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Richard Allan Thomas is a multi-racial, multi-phase, hybrid process driven artist-researcher currently living and working in Toronto. Previously a foresight strategist and futures researcher working globally across industries, before transitioning focus toward practices for art-based fieldwork and research, image making and sculpture. Investigations into chronopolitics of the future; shedding light on the colonization of futures, of untold and undertold histories influence the shape of the work. Assembling and integrating concepts of black temporalities, radical futurisms, hauntologies and ancestral conversations 'outside of time' to approach a broad and open inquiry into temporal systems. Currently autoethnographic based series reflects upon family histories and genealogy of black settlers and future diasporas in Canada, working primarily with formal and informal archives, maps, routes, territories, timelines, historic family photographs, artifacts interviews, literature reviews to conduct deep material explorations and experiments.

Exhibitions

2026-2028 Black Prairies - Touring Exhibition - Curated by Alyssa Fearon, various institutions across the prairies.

2025 Black Prairies, Dunlop Gallery, Regina, Saskatchewan (Feb 01-May 14) Curated by Alyssa Fearon

2024 [Solo Exhibition] In, Through & From: On Memory, Loss and Radical Futurisms (August) Curated by Jabari Elicser Elliott

2024 Uninhabited: Speculative Architectural Drawings, Curated by Nada Alobaidi and Suzan Ibrahim (Partisans Architects, Daniels School of Architecture UofT), Pamenar, Toronto, Canada

2019 The Domestication and Evolution of Artificial Senses 인공 감각 / 지각이 점차 진화하며, 집 안으로 들어오다 with support from Element AI and LG 전자 AI Research, LG Headquarters, Seoul, South Korea

2016 Crafts Capsule Series, Rajni Perera and Richard Thomas, Toronto Art Book Fair, Toronto, Canada

2016 Occupy Space, Ambush Upon Entry, Rajni Perera And Richard Thomas, with Nicholas Galanin, Jacqueline Hoang Nguyen, Natalie Wood Curated by Humber Galleries' Curator in Residence Farah Yusuf, Humber Collection, Toronto, Canada

Futures Work

2024 Senior Foresight Strategist - From Later + Autodesk - Toronto, Canada

2020-2023 Risk and Incident Foresight Strategist, Anticipatory Disaster Risk Reduction - Mayday.ai, Berlin, Germany

2018-19 Lead Strategist - Foresight - Element AI - Toronto, Canada / Montreal, Canada / Singapore / Seoul, South Korea

Publications

2024 CARFAC SASK Newsletter May-June Issue - Featured Artist - Interview

Performances

2024 Artist Talk, [In, Through & From] On Loss, Memory and Radical Futurisms in conversation with Nehal Al-Hidi, Issa Gallery, Toronto, Canada

Artist Technician

2024 'Nesting', Rajni Perera, Galerie Hugues Charbonneau booth for Plural Foire d'art contemporain

Education

2006 BDes, Ontario College of Art and Design University+Joint Institutional Thesis: OCADU, Philips Ambient Experience Design Group (Netherlands), Eindhoven Academy (NL), TU Eindhoven (NL)