

# KURT NAHAR

THAT WHICH I HAVE FOUND, BECOMES MINE  
SOLO EXHIBITION

10 August – 2 September 2023



Kurt Nahar, *'That which I have found, becomes mine'*, Mixed media installation, 2023



Kurt Nahar

*'That which I have found, becomes mine'*

Mixed media installation

2023

'In this installation I have brought different cultures together based on the concept of **Alakondre**. It is actually a marriage between those cultures, hence the red wedding sari in the middle, which is normally worn by the bride during a Hindu wedding. I also placed various objects that can be used in offerings and rituals to ask Mother Earth and the Almighty for blessings and a good future for Suriname. The butterflies bring life and brightness, and the blue color represents hope.'



The cow's jaws refer to the sacred cow in Hinduism. We humans often pretend to be holy, but how holy are we really? We usually keep our sexual desires and fantasies hidden from the outside world. When it comes to its fulfillment, there is often a gap between men and women.

Many men view women as sex objects and are only focused on their own pleasure. This creates frustrations within a relationship, which often leads to the relationship breaking down.

*Kaikeyi*, 2023

Cow's jaw, aluminum rods  
and acrylic on canvas  
125 x 125 cm



***Prajanana***, 2023  
Dried paint collaged  
and acrylic on canvas  
125 x 125 cm



Kurt Nahar, Solo 'That which I have found, becomes mine', exhibition overview, 2023



This work is inspired by a song by the music formation Kankantri: Wan dei mi boto sa doro (One day my boat will arrive).

The work refers to our ancestors who came to Suriname by boat from Africa and elsewhere. They are no longer here, but they have left us their values, norms and ideas.

We as the current generation are now on our way in 'the boat of life' and it is up to us what we do with their heritage. One day we too will arrive at the shore (death), so that the generation after us can continue with what we leave behind for them. Until they too reach the shore and the cycle repeats itself...

***22 one day one day***, 2023  
 Acrylic, small artwork  
 with a key on canvas  
 125 x 125 cm

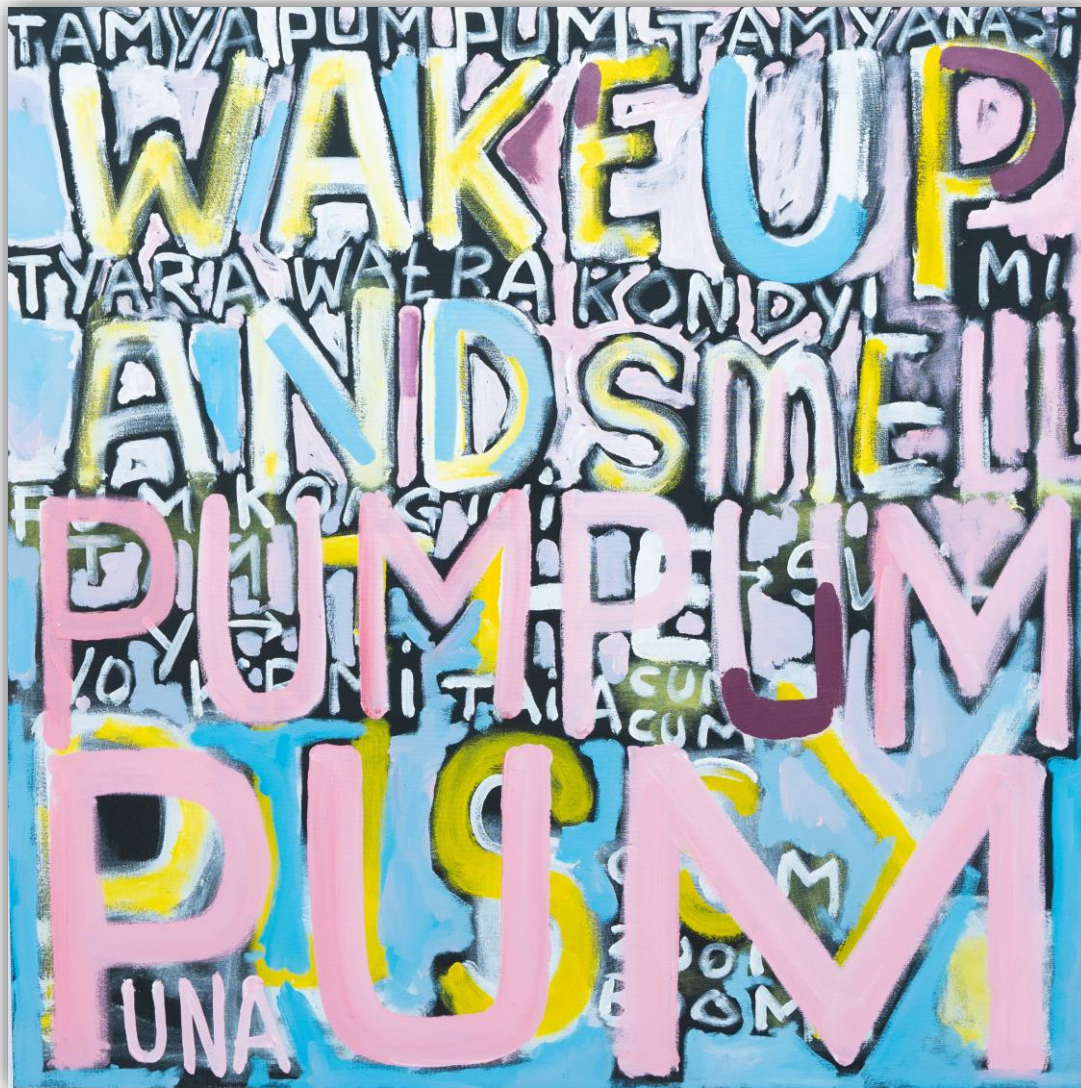




**Kurt Nahar**  
***'Back 2 Back'***  
**Mixed media installation**  
**2023**

With this work, in which Patois, Sranan and English are mixed together, Kurt points out the importance of preserving our traditions and sayings. In Jamaica, traditions and views of the past are part of the school curriculum and this gives an extra strength to the people. This is not the case in Suriname.

What do we do with our ancestral heritage? Modernity takes over and the old is lost. An object from the past is more than just the object, it carries a story with it. But how much time do we take to listen to grandma or grandpa's stories about it?



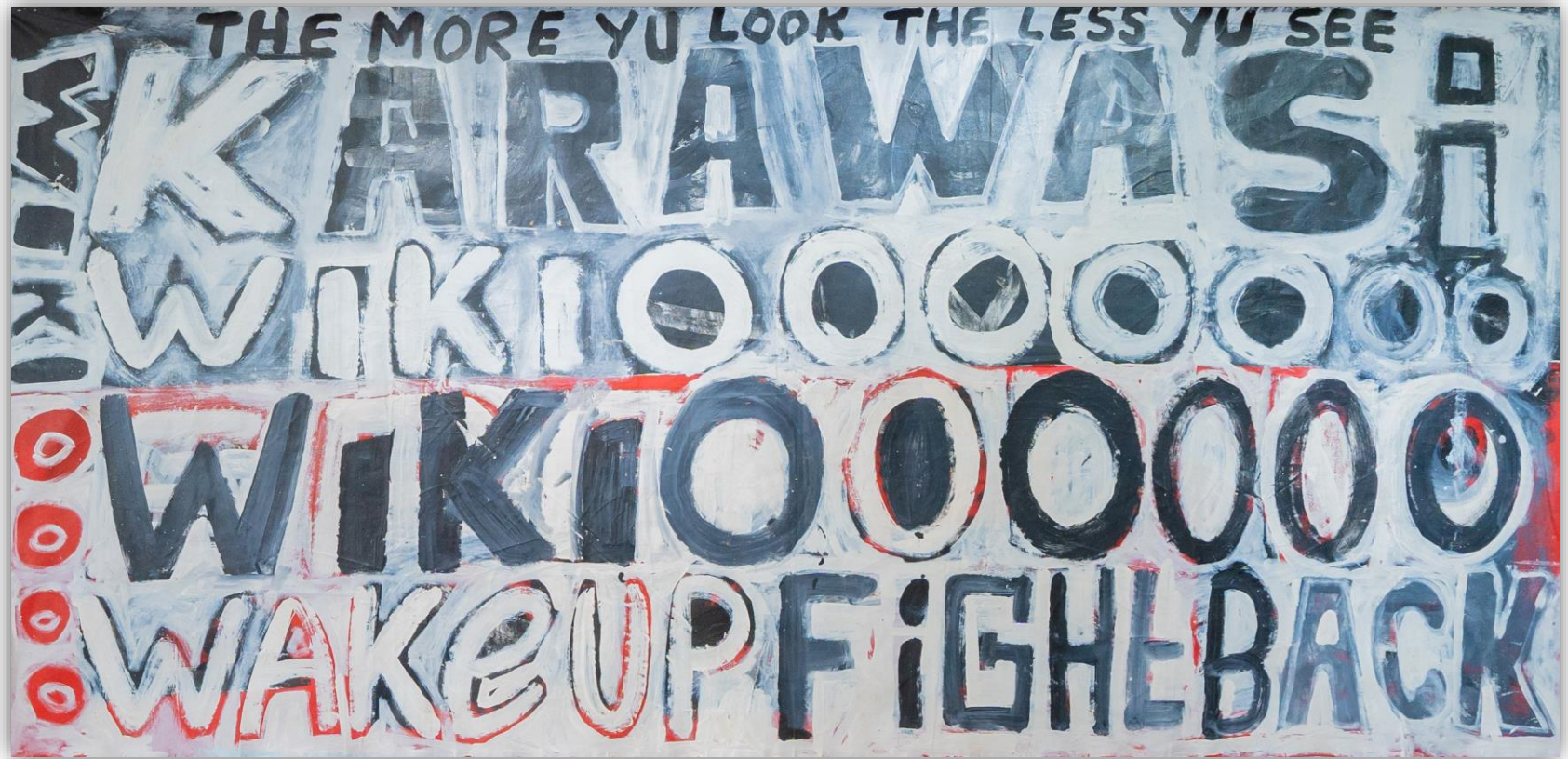
*Wake up and smell  
the punani, 2023*  
Acrylic on canvas  
125 x 125 cm



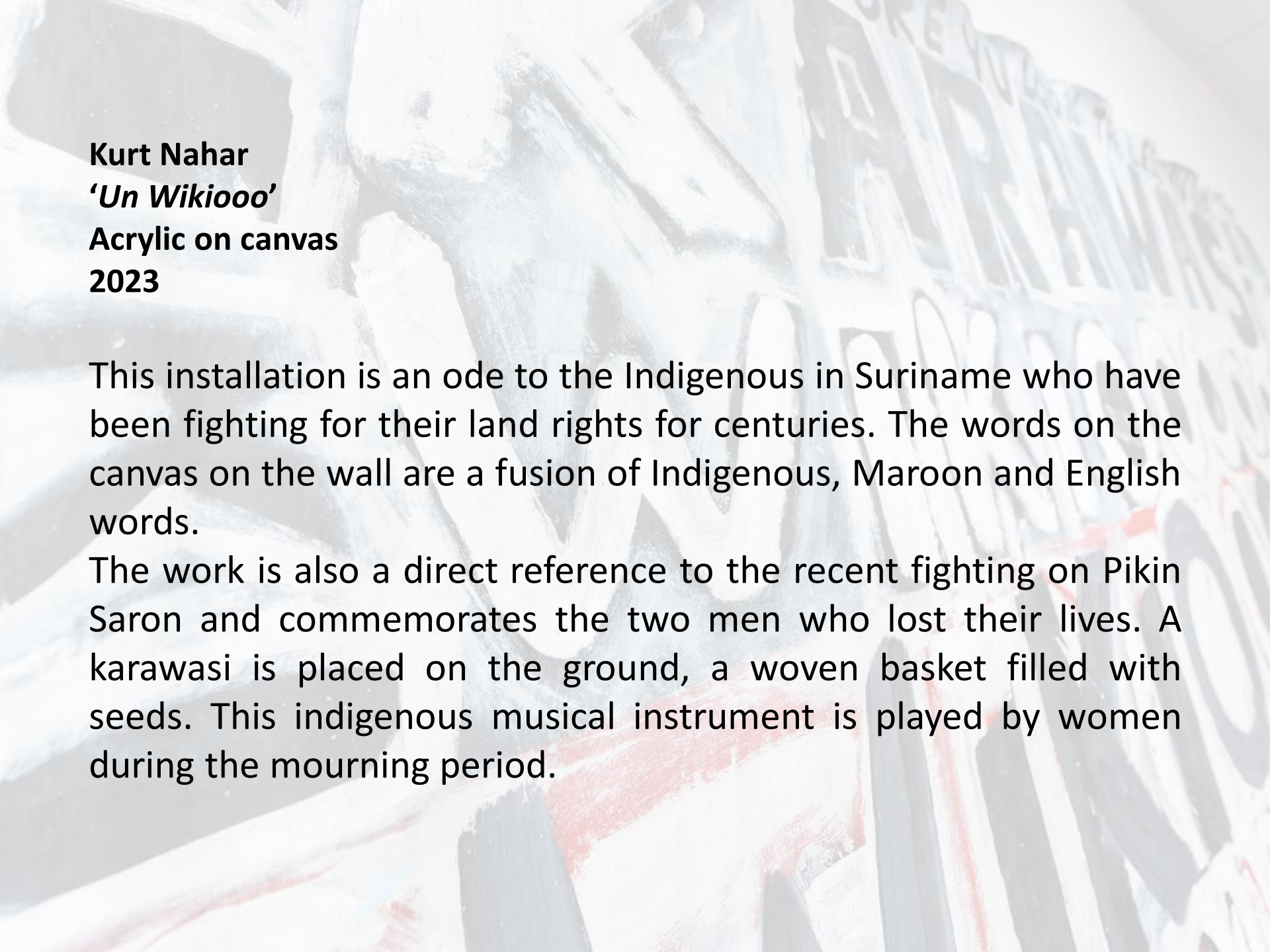
*Charm-sukh kya hota hain, 2023*  
Acrylic on canvas  
125 x 125 cm



Kurt Nahar, Solo 'That which I have found, becomes mine', exhibition overview, 2023



*Un Wikiooo*, 2023  
Acrylic on canvas  
327.5 x 157 cm



**Kurt Nahar**  
**'Un Wikiooo'**  
**Acrylic on canvas**  
**2023**

This installation is an ode to the Indigenous in Suriname who have been fighting for their land rights for centuries. The words on the canvas on the wall are a fusion of Indigenous, Maroon and English words.

The work is also a direct reference to the recent fighting on Pikin Saron and commemorates the two men who lost their lives. A karawasi is placed on the ground, a woven basket filled with seeds. This indigenous musical instrument is played by women during the mourning period.



Kurt Nahar, Solo 'That which I have found, becomes mine', exhibition overview, 2023



The red-black mask represents the Yoruba god Elegua or Elegba, who is worshiped in the Caribbean and Latin America in the candomblé and santería religions, among others. In the winti religion he is known as Leba. For any ceremony or ritual, permission is first required from him to proceed.

He has the power to open the gate from the spiritual world to our world. At the same time, the mask also refers to the mask of people in everyday life and how they only show their real, often gruesome face when it comes to economic gain and status.

***Deadpool, 2023***

Acrylic, frying pan, wall clock,  
 rusted wheelbarrow

60 x 90 x 35 cm



“My father passed away, but we are still connected. I always carry his ideals, norms and values within me. When I miss him, which happens regularly, I drink a coke in his name, his favorite drink.”

The wooden drawer comes from the kitchen his father built, when Kurt and his wife moved into the house as newlyweds.

***Still in touch***, 2023  
Acrylic, cabinet drawer lid  
on canvas  
125 x 125 cm



## **Kurt Nahar (b. 1972, Paramaribo, Suriname)**

Kurt Nahar uses his art to express his thoughts about critical social and political issues in Suriname and abroad, in a bold and purposely confrontational manner. By doing so he hopes to break the trend of silent acceptance and aims to stimulate discussion. His technique is inspired by the era of Dadaism and collage techniques and everyday objects are thus characteristic elements in his art.

In his artworks he also explores the effects of colonialism, slavery, immigration, and diaspora on the shaping of identity and the perception of self and others, throughout the Caribbean and the Americas. As a result, his most recent works reflect a more personal journey through his own childhood memories and heritage.

Kurt Nahar received his art education in Suriname and in Jamaica, and has participated in exhibitions, art projects and residencies worldwide, including - since 2018 - the yearly international cultural exchange (ICE) projects of Miami based DVCAI (Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator).

# Thank you! Grantangi!

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