

# Yeesookyung

## Biography

Yeesookyung was born in 1963, and currently lives and works in Seoul, Korea. Working across video, installation, sculpture, drawing, the interdisciplinary artist emerged on the art scene in the 1990s, as part of a wave of young Korean artists experimenting with a wide range of mediums to express personal experiences in a rapidly modernizing Korea.

Best known for her acclaimed *Translated Vase* series, the project began with the remnants of disposed vases by a master Korean potter. The artist took the fragments of broken ceramic shards, seaming them together with epoxy and later hand-painting them with 24-carat gold leaf, resulting in simultaneously voluptuous yet fragile forms. Yeesookyung's amalgamation of Korean historical canon with elements of Western modernity is entirely idiosyncratic. Through this cycle of destruction and re-creation within each crevice of every porcelain fragment, Yeesookyung embeds the collective identity of Korean history and culture, re-interpreting the final piece for a wider western audience.

### Solo exhibitions

#### 2023

2023 - Translated Vase, MASSIMODECARLO Pièce Unique, Paris, France

#### 2020

2020 - I am not the only one but many, Massimo De Carlo, London, UK

#### 2019

2019 - Whisper only to you, Madre - Museo d'arte contemporanea Donnaregina e Museo e Real Bosco di Capodimonte, Napoli, I

#### 2016

2016 - Yeesookyung: Translated Vase, Locks Gallery, Philadelphia, USA

#### 2015

2015 - Yeesookyung: Contemporary Korean Sculpture, Asia Society Texas Center, Houston, USA

2015 - Saint Breeders, Atelier Hermès, Seoul, ROK

2015 - When I Become You, Daegu Art Museum, Daegu, ROK

2015 - When I Become You, Yeesookyung in Taipei, Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei, TW

#### 2014

2014 - The Meaning of Time, Locks Gallery, Philadelphia, USA

2014 - Take Me Home Country Roads, Space Willing N Dealing, Seoul, ROK

#### 2013

2013 - Flame, Ota Fine Arts, Singapore, SGP

#### 2012

2012 - Yeesookyung, Sindoh Art Gallery, Seoul, ROK

**2011**

2011 - Yeesookyung, Almine Rech Gallery, Brussels, B

**2010**

2010 - Jung Marie's Jeongga, Yeesookyung's Devotion, Arko Art Center, Seoul, ROK

**2009**

2009 - Yeesookyung, Thomas Cohn Gallery, São Paulo, BR

2009 - Yeesookyung, Ota Fine Arts, Tokyo, J

2009 - Yee Sookyung im Schloß Oranienbaum, Museum Schloß Oranienbaum, Dessau, D

**Group exhibitions****2023**

2023 - Portable Temple, Musée Cernuschi, Paris, F

2023 - Hidden Prophecy, curated by Yeesookyung, MASSIMODECARLO, VSpace, I

**2022**

2022 - Frieze Seoul, COEX, Seoul, Korea

2022 - Art Basel Hong Kong, Hong Kong Convention Center, Hong Kong, PRC

**2021**

2021 - Encounters Between Korean Art and Literature in the Modern Age, National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Deoksugung, Seoul, ROK

**2020**

2020 - Non Sculpture: Light or Flexible, Yongji Park, Gyeongsangnam-do, ROK

**2019**

2019 - FRAGMENTS OF FORM, Massimo De Carlo, Hong Kong, PRC

2019 - Being Human: an exhibition of modern sculpture, Bristol Museum & Art Gallery, Bristol, UK

2019 - Fragments of form, Massimo De Carlo, Hong Kong, HK

2019 - 50/50, Alternative Space Loop, Multiplex Art Salon, Seoul, ROK

2019 - To the Moon with Snoopy, Lotte Museum of Art, Seoul, ROK

2019 - Aspect of Korean Modern Sculpture, Seosomun Shrine History Museum, Seoul, ROK

**2018**

2018 - Far East Film Festival of Udine, Casa Cavazzini, Udine, I

2018 - Highlight K-Art, Culture-ICT Pavilion, PyeongChang Olympic Plaza, ROK

2018 - The Book of Disquiet, Gyeongnam Art Museum, Changwon, ROK

2018 - Exhibition Paradoxa. Art from Middle Korea, Casa Cavazzini, Udine, I

**2017**

2017 - VIVA ARTE VIVA, 57th Venice Biennale, Venezia, I

2017 - Real DMZ, DMZ Peace and Culture Square, Cheorwon-gun, ROK

2017 - Ghost, Daegu Art Museum, Daegu, ROK

**2016**

2016 - Pungryunamdo Art Project, Haengcheon Museum, Haenam, ROK

2016 - MMCA Gwacheon, 30 Years 1986-2016: As the Moon Waxes and Wanes, National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Gwacheon, ROK

2016 - Born in Flames: Korean Ceramics from the National Museum of Korea, The State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg, RUS

2016 - When Words Fail, HITE Collection, Seoul, ROK

2016 - Earth, Fire, Soul - Masterpieces of Korean Ceramics, Salon d'Honneur at the Grand Palais, Paris, F

2016 - Art from Elsewhere, Bristol Museum & Art Gallery and Arnolfini, Bristol, UK

2016 - Motions, Ota Fine Arts, Singapore, SGP

2016 - CERAMIX: Art and Ceramics from Rodin to Schütte, Cité de la Céramique, Sèvres, F

2016 - Art from Elsewhere, Towner Art Gallery, Eastbourne, UK

2016 - Rivers-The Way of Living in Transition / Asia Contemporary Art Links, Gallery 1 at Gwangju Biennale Hall, Gwangju, ROK

## **2015**

- 2015 - Reshaping Tradition: Contemporary Ceramics from East Asia, USC Pacific Asian Museum, Pasadena, USA
- 2015 - Water and Land - Niigata Art Festival, Closed school in Niigata, Niigata, J
- 2015 - My Blue China, Fondation d'entreprise Bernardaud, Limoges, F
- 2015 - Memories of artistic soul, Cheonan Arts Center Museum, Cheonan, ROK
- 2015 - Blessed Land, Yang Pyeong Art Center, Yang Pyeong, ROK
- 2015 - HaengChon Art Project, Daeheung Buddhist Museum, Baekryunsa, Gangjin, ROK
- 2015 - Rivers-The Way of Living in Transition, PIER-2 Art Center, Kaohsiung, TW
- 2015 - Accidental Encounter, Buk Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, ROK
- 2015 - Contemporary Art, Infiltrated into a Museum, Gyeonggi Provincial Museum, Youngin-si, ROK
- 2015 - Art and the Measure of Liberty, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations, New York, USA
- 2015 - [ana] please keep your eyes closed for a moment, Maraya Art Center, Sharjah, UAE
- 2015 - Paradox of Place: Contemporary Korean Art, Seattle Asian Art Museum, Seattle, USA
- 2015 - CERAMIX: Art and Ceramics from Rodin to Schütte, Bonnefantenmuseum, Maastricht, NL
- 2015 - Art from Elsewhere, Harris Museum & Art Gallery, Preston, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art, Middlesbrough, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, Birmingham, UK

## **2014**

- 2014 - Beyond and Between, Leeum, Samsung Museum of Art, Seoul, ROK
- 2014 - Art from Elsewhere, Gallery of Modern Art, Glasgow, UK
- 2014 - Jakarta Contemporary Ceramics Biennale, National Gallery of Indonesia, Jakarta, RI
- 2014 - Time of Resonance, Jeju Museum of Art, Jeju, ROK
- 2014 - From Corea to Korea, Fine Art Gallery Art Link, Seoul, ROK
- 2014 - Dual Natures in Ceramics, SFO Museum, San Francisco, USA
- 2014 - K-P.O.P. – Korean Contemporary Art, Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei, TW
- 2014 - Warmth, Culture Station 284, Seoul, ROK
- 2014 - Objectified: Sculpture Today, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK

# Bibliography

**2020**

Azzarello, Nina. "Interview with Korean artist Yeesookyung on emphasizing flaws with gold at Massimo De Carlo", *designboom*, October 2020.

# Public Collections

## **Hong Kong**

M+ Museum

## **Japan**

Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennial, Echigo-Tsumari  
Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, Fukuoka  
YU-UN Obayashi Collection, Tokyo

## **South Korea**

Acrovista, Seoul  
Byucksan Corporation, Seoul  
Gyeonggido Museum of Art, Ansan  
Kumho Museum of Art, Seoul  
National Museum of Contemporary Art, Gwacheon  
POSCO Museum, Pohang  
Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul  
Times Square, Seoul

## **Spain**

ARCO Collection, IFEMA, Madrid

## **Switzerland**

Uli Sigg Collection

## **Ukraine**

Mystetskyi Arsenal, Kyiv

## **United Arab Emirates**

Salama Bint Hamdan Al Nahyan Foundation, Abu Dhabi

## **United Kingdom**

Bristol Museum & Art Gallery, Bristol  
The British Museum, London

## **United States of America**

LACMA - Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles  
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia  
Princeton University, New Jersey  
Smart Museum of Art, The University of Chicago, Chicago  
Spencer Museum of Art, The University of Kansas, Lawrence