

Biography

Ajay Jennings is a contemporary artist based in Naarm/Melbourne, Australia, whose creative journey began amidst the vibrant landscapes of the Mornington Peninsula. There, surrounded by renowned surf breaks and beaches, Ajay developed an affinity for sketching, a practice that remains central to his artistic process today. Drawing serves as both a tool for creative ideation and a therapeutic outlet across his diverse mediums, from self-published artist books to vibrant canvases and innovative garment design.

Exploring themes of abstraction and the expressive potential of art, Ajay's work is a visceral reflection of his daily life. His compositions, whether on canvas or denim, evolve through intuitive processes of addition, subtraction, and reinterpretation of color and form. Ajay graduated with a Bachelor of Design in Communication Design in 2016 and has since balanced freelance design work for global brands like Patagonia and VICE with his artistic endeavours.

For the last decade, Ajay has been living with Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME/CFS), a complex and often misunderstood illness whereby he experiences debilitating fatigue for days, weeks, and sometimes, months at a time. In 2023, his condition worsened eventuating in a complete cessation of his many creative pursuits.

In 2024, Ajay experienced a significant improvement in his health and began creating a body of work that explores ME/CFS while documenting his own recovery process. The first part of this work is a collage series titled Dormant Tree. The second is a publication of drawings made from bed, Repeat After Me.

In 2025, Ajay faced a major relapse and has since been largely bed- or homebound. He is currently focusing on recovery for the foreseeable future.

Education

2011–2016 Bachelor of Design (Communication Design), RMIT, Melbourne

Solo exhibitions

2024 Repeat After ME, online exhibition

2024 Dormant Tree, online exhibition

2021 Étranger, Missing Persons, Melbourne

2019 Saturn Returns, Gallery Boot, Fitzroy

2018 Hooroo, Hot & Cold studios, Brunswick East

2017 Monkey Back, Spurs, Brunswick

2015 Australian Escape, The Nook, Mornington

Selected group exhibitions

2025 Clock Walk, Threshold Projects, Brunswick East

2023 Exterminating Pencil Vol.4, Cathedral Cabinet X Caves, Melbourne

2023 Urban Oasis, Melbourne Fashion Festival, Royal Exhibition Building

2022 Cathedral Cabinet Fundraiser

2022 Good Art Show, Currumbin Waters

2022 Art X Fashion, Melbourne Fashion Week, State Library Victoria

2022 Independent Runway, Melbourne Fashion Festival, Collingwood Yards

2020 Disorder, At The Above, Fitzroy

2018 Variations, Collins Place Gallery, Melbourne

2018 A Liminal Space, Collingwood Arts Precinct

2017 Back and Dead, Junior Space, Fitzroy

2017 ONE, Junior Space, Fitzroy

2017 Works Between 3 Friends, Spurs, Brunswick

2016 Pink Lemon, Mycelium Studios, Collingwood

2014 North South East West, The Light Factory gallery, Eltham

Press

2023 The designers redefining what 'new' clothes look like, The Age

2022 'Antipodeans' pays homage to the unique beauty of Australian fashion, Fashion Journal

2021 The magic of Naarm-based fashion label Moss Tunstall, Fashion Journal

2020 Moss Tunstall's second life denim, Acclaim Magazine