

Peter Sarwan

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Editor's Introduction

Portrait of HP: Peter Sarwan

Let's imagine we are zooming out to watch our parents' life in a place where they feel comfortable, where they move like fish in the water navigating cultural nuances, where their touch, feel, and smell are safe; where they predict the weather in the changing seasons, flavours of their favourite food, the scent and sound of the surrounding community. While you are observing them with this familiar calmness, you close your eyes and in that instant of a blink, all of a sudden everything changes. You are seeing them now in a faraway place that seems chaotic, unfamiliar sounds and smells, with neither support network nor familiar context, nor easily readable human fondness. The place where they feel strange, even lost, with traditions and meanings they have yet to decode. The place where they must make an effort to fit in.

Some time later, you are born in this place. A new life, new story. A new human being. Imagine, just imagine how different your life could be, just imagine how your sense of belonging could be affected, just imagine it as a real possibility.

For this Issue of Portrait of HP I had a great conversation with my colleague Peter Sarwan about how identity plays out in everyday life of a British Indo-Caribbean. On the one hand, we discussed how and whom we identify ourselves with, who we recognise as the most familiar. On the other, how one is seen in the eyes of the other: we approached the ways in which we are perceived by the society, how we are treated and what it means for us. How do the British and British Indo-Caribbean sit together?.

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I asked Peter what it means for him to be British. What is the unique “glue” that makes us similar, or even unite, if at all exists? No surprise, there was no universal answer. At last, we have started a dialogue, an exchange of ideas, experiences and even our sixth sense.

HP culture, the way we do things in HP, deeply moves and inspires Peter. He sees his dedication to DE&I as an opportunity to give back to the HP community, where through and thanks to his diverse background and visibility he attempts to influence, provide support and generate changes that promote diversity and accelerate inclusion.

This 12th Issue of Portrait of HP invites us to reflect on and discuss daily lives of people with diverse backgrounds, and indeed, it extends an invitation to look at the other with a little more gentle gaze.

Rodrigo Moctezuma
Portrait of HP Project Lead





Peter enjoys working in technology industry and retail in particular, but his most passionate about the cars. He loves road trips* all the way to continental Europe, with his family and friends.

Did you know that according to "BEIS Transport and Environment statistics" to drive from Glasgow to London by a petrol car - including for one person - generates less CO2 than flying. <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/transport-and-environment-statistics-2022/transport-and-environment-statistics-2022>



Over the last decade, Peter was mentioning the photo from his youth, with long hair and Washington Redskins jersey. At last, he has shared this image here.

I AM ME.



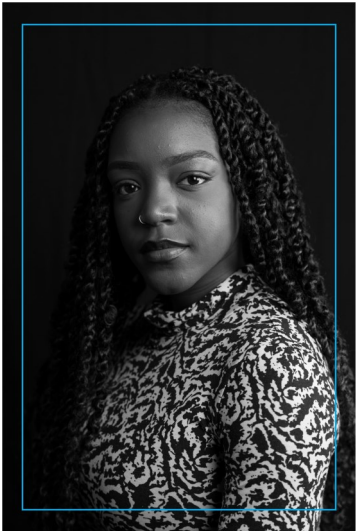
We have worked on an image that would visualise the rich history of diversity, with the result closest to Peter's heart. Without hesitating, he wrote 'I am me'.



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Amplify your DE&I impact



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Text translated from Spanish, reviewed and copy-edited by Gosia Polanska (Mojek).

Sop Rodchenvko is the artistic name of Rodrigo Moctezuma (Roddy).

www.SopRodchenvko.com

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