AMBA SAYAL-BENNETT

Amba Sayal-Bennett (b.1991) is an artist of British-Indian heritage working across drawing, projection, and sculptural installation. Her practice explores how methods of abstraction are exclusionary and performative, crafting boundaries between what is present, manifestly absent, and othered. Her research focuses on the migration of rational forms and their role within fascist and brutalist architecture. Using translation as method, she explores the movement of bodies, knowledge and form across different sites, processes inherent to the diasporic experience.

Sayal-Bennett lives and works in London. She received her BFA from Oxford University and her MA in The History of Art from The Courtauld Institute. She was awarded her PhD in Art Practice and Learning from Goldsmiths and has published her practice-based research with Tate Papers. Amba is a co-founder of Cypher Billboard, an artist-run public program of site-specific billboard artworks and off-site projects based in London.

Select solo exhibitions include A Mechanised Thought, indigo+madder, London (2020); Every Line Makes a Cut, CARBON12, Dubai (2019); Plane Maker, CARBON 12, Dubai (2017); Diffraction Metis, Yve Yang Gallery, Boston (2016); Deft Nodes, Lundgren Gallery, Palma de Mallorca (2016); and Users Borrowers and Keepers, Lundgren Gallery, Palma de Mallorca (2014). Select group exhibitions include Synthesis, Saatchi Gallery, London (2022); Tomorrow 2021, White Cube, London (2021); Drawing Biennial, Drawing Room, London (2021); A World In Vertigo, Brunel Museum, London (2019); Some Places Exist Only Once, Schimmel Projects Art Centre, Dresden (2018); As You Become, Exhibit 320, Delhi (2018); and ROYGBIV, Kate Werble Gallery, New York (2018).

Born in 1991, London, UK
Lives and works in London, UK

Education

2014-2018 PhD, Art Practice & Learning, Goldsmiths, London
2012-2013 MA, History of Art, The Courtauld Institute of Art, London
2009-2012 BFA, Fine Art, Oxford University, Oxford

Solo Exhibitions (selected)

2023 "Architectures of Excess", CARBON 12, Dubai
"Geometries of Differences", Somerset House, London

2022 "Everything at Once", Duo Exhibition, Generation and Display, London
"Geometries of Difference", Morgan Stanley Commission, Somerset House, London
"Spirals, Loops, Mutants", K11, Shanghai

2021 "A track to bare", Virtual Exhibition, CARBON 12, Dubai

2020 "A Mechanised Thought", Indigo+Madder, London

2019 "Every line makes a cut", CARBON 12, Dubai

2017 "The Box", Pippy Houldsworth Gallery, London
"Plane Maker", CARBON 12, Dubai
"Untitled, Monuments", Nathalie Karg Gallery, San Francisco

2016 "Diffraction Metis", Yve Yang Gallery, Boston
"Deft Nodes", Lundgren Gallery, Palma
"Broad Bath", ASC Gallery, London

2014 "Parallax", CAL: Centre for Arts and Learning, London

"Users and Borrowers and Keepers", Lundgren Gallery, Palma

Group Exhibitions (selected)

2024 Drawing Biennal, Drawing Room, London, UK
"Out Bounds", Seager Gallery, London
"Holding Cosmic Dust", Corinium Museum, Cirencester, England

2023 "Ubiquitous no.14, TUBE, Palma de Mallorca, Spain
"*Nine Nodes of Non-Being",* 421 Arts Campus, Abu Dhabi
"Tomorrow, Today, Yesterday", Modern Forms, London
"Proposals for a Memorial to Partition", Curated by Murtaza Vali, 12G Arts, Philadelphia, PA
"Landscape and Depth", KICHE, Seoul, Korea
"Boundary, Boundary, Boundary", Cadence Gallery, Shanghai
"Spirals, Loops, Mutants", K11 Foundation, Shanghai
"One Foot In The Sky", Contemporary Sculpture Fulmer x AORA, Fulmer
"Processing the Past and Digesting the Future", Badr El Jundi, Madrid, Spain
"*The Nights Will Follow* the Days", Serendipity Arts Festival, Goa, IN
"Asphodel Meadows", Studio/Chapple *x* Staffordshire St, London

2022 "My Mother was a Computer", Indigo+Madder, London
"Horror in the Modernist Block", Ikon Gallery, London
"Testing Grounds", FILET, London
"Yours in Truth", Space118, Mumbai
"State of Play: Canary Wharf", Brooke Benington, London
"Introducing DIANA", DIANA, New York
"Bridging Landscapes", curated by Aisha Zia, French Riviera, London
"City Entwined", Paradise Row, London
"Dream Weaver", Grove Collective, London
"Synthesis", Saatchi Gallery, London
"Modern Relics" FOLD Gallery, London
"Systems We Have", New Art Projects
"Slow Burn", Indigo+Madder, London

2021 "Tomorrow 2021", White Cube, London
"Port of Call", Changing Room Gallery, London
"AORA Pop-Up", AORA, London, UK
"5th Edition", Contemporary Sculpture Fulmer, Slough
"Preparations", Late Works, London
"Peach Fuzz", Haze Projects, London
"Recreational Grounds", The Factory Project, London
"Where Things Land Down", Fels, London
"Scenes of Inclination", Manor Place, London
"Drawing Biennial", Drawing Room, London
"RELIC", A.P.T. Gallery, London
"Abducting the Priestess Might Solve Your Crops", Ergo Collective, Athens

	“Proxy”, Cromwell Place, London
	“Old Friends, New Friends” Collective Ending, London
	“AORA III”, Virtual Exhibition, AORA Space
2020	“Out of the woods”, CARBON 12, Dubai
2019	“Mess Machine”, a collaboration with Ralph Hunter-Menzies, UKYA City Takeover
	“An Unusual Arrangement”, Contemporary Collaborations at Robert Young Antiques, London
	“WIP”, Royal College of Art, London
	“Carousel”, The Koppel Project Central, London
	“ABSINTHE §2|, Spit and Sawdust, London
	“Week 1”, Instituting Otherwise Project Space, Delhi
	“And Proceed to Fill The Next Fold”, The Future, Galleri 21, Malmö
	“A World in Vertigo”, Brunel Museum, London
	“Odds”, TOMA, Southend, London
	“Bounds”, Cypher BILLBOARD x Skelf, Virtual Exhibition
2018	"When You Travel in Time, Leave Nothing Behind”, Lewisham Art House
	“To our fellow artists and poets who are confused about which way to go”, Lundgren Gallery, Spain
	“ROYGBIV”, Kate Werble Gallery, New York
	“Opening Remarks”, Athr Gallery, Jeddah
	“Some Places Exist Only Once”, Schimmel Projects Art Centre, Dresden
	“As You Become”, Exhibit 320, Delhi
	“FAKERS”, Thames-Side Studios Gallery, London
	“FAKERS”, Cypher Billboard, London
2017	“Crazy Talk”, Cypher Billboard, London
	"Pictures of Nothing", PG Art Gallery, Istanbul
	“Meaningful Vision”, Pembroke College, Oxford2016
	“Backdrop: London”, ASC Gallery, London
	“As You Can See”, Exhibit 320, Delhi
	“Backdrop: Berlin”, Wilsnacker Strasse, Berlin
	“Mind Out”, A.P.T. Gallery, London
2015	“UK/raine: Emerging Artists from the UK and Ukraine”, Saatchi Gallery, London
	“Xenotpoia”, Gibberd Gallery, Harlow
	“Avant-Craft”, Pal Zileri, London
	“Twentieth”, A.P.T. Gallery, London
2014	“Mineshaft”, WW2 Bunker, London
	“Old Rope”, Pippy Houldsworth Gallery, London
	“Artworks Open”, Barbican Arts Group Trust, London
	“English Breakfast”, Rizzordi Loft, St. Petersburg
	“Morphol Scowl”, Piccadilly Place, Manchester
	“Switch”, Pulchri Studio, Den Haag
2012	“Saatchi New Sensations”, Victoria House, London
	“The Ruskin Degree Show”, The Old Power Station, Oxford
2011	“Interim Show”, The Old Bookbinders, Oxford

2010 “Something on at the Rag Factory”, The Rag Factory, London

Collections (selected)

Saatchi Collection, UK
Western Art Print Room Collection, Ashmolean Museum, UK
Art Jameel, UAE
Fidelity Collection, USA

Awards / Grants / Residencies

2021	British School at Rome
2020	Gilbert Bayes Awar, Royal Society of Sculptors
2020	New Editions, London Bronze Casting
2014-2016	Graduate Studio Award, A.P.T
2014	Short-listed, Griffin Art Prize, Griffin Gallery,
2014	WW SOLO Award, WW Gallery
2012	Short-listed, Red Mansion Art Prize
2012	The Ives Prize, The Queen's College, Oxford
2012	The Vivien Leigh Prize, The Ashmolean Museum
2011	Short-listed, The Slingsby Prize, The Ruskin School of Drawing and Fine Art, Oxford
2010	The Michel Scholarship, The Queen's College, Oxford
2010	The Geoffrey Rhodes Prize, The Ruskin School of Drawing and Fine Art, Oxford

Publications

Amba Sayal-Bennett, 'Diffractive Analysis: Embodied Encounters in Contemporary Artistic Video Practice', Tate Papers, no.29, Spring 2018