

# Tanya Leighton

MATTHEW KRISHANU

Born 1980 in Bradford, England  
Lives and works in London

## Education

2009 Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design, London, MA Fine Art  
2001 Exeter University, UK, BA Fine Art and English Literature (Honors)

## Solo Exhibitions

2026 *Falling into Place*, Salon 94, New York City  
2024 *Immerse*, Tanya Leighton, Los Angeles  
*The Bough Breaks*, Camden Art Centre, London  
2023 *On a Limb*, Jhaveri Contemporary, Mumbai  
2022 *Playground*, Niru Ratnam, London  
*Undercurrents*, LGDR, New York  
2021 *Arrow and Pulpit*, Tanya Leighton, Berlin  
2020 *Picture Plane*, Niru Ratnam, London  
2019 *Corvus. A painting installation*, The Stuart Hall Library, Iniva – Institute of International Visual Arts, London  
*House of Crows*, Matt's Gallery, London  
*The Sun Never Sets*, Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham  
*A Murder of Crows*, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham  
2018 *The Sun Never Sets*, Huddersfield Art Gallery, Huddersfield

## Selected Group Exhibitions

2025 *For The Time Being*, 6th Kochi-Muziris Biennial, India  
*In Passing*, Niru Ratnam, London  
*A Room Hung with Thoughts: British Painting Now*, Green Family Art Foundation, Dallas  
*I AM ME*, Cartwright Hall Art Gallery, Bradford, United Kingdom  
*Summer*, Frestonian Gallery, London  
*Dialogues*, Espoo Museum of Modern Art, Finland  
*En Famille*, British Embassy, Paris  
*Ghost*, Jarvis Art, New York City  
*Push Me, Pull You*, Thomas Dane, Naples  
2024 *Beyond The Page: South Asian Miniature Painting and Britain, 1600 to Now*, The Box, Plymouth, United Kingdom  
2023 *Beyond the Page: South Asian Miniature Painting and Britain, 1600 to Now*, MK Gallery, Milton Keynes, United Kingdom  
*Life Is More Important Than Art*, Whitechapel Gallery, London  
*A voice answering a voice*, Tanya Leighton, Berlin  
*Arcadia for All? Rethinking Landscape Painting Now*, The Stanley & Audrey Burton Gallery, University of Leeds  
2022 *The Kingfisher's Wing* (curated by Tom Morton), GRIMM, New York

Kurfürstenstraße 156, 10785 Berlin

+49 (0)30 21 972 220, [info@tanyaleighton.com](mailto:info@tanyaleighton.com), [www.tanyaleighton.com](http://www.tanyaleighton.com)

- Prophecy*, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry
- 2021 *Mixing It Up: Painting Today*, Hayward Gallery, London
- 2020 *Everyday Heroes*, Hayward Gallery / Southbank Centre, London  
*A Rich Tapestry*, Ikon / Lahore Biennale, Lahore, Pakistan
- 2019 *New Figurations: Matthew Krishanu and Sosa Joseph*,  
 Jhaveri Contemporary, Mumbai  
*And Beyond*, New Art Projects, London  
*Too Cute!*, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery  
*Childhood Now* (with Chantal Joffe and Mark Fairington),  
 Compton Verney, Warwickshire  
*Made in Britain*, The National Museum in Gdańsk, Poland
- 2018 *John Moores Painting Prize*, Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool  
*In the City*, East Gallery, Norwich; Stephen Lawrence Gallery, London  
*Highlights from the Permanent Collection*, Komechak Art Gallery, Chicago
- 2017 *Contemporary Masters from Britain*, Yantai Art Museum; Artall Gallery &  
 Jiangsu Art Gallery, Nanjing; Tianjin Academy of Fine Art, China  
*Anything Goes*, Bermondsey Project Space,  
 London  
*Painting and History*, China Academy of Art, Hangzhou, Shanghai
- 2016 *Contemporary British Painting*, Quay Arts, Isle of Wight  
*Aviary*, Transition Gallery, London  
*Contemporary British Watercolours*, Oriel Gallery, Antrim, N. Ireland
- 2015 *Contemporary Drawings from Britain*, XAFA, Xi'an Province, China
- 2014 *Priseman-Seabrook Collection*, Huddersfield Art Gallery  
*Home*, Crossley Gallery, Dean Clough, Halifax  
*Another Country* (with Cara Nahaul), The Nunnery, London
- 2013 *We Were Trying to Make Sense...*, Shanthiroad, Bangalore, India,

#### Publications

- 2021 Matt Price, *The Anomie review of Contemporary British painting 2*, Anomie  
 Publishing (London)  
 Ralph Rugoff, *Mixing It Up: Painting Today*, (cat.), Hayward Gallery  
 Publishing (London)  
 Jennifer Higgie, *John Moores Painting Prize 2020*, (cat.), World Museum  
 Liverpool (Liverpool)
- 2020 Peter Harrap, Anna McNay, Florin Ungureanu, *Beyond Other Horizons*, (cat.),  
 Iasi Palace of Culture (Iasi)  
 Amy Orrock and Jill Seaton, *Painting Childhood*, (cat.), Paul Holberton  
 Publishing (London)  
 Jenni Lomax and Ruxmini Choudhury, *Matthew Krishanu: The Sun Never  
 Sets*, Midlands Arts Centre (Birmingham)
- 2018 Ann Bukantas, Charlotte Keenan McDonald, *John Moores Painting Prize  
 2018*, (cat.), World Museum Liverpool (Liverpool)  
 Matt Price, *The Sun Never Sets*, Huddersfield Art Gallery (Huddersfield)
- 2016 Freya Purdue, *Contemporary British Painting Summer Exhibiton 2016*,  
 Createspace Independent Publishing (California)
- 2015 Xing Zhang, *Contemporary Drawings from Britain*, Museum of Xi'an

- Academy of Fine Arts (Xi'an City)  
 Simon Carter, *Contemporary British Watercolours*, Createspace  
 Independent Publishing (California)  
 Simon Carter, *The Brentwood Stations of the Cross*, Createspace  
 Independent Publishing (California)
- 2014 Robert Priseman, *Priseman Seabrook Collection*, Seabrook Press  
 (Bridgeton)  
 Robert Harbison, *In the City*, The Lion and Lamb Publishing (Chennai)  
 Iniva Creative Learning, *The A-Z of Emotions*, INIVA (London)  
 Skye Sherwin, *Another Country*, The Nunnery (London)
- 2012 Marcus Cope, Stephanie Moran, *The Marmite Prize for Painting IV*, Susak  
 Press (London)
- 2010 Central Art Gallery, *The Marmite Prize for Painting IV*, Susak Press (London)

#### Selected Bibliography

- 2025 Maanav Jalan, "From the home to the world: Meet 5 South Asian artists  
 thriving in London", *AD*, January 2025
- 2024 "Cultural Capital: London-based Artists at Frieze London 2024", *Frieze*,  
 October 2024  
 Jonathan Evens, "The Art Diary May 2024", *Artlyst*, May 2024  
 Hettie Judah, "Matthew Krishanu's Divine Paintings Reflect on Family,  
 Religion, and Power Dynamics", *artsy*, May 2024  
 Susan Gray, "Interview with Matthew Krishanu", *The Church Times*, May  
 2024  
 Tabish Khan, "The Top Exhibitions To See In London: April 2024", *The  
 Londonist*, April 2024  
 Sofia Hallström, "Matthew Krishanu: Painting the Postcolonial", *Art Basel  
 Magazine*, April 2024  
 Arjun Sajip "In the studio with... Matthew Krishanu", *Apollo Magazine*, April  
 2024  
 Annabel Downes, "Matthew Krishanu in the Studio", *Ocula*, April 2024  
 Eddy Frankel, "Six London exhibitions we can't wait to see in April 2024",  
*TimeOut*, March 2024
- 2023 Zeenat Nagree, "Matthew Krishanu – On a Limb", *ArtAsiaPacific*, November  
 2023  
 Mario D'Souza, "Matthew Krishanu", *Artforum*, October 2023  
 Hettie Judah, "Can painting ever bear the weight of grief?", *Apollo Magazine*,  
 August 2023  
 Ben Luke, "Life Is More Important Than Art at Whitechapel Gallery review:  
 shows why we need art too", *Evening Standard*, June 2023  
 Tabish Khan, "Life Is More Important Than Art, Whitechapel Gallery, review",  
*Culture Whisper*, June 2023  
 Ben Luke, "A brush with... Matthew Krishanu", *The Art Newspaper*, March 2023
- 2022 Elizabeth Fullerton, "Secrets of the seesaw: the painter harnessing the  
 unsettling power of the playground", *The Guardian*, November 2022  
 Annabel Keenan, "Contemporary British Painting Thrives in The Kingfisher's  
 Wing at GRIMM", *Cultbytes*, August 2022

- Morgan Quaintance, "On Grief and Grieving", *Art Monthly*, April 2022
- Matthew Krishanu, *Tate Etc.*, Spring 2022
- 2021 Laura Cumming, "Laura Cumming's best art of 2021", *The Guardian*, December 2021
- David Trigg, "Mixing Up: Painting Up. Hayward Gallery, London", *ArtReview*, November 2021
- Sophie Jung, "Im biografischen Gedächtnis", *Die Tageszeitung*, November 2021
- Ben Luke, "Matthew Krishanu: 'What you're looking for, when you're building something out of nothing, is recognition, familiarity'", *The Art Newspaper*, November 2021
- Laura Cumming, "Mixing It Up: Painting Today review – a showcase of devotion to an age-old medium", *The Guardian*, September 2021
- Ben Luke, "Painting in Britain: Meet the artists giving a new lease of life to this enduringly popular art form", *Evening Standard*, September 2021
- David Trigg, "Matthew Krishanu – interview: 'I want my paintings to exist somewhere between the precision of a photograph and something looser'", *Studio International*, September 2021
- 2020 Ben Luke, "The seven best contemporary shows to see in London right now", *The Art Newspaper*, October 2020
- Revd Jonathan Evens, "Everyday Heroes: Southbank Exhibition Celebrates Low-paid Key Workers", *Artlyst*, October 2020
- Hettie Judah, "Pop-up space odyssey: how to do Frieze with no Frieze", *The Guardian*, October 2020
- Joanne Shurvell, "Seven Of The Best Painting Exhibitions To See In London This Autumn", *Forbes*, October 2020
- Niru Ratman, "Picture Plane", *Niru Ratman Gallery*, September 2020
- Katie McCabe, "8 artists and writers pay tribute to their everyday heroes", *TimeOut*, September 2020
- 2019 Reema Gehi, "Artistic Dialogues", *Mumbai Mirror*, December 2019
- Uma Karavadra, "New Acquisitions", *Contemporary Art Society*, November 2019
- Simina Neagu, "Interview with Matthew Krishanu", *INIVA*, November 2019
- Cleo Roberts, "New Figurations: Matthew Krishanu and Sosa Joseph", *Jhaveri Contemporary*, November 2019
- Christine Takengny, "Corvus: A painting installation", *Contemporary Art Society*, October 2019
- Cleo Roberts, "Between Skeletons and Sunsets", *ArtAsiaPacific*, March 2019
- Tabish Khan, "Top 5 Exhibitions to see in London in April", *FAD Magazine*, March 2019
- Jackie Wullschläger, "Critics' Choice", *Financial Times*, January 2019
- 2018 Neil Mudd, "The Colour of Memory", *The Culture Vulture*, September 2018
- Narbi Price, "A Q&A with Matthew Krishanu, painter", *a-n*, August 2018
- Matthew Krishanu, "Artists at Work: Matthew Krishanu", *The Courtauld Gallery*, July 2018
- Robert Priseman, "Matthew Krishanu: from Bradford to Bangladesh and onward", *Art UK*, May 2018
- 2017 Matt Price, "Matthew Krishanu Interview", *Fused Magazine*, Summer 2017
- Matthew Krishanu, "painting from Life", *The Courtauld Gallery*
- 2016 Russell Parton, "Aviary exhibition wings its way to Transition Gallery", *East*

- End Review*, May 2016
- 2014 Stefania Elena Carnemolla, "An interview with Matthew Krishanu and Cara Nahaul", *Wall Street International*, February 2014  
Karen Le Roy Harris, "'Another Country' Artist Talk", *Nunnery Gallery*, January 2014
- 2013 Simon Carter, "Matthew Krishanu: Interview", *Painters' Table*  
Matthew Krishanu, "Painting the Figure — A Contemporary Practice Perspective", *The Courtauld Gallery*
- 2012 Matthew Krishanu, "Expressive Arts", *The Courtauld Gallery*

#### Public Collections

Tate, London

Arts Council Collection, Southbank Centre, London

Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, UK

Espoo Museum of Modern Art, Finland

Central Saint Martins (UAL), London

China Academy of Art Museum, Hangzhou, China

Croydon Higher Education College, London

Government Art Collection, UK

Huddersfield Art Gallery, UK

Ikon Gallery, Birmingham

Jiangsu Art Museum, Nanjing, China

Kiran Nadar Art Museum, New Delhi

Komechak Art Gallery, Chicago

Priseman Seabrook Collection, UK

Royal Brompton & Harefield NHS Foundation Trust, London

Sixi Museum, Nanjing, China

Tianjin Academy of Art, China

Yantai Art Museum, China