

Christopher Kulendran Thomas  
*New Eelam*, 2018  
in collaboration with Annika Kuhlmann

*I was raised on the internet*  
Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago  
curated by Omar Kholeif



Christopher Kulendran Thomas, *New Eelam*, 2018  
in collaboration with Annika Kuhlmann  
Installation view: 'I was raised on the internet', MCA Chicago;  
Courtesy the artist



Christopher Kulendran Thomas, *New Eelam*, 2018  
in collaboration with Annika Kuhlmann  
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Courtesy the artist



Christopher Kulendran Thomas, *NE\_HYDRO\_03*, 2018  
in collaboration with Annika Kuhlmann  
featuring 'Skin Deep II' (2014) by Asela Gunasekara (purchased from  
Art Space Sri Lanka)  
Installation view: 'I was raised on the internet', MCA Chicago;  
Courtesy the artist



Christopher Kulendran Thomas, *NE\_HYDRO\_01*, 2018  
in collaboration with Annika Kuhlmann  
featuring 'Skin Deep I' (2014) by Asela Gunasekara (purchased from  
Art Space Sri Lanka)



Christopher Kulendran Thomas, *NE\_HYDRO\_02*, 2018  
and Christopher Kulendran Thomas, *NE\_LB\_09*, 2017  
both in collaboration with Annika Kuhlmann  
Installation view: 'I was raised on the internet', MCA Chicago;  
Courtesy the artist



Detail view: Christopher Kulendran Thomas, *NE\_HYDRO\_01*, 2018  
in collaboration with Annika Kuhlmann

## Exhibition label:

Christopher Kulendran Thomas

*New Eelam*, 2018

in collaboration with Annika Kuhlmann

Experience suite with videos, hydroponic home-farming systems, lightbox, website and 'Skin Deep I' (2014) & 'Skin Deep II' (2014) by Asela Gunasekara (both purchased from Art Space Sri Lanka)

With the generous support of The Plant, Happy Leaf, Blu Dot, Exhibition Flooring and Schlep

Courtesy of the artist

Commissioned by the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago.

With thanks to DIS; Tensta konsthall, Stockholm; Institute for Modern Art, Brisbane; Hamburger Bahnhof - Museum für Gegenwart, Berlin

This installation is a "concept space" for a real estate technology company being developed by artist Christopher Kulendran Thomas. *New Eelam* is a long-term artwork in the form of a startup, based on a distributed evolution of housing co-operatives. Drawing its name from the once self-governed – but now non-existent – homeland from which the artist's Sri Lankan Tamil family originates, this venture imagines the future of citizenship in an era of technologically accelerated dislocation. Bringing together specialists across the fields of technology, real estate, finance, art, and architecture, the company is prototyping a new form of flexible global housing – based on collective access rather than individual ownership and featuring modular sustainable architecture such as the hydroponic systems presented here. For more information, visit: [new-eelam.com](http://new-eelam.com)

A film commissioned by the MCA explores how a post-capitalist economic model could be grown *out of* the existing economic system rather than in opposition to it.

Visit [mcachicago.org/internetcaptions](http://mcachicago.org/internetcaptions) for an accessible transcript of this work.

## Exhibited works

Christopher Kulendran Thomas

*NE\_MV\_01-04*, 2018

in collaboration with Annika Kuhlmann

HD video, 6:00 min

Written & Directed by Christopher Kulendran Thomas

Edited & Directed by Annika Kuhlmann

with the assistance of Sabrina Labis

Animation by Jan-Peter Giesecking

Research by Annika Kuhlmann and Leonie Alpheus

Sound design, mix and mastering by Toni Quiroga

Commissioned by the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago

Christopher Kulendran Thomas

*60 million Americans can't be wrong*, 2018

in collaboration with Annika Kuhlmann

HD video, 27:15 min

Written & Directed by Christopher Kulendran Thomas

Edited & Directed by Annika Kuhlmann

with the assistance of Sabrina Labis, Anh Trieu, Jan-Peter Giesecking, Mark

Reynolds and Gregorio Pirolini

Animation by Jan-Peter Giesecking

Sound design by Annika Kuhlmann with Jo Thalmeyer, Toni Quiroga,

Paloma Pyip

Sound mix and master by Jo Thalmeyer, Damian Press

Sound recording by Farid Leonhartsberger

Research by Emma Siemens, Pauline Doutreluingne and Leonie Alpheus

Filmed partly on location within the video game 'Rust', during an in-game artists' residency convened by The Mycological Twist, with Anne de Boer, Eloïse Bonneviot, Joey Holder, Agatha Valkyrie Ice (Dorota Gawęda and Eglé Kulbokaitė), Anna Mikkola, Gaile Pranckunaite, Riverside and Viktor Timofeev. Thanks to Anne de Boer and Eloïse Bonneviot

With thanks to DIS; Tensta konsthall, Stockholm; Institute for Modern Art, Brisbane

Christopher Kulendran Thomas

*NE\_LB\_09*, 2017

in collaboration with Annika Kuhlmann

Backlit tension display, aluminum frame

Design: Manuel Bürger, Simon Schindele

Photography: Joseph Kadow

59x88.5 inch (150x225 cm)

With thanks to Hamburger Bahnhof - Museum für Gegenwart, Berlin

Christopher Kulendran Thomas

*NE\_HYDRO\_01*, 2018

in collaboration with Annika Kuhlmann

Aluminum, plywood, steel, silicone, latex, water, pump, clay, grow lights,  
various plants

54x54x102 inch (137x137x259 cm)

With thanks to the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago

Christopher Kulendran Thomas

*NE\_HYDRO\_02*, 2018

in collaboration with Annika Kuhlmann

Aluminum, plywood, steel, silicone, latex, water, pump, clay, grow lights,  
various plants

102x54x102 inch (259x137x259 cm)

With thanks to the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago

Christopher Kulendran Thomas

*NE\_HYDRO\_03*, 2018

in collaboration with Annika Kuhlmann

Aluminum, plywood, steel, silicone, latex, water, pump, clay, grow lights,  
various plants

54x153x102 inch (137x389x259 cm)

With thanks to the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago