

Jon Rafman

Born 1981, Montréal, Canada. Lives and works in Los Angeles, United States of America.

Education

2008 MFA, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago
2004 BA, Philosophy and Literature, McGill University, Montréal

Solo Exhibitions

2026

Memento Hikikomori, Institute of Modern Art (IMA), Brisbane
Report a concern – The Nine Eyes Archives, Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebaek
What a Wonderful World: An Audiovisual Poem, Variety Arts Theater Los Angeles
Jon Rafman, K21 Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen Düsseldorf

2025

Incarnate, Langen Foundation, Neuss
ἡλίουοὐανH əyɪ ˈyo, Whangarei Museum of Art, Whangarei

2024

ἡλίουοὐανH əyɪ ˈyo, Whangarei Museum of Art, Whangarei
Jon Rafman: Nine Eyes of Google Street View, Kunsthalle Praha, Prague
Breaking the Void, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taipei
Player Character, Basement Roma, Rome

2023

Jon Rafman, Tick Tack, Antwerp
εἰσέρρηχ εἰλε, Neon Parc, Melbourne
Ebrah K'dabri, Sprüth Magers, London
Minor Daemon, 180 The Strand, London

2022

Counterfeit Poast, Sprüth Magers, Berlin
Egregores and Grimoires, Schinkel Pavillon, Berlin
ARBITER OF WORLDS, Ordet, Milan

2021

Minor Daemon Vol. I, MAXXI – Museo nazionale delle arti del XXI secolo, Rome
You, the World and I, by Jon Rafman, La Casa Encendida, Madrid
Dream Journal 2016–2019, Oval Office - Schauspielhaus, Bochum

2020

Annex: Jon Rafman - The Dream Journal, Centraal Museum Utrecht, Utrecht

2019

Jon Rafman: Dream Journal 2016-2017, Fri Art Kunsthalle, Fribourg

2018

Ry David Bradley & Jon Rafman - Letmein, HEART Herning Museum of Contemporary Art, Herning

The Ride Never Ends - Video Installation for Balenciaga's Spring-Summer 2019 Runway Show, Paris
The Mental Traveler, Fondazione Modena Arti Visive, Italy

2017

Dream Journal '16 -'17, Sprüth Magers, Berlin
Jon Rafman / Stan VanDerBeek, Sprüth Magers, Los Angeles
Erysichthon, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Tel Aviv

2016

I have Ten Thousand Compound Eyes and Each is Named Suffering, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam
Jon Rafman, Westfälischer Kunstverein, Munster

2015

Zabludowicz Collection Annual Commission: Jon Rafman, Zabludowicz Collection, London
Jon Rafman, Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, Montréal

2014

Hope Springs Eternal II, Galerie Antoine Ertaskiran, Montréal
Mainsqueeze, Plymouth Rock, Zurich
The End of the End of the End, Contemporary Art Museum, Saint Louis

2013

You Are Standing in An Open Field, Zach Feuer Gallery, New York City
A Man Digging, Seventeen Gallery, London
Annals of Time Lost, Future Gallery, Berlin

2012

The Nine Eyes of Google Street View, Saatchi Gallery, London

Group Exhibitions

2026

XX, Neon Parc Melbourne

2024

Lucid Dreams, The Israel Museum, Jerusalem
Data Minds, The Lock-Up, Newcastle
Poetics of Encryption, Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Copenhagen
Streetspace Bangers, Kunsthalle Recklinghausen, Recklinghausen
Phantom Vision, Light Art Museum, Budapest
Manifesto of Memory, Paxos Biennale, Paxos
Hybrides: Composite Creatures from Myths, Sagas and Legends, Warande, Turnhout, Belgium
Per Speculum. Intelligence and its Double, Fondazione Spazio Vitale, Verona
Ways of Seeing, Dusseldorf Photo+ Biennale for Visual and Sonic Media, Dusseldorf
Convolutions, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taipei
Launching a New Era: Body and Language as Manifesto, Yuan Art Museum, Beijing
Poetics of Encryption, KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin

2023

The Irreplaceable Human, Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebaek
Double Phantasy, Lubov, New York City
Modal A/W Exhibition: Web to Verse, Modal Gallery at SODA – School of Digital Arts, Manchester
A Supercriatividade na era da Inteligencia Artificial, Museu do Amanhã, Rio de Janeiro

Fake Views – Eva & Franco Mattes, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt
Manifesto, Espace Niemeyer, Paris
Shouldn't You Be Working? Home–Work, Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan
Against Gravity. The Art of Machinima, 69th International Short Film Festival Oberhausen L'Argent dans l'Art, Monnaie de Paris
Expect the Unexpected, Kunstmuseum Bonn, Bonn
I'll be your Mirror: Art and the Digital Screen, Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, Texas
Interstices, Elevation 1049, Gstaad

2022

A Gateway to Possible Worlds, Centre Pompidou-Metz, Metz Cedex
Punctured Sky, Melbourne International Film Festival
angels on horseback, Lobe Block, Berlin
What a Wonderful World, MAXXI – Museo nazionale delle arti del XXI secolo, Rome
Beneath the Skin, Between the Machines, HOW Art Museum, Shanghai

2021

Digital Natives, TBC Concept, Tbilisi
Ticket to the Future, Kunstmuseum Bonn, Bonn
The 34th Ljubljana Biennale of Graphic Arts: Iskra Delta, International Centre of Graphic Arts, Ljubljana
Concrete, Tophane-I Amire Culture & Arts Center, Mimar Sinan Fine Art University, Istanbul
58th October Salon: The Dreamers, Belgrade Biennale, Serbia

2020

Bon Voyage! Reisen in der Kunst der Gegenwart, Ludwig Forum für internationale Kunst, Aachen
Le Cours des Choses, CAPC - Musée d'Art Contemporain, de Bordeaux, Bordeaux Cedex
Art in the Age of Anxiety, Sharjah Art Foundation, Arts Area, Sharjah
Me, Family, Mudam Luxembourg
Musée d'Art Moderne Grand-Duc Jean, Luxembourg-Kirchberg
Festival Hors Pistes 15e Édition, Centre Pompidou, Paris

2019

Shenzhen - Hong Kong Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism/Architecture, Shenzhen - Hong Kong
Tell me about yesterday tomorrow, NS-Dokumentationszentrum, München
The Assembled Human, Museum Folkwang, Essen
Leonard Cohen: A Crack in Everything, Nikolaj Kunsthal, Copenhagen
Black Cloud, Kyiv Biennial, Kiev
Phantom Plane, Cyberpunk in the Year of the Future, Tai Kwun Contemporary, Hong Kong
Serious Games, How Art Museum, Shanghai
HOMELAND, Ordet, Milan
The Coming World: Ecology as the New Politics 2030-2100, Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscow
Chicago Underground Film Festival, The Logan Theatre, Chicago
May You Live in Interesting Times - 58th International Art Exhibition, La Biennale di Venezia, Venice
Sharjah Biennial 14: Leaving the Echo Chamber, Sharjah Art Foundation, Arts Area, Sharjah

2018

Fields of Invisibility, Sesc Belezinho, Sao Paulo
6th Athens Biennale ANTI, Athens Biennale, Athens
Low Form, MAXXI – Museo nazionale delle arti del XXI secolo, Rome
Ghost:2561, Bangkok
Hot to See (What Isn't There), Langen Foundation, Neuss
Virtual Insanity, Kunsthalle Mainz
Playlist, Galerie Antoine Ertaskiran, Montreal

I Was Raised on the Internet, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago
Unlimited, Art Basel
Alone Together, Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal
Your North is My South, Museum für Neue Kunst, Freiburg
A World in a Grain of Sand: Mapping Shapes and Sites for Social Geometries, Atlantis, Sanya
State of Play: Roleplay Reality, Fact, Liverpool
Blind Faith, Haus der Kunst, Munich
Our Thing, Galerie Antoine Ertaskiran, Montréal
Art in the Age of the Internet, 1989 to Today, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston

2017

Still Human, Rubell Family Collection, Miami
Leonard Cohen: A Crack in Everything, Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal
Suspended Animation, Les Abattoirs, Toulouse
Dream Machines, James Cohan Gallery, New York City
GENERATION LOSS: 10 Years Julia Stoschek Collection, Julia Stoschek Collection, Dusseldorf
Bomarzo - Scenic Design, Teatro Real, Madrid
Mutations, High Line Art, New York City
.COM/.CN – CO-PRESENTED BY KAF AND MOMA PS1, K11 Art Foundation, Shanghai
After Us, K11 Art Foundation, Shanghai
Hello World! Art after the Internet, Museum of Contemporary Art - Kiasma, Helsinki Sharjah Biennial, Sharjah
21 Artists Shortlisted for the Future Generation Art Prize, Pinchuk Art Centre, Kiev Frieze Projects, Frieze, New York City

2016

Why The Performance?, Shanghai Ming Contemporary Art Museum, Shanghai
Under Arms: Fire & Forget 2, Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt
Omül Negru, Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles
Public, Private, Secret, International Center of Photography, New York City
Omül Negru, Nicodim Gallery, Bucharest
What People Do For Money, Manifesta 11: The European Biennial of Contemporary Art, Zurich
Posthumous Lives, Galerie Maria Bernheim, Zurich
The Present in Drag – 9th Berlin Biennale, Berlin Biennale for Contemporary Art, Akademie der Künste, ESMT European School of Management and Technology, KW
Welt am Draht, Julia Stoschek Collection, Dusseldorf
The Human Option – Bodies | Spheres | Apparatuses, Zeppelin Museum Friedrichshafen
Dreaming Mirrors Dreaming Screens, Sprüth Magers, Berlin
Electronic Superhighway, Whitechapel Gallery, London

2015

Mankind/Machinekind, Krinzinger Projekte, Vienna
Welcome to the Jungle, KW Institute for Contemporary Art - , KUNST-WERKE BERLIN e. V.
Image Objects, Public Art Fund at City Hall Park, New York City
Fire and Forget: On Violence, HAU Hebbel am Ufer, Berlin
Grand Tour, Feuer Mesler Gallery, New York City
Field Vision, Future Gallery, Berlin
The Future of Memory, Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna

2014

21 Artists Shortlisted for the Future Generation Art Prize 2014, Pinchuk Art Centre, Kiev
Surface Modeling, Kerstin Engholm Gallery, Vienna
Private Settings: Art After the Internet, Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw
Biennale Architettura 2008: 14th International Architecture Exhibition, La Biennale di Venezia, Venice

Science Fiction: New Death, FACT, Liverpool
Art Post-Internet, UCCA Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing
Speaking Through Paint: Hans Hofmann's Legacy, Lori Bookstein, New York City
What Is a Photograph?, International Center of Photography, New York City
FIAC Projects 2014, Jardin des Tuileries, Paris

2013

ANAMERICANA, American Academy in Rome
Speculations on Anonymous Materials, Museum Fridericianum, Kassel
Drone: The Automated Image, Le Mois de la Photo, Montréal

2012

The Skin We're In, Yossi Milo Gallery, New York City
MMXII BNPJ, American Medium, New York City
Moscow Photo Biennale, Manege Moscow

2010

Free, The New Museum, New York City

2005

8th Lyon Biennial of Contemporary Art, Biennale de Lyon, Lyon

Bibliography

2026

Chris Erik Thomas, 'You Don't Know You Know This Balenciaga-Backed Artist', HighSnobiety

2025

Grant Edward Tyler 'Jon Rafman: Virtual Flânerie', Flash Art Magazine, April 10, 2025
Eileen Havant Townsend and Pat Williams, 'Duelling Reviews: Jon Rafman (At Spruth Magers)', Artillery Magazine', May 14, 2025
Claire Koron Elat, 'on Rafman: When Dreams Become Reality They Turn Into Nightmares', Magazine 032c, December 19, 2025

2024

Sinziana Ravini, 'Jon Rafman's paranoid pandemoniums', Nuda Paper, April 24, 2024

2023

Dasha Nekrasova, 'Jon Rafman and Dasha Nekrasova on the Horror We Call Life', Interview Magazine, December 15, 2023
Lorenzo Ottone, 'Artificial bestiary for a collapsing present', NR World, Spring/Summer, p24

2022

Susanna Zhao, 'Jon Rafman: An Anthology of Internet Subcultures', Business & Arts, March 24, 2022

2020

Bret Schneider, 'Notes on Jon Rafman's Dream Journal', Caesura Magazine, October 26, 2020

2019

Paulina Brelinska, 'Explorer and wanderer: Mapping of Jon Rafman', XIBT Magazine, August, 2019

2018

Sid Feddema, 'Jon Rafman: If we spend as much time on the internet as we do off of it, where do we actually live?', Flaunt
Keller/Kosmas (Aids-3d), 'JON RAFMAN, interview by Keller/Kosmas (Aids-3d)', Kaleidoscope

2016

Bret Schneider, 'The Refracting Eye On: Jon Rafman', CURA, 2016
Introduction to catalog by Kevin McGarry, 2016
Infinite Lives: The online Anthropology of Jon Rafman by Gary Zhexi Zhang, Frieze, 2016

2015

This Is Where It Ends: The Denouement of Post-Internet Art in Jon Rafman's Deep Web by
Saelan Twerdy, Momus, 2015
Michael Nardone, 'Jon Rafman and Daniel Lopatin "Sticky Drama"', Vdrome
Oli Sorenson, 'Jon Rafman', Esse Magazine issue 85

2014

Gabriel Sanchez, 'Interview with Jon Rafman', Artforum, July 3, 2014
Kenta Murakami, 'Jon Rafman: Experiencing the Sublime in Google Street View, Digital America

2013

Interview with Pin-Up, 2013
Interview with New York Times Mag, 2013
Frieze Review of A Man Digging by Galit Mana, 2013
Lauren Cornell on Remember Carthage, 2013
Interview with Creator's Project, 2013
Galit Mana, 'John Rafman', Frieze, September 07, 2013

2012

Walter Forsberg, Jieun An, Seth Anderson, Caitlin Hammer, Rufus de Rham, Marie Lascu, Taylor McBride,
Bono Olgado & Crystal Sanchez, 'Interview with Jon Rafman', Incite Online, March 21, 2012
'Interview: Jon Rafman, The lack of history in the post-Internet age', Marc Feustel, May 4, 2012

2011

Interview with Aids-3D (Dan Keller & Nik Kosmas), Kaleidoscope, 2011
Kelly Bourdet, 'Gchatting Jon Rafman About Second Life Films, Professional Gaming and the Future of Online
Personae', Vice, November 9, 2011
Rhizome: Codes of Honor, 2011
'Brand New Paint Job' catalog by Domenico Quaranta, 2011 (pdf)

2010

Interview with Lodown Magazine, 2010 (pdf)
Lindsay Howard, 'Revealing Jon Rafman', Bomb Magazine, July 8, 2010

2009

'IMG MGMT - The Nine Eyes of Google Street View' essay, 2009
16 Google Street Views booklet, 2009 (pdf)

2008

Nicholas O'Brien, 'Interview with Jon Rafman', Kool-Aid Man in Second Life

Public Collections

Banque Nationale, Montreal

Burger Collection, Hong Kong
Centraal Museum, Utrecht
Dallas Art Museum, Dallas
Fosun Foundation Collection, Shanghai
Julia Stoschek Collection, Dusseldorf
Kadist Foundation, Paris and San Francisco
Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebaek
MAXXI – Museo nazionale delle arti del XXI secolo, Rome Moderna Museet, Stockholm
Musée des beaux-arts de Montreal
Musée d'art Contemporain de Montreal Museo d'arte Contemporanea Roma, Rome
Museum of Modern Art, New York
National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa
RBC Collection, Toronto
Rubell Family Collection, Miami
Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam
Ville de Montreal
Zabludowicz Collection, London

Grants and Awards

2018

Soeby Award (shortlist)

2016

Long-Term Grant to Visual Artists, Canada Council for the Arts

2015

Soeby Award (shortlist)

Soeby Award (longlist)

Pierre Ayot Award, Ville de Montréal

2014

Future Generation Prize, Pinchuk Foundation, Kiev (shortlist)

2012

Media Arts Project Grant, Canada Council for the Arts