode, Meenakshi, "Karthik Pandian: Unearth", Whitewall, Summer, p. 32
 "New Currents", Art Asia Pacific, May/June, p. 61-62
 Brunner, Bettina, "Review: unExhibit", Frieze, Issue 139, May
 Ou, Arthur, "Karthik Pandian: Unearth", Bidoun, Spring, p. 163
 Myers, Julian, "Openings: Karthik Pandian", Artforum, March, p. 255 - 257
 Alemani, Cecilia, "Architecture, Archeology, and the Solar Unconscious", Mousse, Issue 27, February-March, p. 144-149
 Russo, Peter J., "Gatefold Equinox", Triple Canopy, canopycanopycanopy.com, Mar. 3,
 Smallwood, Christine, "Monkey Eat Monkey", Triple Canopy, Dec. 6
 2010 Stephenson, Sarah, "Karthik Pandian: Porous Reality, Timeless Architecture"
 Kennedy, Randy, "The Week Ahead", New York Times, Sunday, December 12, p. 4 AR
 "Goings on about Town: Dig This", The New Yorker, December 20 & 27, p 10
 2009 Campagnola, Sonia, "Review: Karthik Pandian", Flash Art, July-Septemeber, p. 89
 Berardini, Andrew, "Karthik Pandian at Richard Telles Fine Art", Artweek, May, pp. 18-19
 2007 Rowin, Michael Joshua, "New York Underground Film Festival: Poems and Problems,

- 2001 Head Rush (Shorts Program)", The Reverse Shot Blog, April 3
Sullivan, Francesca, "Art Attack", Egypt's Insight Magazine, April, pp. 54-58
Ryan, Nigel, "Skating on ice", Al-Ahram Weekly, March 22-April 8

BIENNIALS & SURVEY EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 Performa 19 Biennial, New York (cat.)
2015 Whitechapel Gallery, London: Adventures of the Black Square: Abstract Art and Society 1915-2015 (cat.)
2014 ICA London: Artists' Film Biennial
2013 Wiels Contemporary Art Centre, Brussels: Film as Sculpture curated by Elena Filipovic
2012 Hammer Museum, Los Angeles: Made in L.A. (cat.)
Palais de Tokyo, Paris: La Triennale: Intense Proximity (cat.), curated by Okwui Enwezor
Marrakech Biennale 4: Higher Atlas (cat.)

PUBLISHED IMAGES

- 2017 Cover, "Atlas Revisited", Spike Art Quarterly, #52 Summer
2015 Images, "Atlas/Inserts", Intercalations 2: Land & Animal & Nonanimal, ed. Springer and Turpin
2014 Cover, "Unearth", Experimental Film and Anthropology, ed. Schneider and Pasqualino, Bloomsbury
2012 Images, "Reversal", Kaleidoscope, Issue 16, Fall, p. 88 - 90
2007 Images, Terrorist Assemblages: Homonationalism in Queer Times, Puar, Jasbir, Duke University Press

COLLECTIONS

Kadist Foundation
Generali Foundation
Haubrok Foundation

ADDITIONAL GRANTS

- 2107-23 Provostial Fund for the Arts and Humanities, Harvard University
2020 Elson Family Art Initiative Fund, Harvard University
2019 ArtLab, Harvard University, Allston, MA
2014 Curricular Innovation Grant, University of Chicago Arts Council
2010 Durfee Foundation Artists' Resource for Completion Grant
2008 FotoKem Student Filmmaking Grant
2023 Albert Arnold Bennett Award, Department of Modern Culture and Media, Brown University