

Sin Wai Kin

Sin Wai Kin (b. 1991, Toronto, Canada) is an artist using speculative fiction within performance, moving image, writing, and print to interrupt normative processes of desire, identification, and objectification. Sin uses drag as a practice of purposeful embodiment questioning the reification and ascription of ideal images within technologies of representation and systems of looking. Drawing from close personal encounters of looking and wanting, their work presents heavily constructed fantasy narratives on the often unsettling experience of the physical within the social body.

Sin was shortlisted for the Turner Prize 2022 and 2024 Film London Jarman Award. They were awarded the 24th Baloise Art Prize in 2023. Sin's solo exhibitions were held at Mudam Luxembourg, (Luxembourg, 2024), Buffalo AKG Art Museum (New York, 2024), Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (Berkeley, 2023), Fondazione Memmo (Rome, 2023), and Blindspot Gallery (Hong Kong, 2021). Their performances and works have been shown at Frans Hals Museum (Haarlem, 2024), UCCA Beijing (Beijing, 2024), 4A Centre for Contemporary Art (Sydney, 2024), Kunsthall Trondheim (Norway, 2024), The ALBERTINA Museum (Vienna, 2024), Museum of Contemporary Art Toronto (Toronto, 2024 and 2019), Somerset House (London, 2023 and 2024), National Gallery Prague (2023), Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève (Geneva, 2023), Tate Liverpool (Liverpool, 2022), Tai Kwun Contemporary (Hong Kong, 2022), Para Site (Hong Kong, 2022), Institute of Contemporary Arts (Los Angeles, 2022), The Guggenheim (New York, 2022), The British Museum (London, 2022), Shedhalle (Zurich, 2021), "British Art Show 9" (2021), Institute of Contemporary Arts (London, 2020), Tank Museum (Shanghai, 2020), "MOMENTA biennale de l'image" (Montreal, 2019), Hayward Gallery (London, 2019), "Meetings on Art" in "The 58th Venice Biennale" (Venice, 2019), Whitechapel Gallery (London, 2019), "Do Disturb Festival" in Palais de Tokyo (Paris, 2019), Serpentine Galleries, (London, 2019), and Tate Modern (London, 2017).

Sin currently lives and works in London.

Education

BA from the Camberwell College of Arts, University of the Arts London

MA from the Royal College of Art

Solo Exhibition and Performance

2024 "Essence", Soft Opening at Paul Soto, Los Angeles, USA

"Portraits", Mudam Luxembourg, Luxembourg

"It's Always You", Buffalo AKG Art Museum, Buffalo, New York, USA

2023 "MATRIX 284 / Sin Wai Kin: The Story Changing", Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, California, USA

- “Dreaming the End”, Fondazione Memmo, Rome, Italy
- 2021 “The Story Cycle”, Channel, Somerset House, London, UK
 “the story changes the body changes (repeating)”, The Guggenheim, New York, USA
- 2021 “It’s Always You”, Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong
 “Frieze London 2021”, Blindspot Gallery Booth, Focus Section, Frieze London, UK
- 2020 “Narrative Reflections on Looking”, Organ Vida, International Photography Festival, Museum of Contemporary Art, Zagreb, Croatia
- 2018 “Narrative Reflections on Looking”, Sotheby’s S2, London, UK
 “Indifferent Idols”, Taipei Contemporary Art Centre, Taipei, Taiwan

Selected Group Exhibitions/Screenings/Performances

- 2024 *(upcoming)* “RAINBOW CHAN X SIN WAI KIN”, Cement Fondu, New South Wales, Australia
 “Soft Fantasy/Hard Reality”, Silverlens, New York, USA
 “The Show Must Go On”, SIMPLE ONE, Beijing, China
 “Feet Under Fire: On Dispossession” Part Two / Segunda Parte, MAC Panama, Calle San Blas, Ancón, Panama City, Panama
 “Drawing attention: emerging artists in dialogue”, Hartlepool Art Gallery, Hartlepool, UK
 “The Infinite Woman”, Villa Carmignac - Fondation Carmignac, Porquerolles Island, France
 “The Art of Drag”, Frans Hals Museum, Haarlem, the Netherlands
 “A Woman You Thought You Knew”, KADIST San Francisco, California, USA
 Greater Toronto Art 2024, Museum of Contemporary Art Toronto, Toronto, Canada
 “20 Years of the VERBUND COLLECTION”, ALBERTINA, Vienna, Austria
 “Tongues of Fire”, Kunsthall Trondheim, Trondheim, Norway
 “Drawing attention: emerging artists in dialogue”, Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Wolverhampton, UK
 “Year of the Dragon”, 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, Sydney, Australia
 “Dream Time”, UCCA Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China
 “CUTE: An Exhibition Exploring the Irresistible Rise of Cuteness”, Somerset House, London, UK
- 2023 “After Laughter Comes Tears”, Mudam Luxembourg, Luxembourg
 “Fotograf Festival hypertension23”, National Gallery Prague, Prague, Czech Republic
 “Living a Performance Artist’s Life: 2023 Performance Art Documental Exhibition”, MadeIn Art Museum, Shanghai, China
 “I Loved You: Works from the White Rabbit Collection”, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne, Australia
 “A psionic hope, an astonishing dream”, Trinity Square Video, Toronto, Canada
 “Chrysalis—The Butterfly Dream”, Centre d’Art Contemporain Genève, Geneva, Switzerland
- 2022 “Myth Makers—Spectrosynthesis III”, Tai Kwun Contemporary, Hong Kong
 “Fanatic Heart”, Para Site, Hong Kong

- “Calypso Καλυψώ”, Doosan Art Center, Seoul
 “I Loved You”, White Rabbit Gallery, Sydney, Australia
 “Turner Prize 2022”, Tate Liverpool, Liverpool, UK
 “The Condition of Being Addressable” at ICA, Los Angeles, USA
 “Drawing Attention: emerging British artists”, The British Museum, London, UK
- 2021 “Dream Babes”, Eaton HK, Hong Kong
 “Hyper Possible: Coventry Biennial”, Leamington Spa Art Gallery and Museum, Coventry, UK
 “Representation, Gender and the Body”, LIMA, Amsterdam, Netherlands
 “B3 Biennial of the Moving Image”, online/Frankfurt, Germany
 “Protozone4 – Extra Worlding”, Shedhalle, Zurich, Switzerland
 “What Are You Looking At?”, 65th BFI London Film Festival, London, UK
 “Interior Infinite”, Polygon Gallery, Vancouver, Canada
 “No No Fest”, Maison Populaire, Montreuil, France
 “British Art Show 9”, Touring Exhibition: Aberdeen, Wolverhampton, Manchester, Plymouth, UK
 “Age of You”, Jameel Art Centre, Dubai
 “Vortex”, Corsica Studios, New Art City, London, UK
 “Born in Flames”, The Bronx Museum, New York, USA
- 2020 “INFERNO”, ICA Cinema 3, London, UK
 “Today’s Top Stories”, Tank Museum, Shanghai, China
 “MORE, MORE, MORE”, Tank Shanghai, Shanghai, China
 “Together”, M HKA, Antwerp, Belgium
 “Play and Loop II”, Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong
 “Total Fabrication”, Works and Process, Guggenheim Museum, New York, USA
 “Agitation: Stirring Portraits”, Courtyard Hiroo, Tokyo, Japan
- 2019 “Holy Mosses”, Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong
 “Seized by the Left Hand”, Dundee Contemporary Arts, Dundee, UK
 “Transformer: The Rebirth of Wonder”, 180 The Strand, London, UK
 “Rewriting the Future”, Site Gallery, Sheffield, UK
 “Age of You”, MOCA, Toronto, Canada
 “La vie des choses”, MOMENTA biennale de l'image, Montreal, Canada
 “Kiss My Genders,” Hayward Gallery, London, UK
 “Display“, Dortmunder Kunstverein, Dortmund, Germany
 “Meetings on Art”, Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy
 “Rising Up in the Infinite Sky”, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK
 “A Doll's House”, Goethe Institut, Baku, Azerbaijan
 “Do Disturb Festival”, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France
 “Chi-Wen Gallery”, Art Basel, Hong Kong
 “If I had the words to tell you we wouldn't be here now”, Chi-Wen Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan
 “BCE”, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK
- 2018 “Bona Drag”, RISD Museum, Providence, USA
 “YAEJI One More Tour”, The Knockdown Center, New York, USA
 “Narrative Reflections on Looking”, Sotheby's S2, London, UK

- "Riding and Dying with You", Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK
 "DRAG", Hayward Gallery, London, UK
 "Park Nights", Serpentine Galleries, London, UK
 "Reproductive Technologies", Market Gallery, Glasgow, UK
 "Swinging Out Over the Earth", Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK
 "Block Universe", Brunel Museum, London, UK
 "Cinenova Now Showing", LUX, London, UK
 "JUICEBOX", Live Art Bistro, Leeds, UK
 "A View From Elsewhere", Café Oto, London, UK
 "Non-Linear: Magnet 2 with LUX Scotland", CCA Cinema, Glasgow, UK
 "Steakhouse Live Festival", Toynbee Studios, London, UK
 "A History of Drawing", Camberwell Space, London, UK
 "Transcending species Transcending gender Transcending nations", Deptford Cinema, London, UK
 "We Share the Same Tears", Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK
 "Décalé", DIY Space for London, London, UK
- 2017 "YCT Prize Exhibition", The Cello Factory, London, UK
 "Hybrid Layers", ZKM, Karlsruhe, Germany
 "Glitch Feminism", ICA, London, UK
 "Tenderflix 2017", The Royal College of Art Gorvy Theatre, London, UK
 "Mount Florida Screenings 10", GoMA, Glasgow, UK
 "BFI London Film Festival: HOPING. FEARING. DREAMING.", BFI Southbank, London, UK
 "NSA: A Queer Salon (Steakhouse Live)", Sutton House, London, UK
 "You see me like a UFO", The Grange, Ascot, UK
 "Non Linear: Magnets", CLOSE-UP, London, UK
 "TATE EXCHANGE: GENDER TALKS", Tate Modern, London, UK
 "Volcano Extravaganza, I Polpi", Stromboli, Italy
 "DEEP ANGER TRUE LOVE TENDER CARE", The Horse Hospital, London, UK
 "Multiplied", Kingsgate Project Space, London, UK
 "SHOW RCA 2017", The Royal College of Art, London, UK
 "Rogue Agents", Firstdraft, Sydney, Australia
 "Dream Babes Speculative Futures", The Horse Hospital, London, UK
 "Hotline", New River Studios, London, UK
 "ON & OFF", Proyectos Medellin Gallery, Mexico City, Mexico
 "The Conch", South London Gallery, London, UK
 "Cacotopia", Annka Kultys Gallery, London, UK
 "Freshly Squeezed", CGP London, London, UK
- 2016 "Edinburgh Artists' Moving Image Festival", Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
 "Clearview Presents", Clearview, London, UK
 "Sham Romance", Chalton Gallery, London, UK
 "Steakhouse Live Festival", The Yard Theatre, London, UK
 "Dream Babes", Auto Italia, London, UK
 "Will Nature Make a Man of Me Yet?", Pi Artworks, London, UK
 "Break/Link", CGP London, London, UK
 "Chewy", The Royal College of Art Dyson Gallery, London, UK
- 2015 "The Ingram Collection, Bodies!", The Lightbox, Woking, UK

Awards

- 2024 Shortlist, Film London Jarman Award
- 2023 The 24th Baloise Art Prize
- 2022 Shortlist, Turner Prize
- 2021 B3 BEN Award for Best Immersive and Time Based Art
- 2018 Live Art UK Diverse Actions Leadership Bursary
Arts Council England Artist's International Development Fund
- 2017 The Ingram Collection Young Contemporary Talent Purchase Prize
Arts Council England Grants for the Arts
Shortlist, Tenderflix International Film and Video Competition
- 2016 Arts Council England Grants for the Arts

Collections

- Albright-Knox Art Gallery, USA
- Baltimore Museum of Art, USA
- British Museum Prints & Drawings, UK
- The Ingram Collection of Modern British Art, UK
- KADIST, USA and France
- M+, Hong Kong
- Sunpride Foundation, Hong Kong
- Tate, UK
- White Rabbit Gallery, Australia