

UPCOMING EXHIBITION

RELATIONS Diaspora and Painting

24 JULY – 27 NOVEMBER

Larry Achiampong
Hurvin Anderson
Kamrooz Aram
Moridja Kitenge Banza
Firelei Báez
Frank Bowling
Cy Gavin
Barkley L. Hendricks
Lubaina Himid
Bharti Kher
Rick Leong
Manuel Mathieu
Julie Mehretu
Jordan Nassar

Yoko Ono
Maia Cruz Palileo
Rajni Perera
Ed Pien
Jessica Sabogal
Marigold Santos
Yinka Shonibare CBE
Shanna Strauss
Curtis Talwst Santiago
Mickalene Thomas
Salman Toor
Hajra Waheed
Jinny Yu

Curated by Cheryl Sim

PHI
FOUNDATION

RELATIONS: Diaspora and Painting is organized by the PHI Foundation for Contemporary Art, Montreal, and presented in collaboration with Esker Foundation.

Salman Toor, *Group*, 2020, Oil on board.
Courtesy of the artist and Luhring Augustine, New York.





This group exhibition explores the multiple and complex meanings of the idea of the diaspora, its condition, and its experiences as expressed in painting. “Diaspora issues and concepts are of particular importance to me as a person of colour, born in Canada with mixed Asian origins,” says curator and director Cheryl Sim. The wide spectrum of interpretations and fruitful relationships attached to diaspora experiences knows no bounds, which promotes constant dialogue with notions of kinship and identity in the current context of globalization and mass migration.

This exhibition offers a selection of works by artists who address the question of the diaspora from various points of view, approaches, and aesthetic languages. With a rich and complex history, painting is a particularly stimulating mode of expression for exploring a variety of issues comparable to the multiplicity of the diasporic experience. All the works on display aim to establish an intergenerational dialogue and to present artists whose work has contributed to pushing the limits of what painting is and can be. Given the open and discursive nature of the subject, the exhibition does not claim to be exhaustive, but rather seeks to generate ideas and encourage dialogue.

BIOGRAPHY

Cheryl Sim is Managing Director and Curator at the PHI Foundation for Contemporary Art. Recent exhibitions include *RELATIONS: Diaspora and Painting*, *Phil Collins* and *GROWING FREEDOM* by Yoko Ono. Sim is also a media artist whose practice incorporates her background in media studies and research on post-colonial strategies in contemporary art practice. Her video and installation work has been presented in exhibitions and festivals in North America and Europe. In 2015 she completed a PhD in the *études et pratiques des arts* program at the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQÀM). Her book *Wearing the Cheongsam: Dress and Culture in a Chinese Diaspora* launched in September of 2019 on Bloomsbury Academic.