

## **J.C. RATHNAYAKE b.1978**

*J.C. Rathnayake was born in 1978 in Polonnaruwa, Sri Lanka. Rathnayake completed his education in printmaking at the University of Visual and Performing Arts in Colombo, Sri Lanka in 2008.*

*Rathnayake states that when special identities are transcended by economic reality, we encounter stimulations that are deprived of substance. The artist believes in all-consuming, total and global system that colonises the space of the planet and its disparate temporalities, there is an underlying uniformity despite the apparent diversification of the cultural sphere. At every corner, we are confronted with the tiresome phenomena of repetitive imitations and the constant recycling of the past.*

*Rathnayake's art attempts to combat the increasingly cluttered world, where minds are constantly being bombarded by imagery and information at a speed that does not afford the time to process thoughts. The multiple copies of Buddha-like and people images ensure that the mind does not focus on any specific image in favour of using peripheral vision to see the whole, which leads to an uncluttered mind by giving it a much needed break from focused processing in favour of it getting an overall relaxing feeling from the paintings. In this way Rathnayake's art combats the increasingly cluttered world we live in where our minds are being constantly bombarded by imagery and information at faster and faster speeds with less and less processing time.*

*His pieces, therefore give us hope, they expose the soul to spiritual enlightenment, and on closer inspection, show pieces of newspaper with Sinhala writing, the latter of which uses concentric patterns to convey messages about an island that is deeply impenetrable and complex and yet simple and divine when taken at its purest.*

*J C Rathnayake says "Man, who is a powerless might when alone, rises, as a destructive force together in a group against nature, as well as against himself. Thereby he destroys himself. He should go back to nature for refuge and meditate on life. Nature should be his focus for meditation.*

### **Education**

2008 BFA (Hon) Printmaking, University of Visual & Performing Arts, Colombo, Sri Lanka

### **Solo Exhibitions**

- 2019 *'Rejoice'* | Paradise Road Galleries, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2018 *'Reality Check'* | The Galle Fort Art Galleries, Galle, Sri Lanka
- 2016 *ISOMORPHIC'* | Paradise Road Galleries, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2014 *'Discursive Space'* | Paradise Road Galleries, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2013 *'Visions'* | Paradise Road Galleries, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2011 *'Reflection'* | Paradise Road Galleries, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2008 *'Exhibition of Paintings'* | Paradise Road Galleries, Colombo, Sri Lanka

### **Group Exhibitions**

- 2019 *'Shades of Black and White'* | J.D.A Perera Gallery, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2017 *Leo Art 2017 ART AT THE FEST* | Sri Lanka
- 2016 *Leo Art 2016 STROKES AT THE MEWS* | Sri Lanka
- 2013 *Exhibition of Sri Lankan Art* | JDA Gallery, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2012 *Exhibition of Sri Lankan Art* | JDA Gallery, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2011 *Exhibition of Sri Lankan Art* | JDA Gallery, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2010 *Expression of Independence & Serendipity* | JDA Perera Gallery, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2010 *Opening Art Exhibition* | JDA Perera Gallery, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2008 *'Expressions Of Independence'* | The Mona Bismarck Foundations, Paris, France

- 2007 *Exhibition of Sri Lankan Art* | National Art Gallery, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2007 *Nawa Kalakaruwo'* | *National Art Gallery, Sri Lanka*
- 2007 *Zero'* | *Lionel Wendt Art Gallery, Colombo, Sri Lanka*
- 2006 *Young Contemporaries'* | National Art Gallery, Sri Lanka
- 2006 *Print Fair'* | Alliance Francaise, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2005 *State Art and Sculpture Festival* | The Department of Cultural Affairs, Sri Lanka
- 2003 *State Art and Sculpture Festival* | The Department of Cultural Affairs, Sri Lanka