

Travelogue: Korea

Why Haven't We Been Here Before?

Korean Buddhism

Buddhism In Korea, was adopted as the state religion of 3 constituent polities of the Three Kingdoms Period, first by the Goguryeo (Gaya) in 372 CE, by the Silla in 528 CE, and by the Baekje in 552 CE. As it now stands, Korean Buddhism consists mostly of the **Seon Lineage**, primarily represented by the Jogye and Taego Orders.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dYm_ySyc6u4 (use this)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pyouCNCLY3c> (live in one)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BSlFEIBjyxA>

This video documents the creation of a Buddhist painting by the monk artist, Seol-min (formerly known as Jae-u), who has dedicated her life to keeping the tradition of Buddhist painting alive.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=thvh5PdR6yM> (good)















화산대

승려











Minwha—Korean Folk Painting

Minhwa refers to Korean folk art produced mostly by itinerant or unknown artists without formal training, emulating contemporary trends in fine art for the purpose of everyday use or decoration. The term "minhwa" was coined by Yanagi Muneyoshi. Minhwa literally means "painting of the people" or "popular painting".

Minhwa is **Korean traditional folk painting**, which traces its history back to the Joseon Dynasty (1392-1910). Minhwa, an artistic style that reflects the lives and spirits of Korean people, became widely popular during the 19th and 20th centuries

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZYndKzq6lgE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FonFpaWYal8> (good)



立春大吉

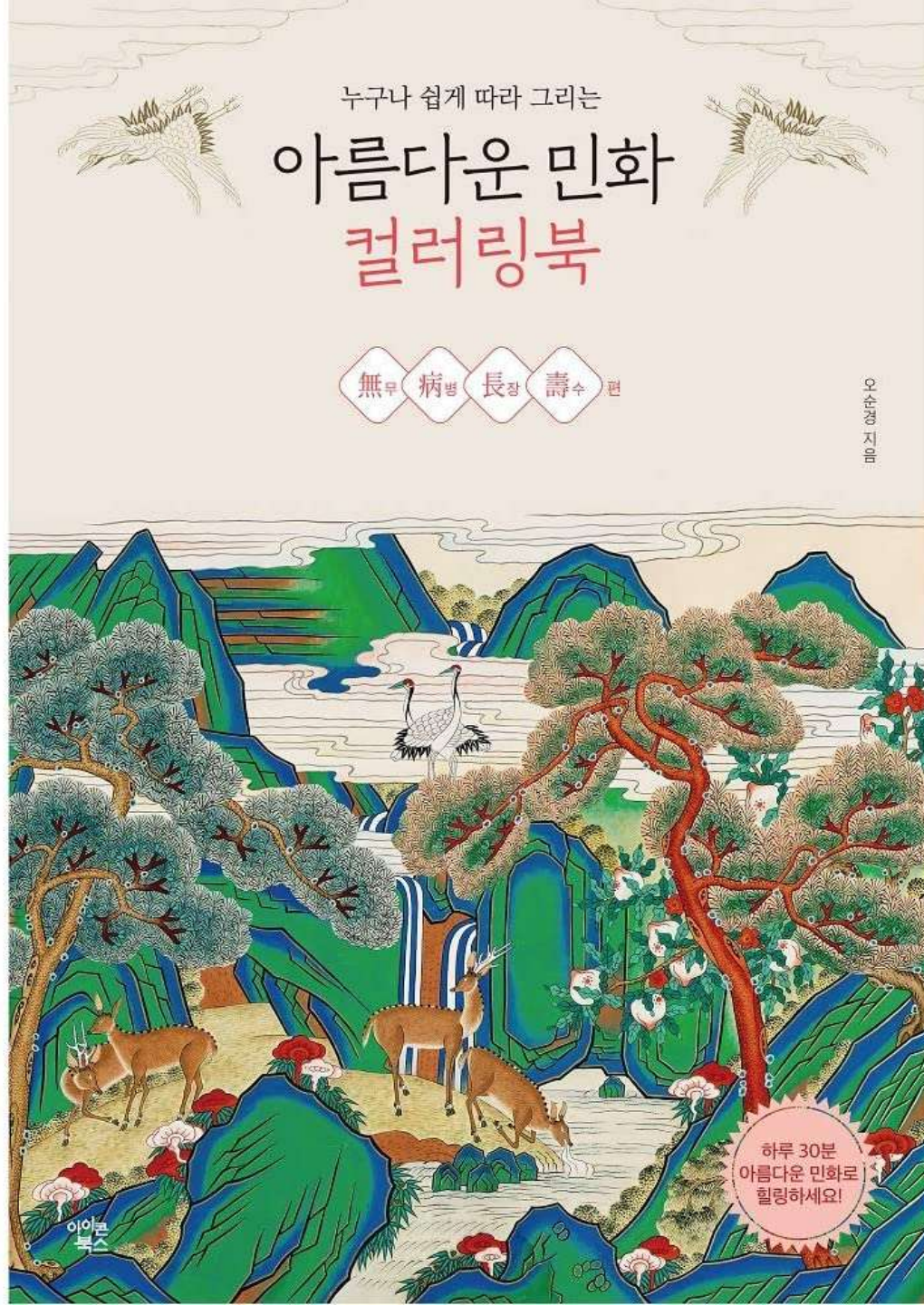
















Chaekkori Painting

“Chaekkori” or “chaekgeori” refers to a unique genre of Korean painting that proliferated in the Joseon era (1392-1910), depicting books and other assorted items on bookshelves.

Chaekgeori, translated as "books and things", is a genre of still-life features books as the dominant subject. The paintings of books and stationery laid on bookshelves give off a feeling of coziness and comfort, as if you were in a library.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cW9WzrrkFNk>

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=226557332281274>





9.3d (panel 8)



9.3d (panel 11)



9.3a (panel 6)



9.3c (panel 13)



9.3b (panel 16)



9.3d (panel 12)



9.3a (panel 9)



9.3c (panel 10)



Korean Lacquer

Lacquer was an important craft in Korea, and the most popular lacquer decoration was characterized by a dark background and inlaid mother-of-pearl. The design elements were often floral or geometric.

High-quality, finely detailed objects reflected an individual's status and refinement in Korean society.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dT8yXhCtfRM&t=166s> (inlay)

<https://www.nms.ac.uk/explore-our-collections/stories/world-cultures/korean-lacquer-box/> (restoration)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q55emDRUZUE> (red lacquer vessel)









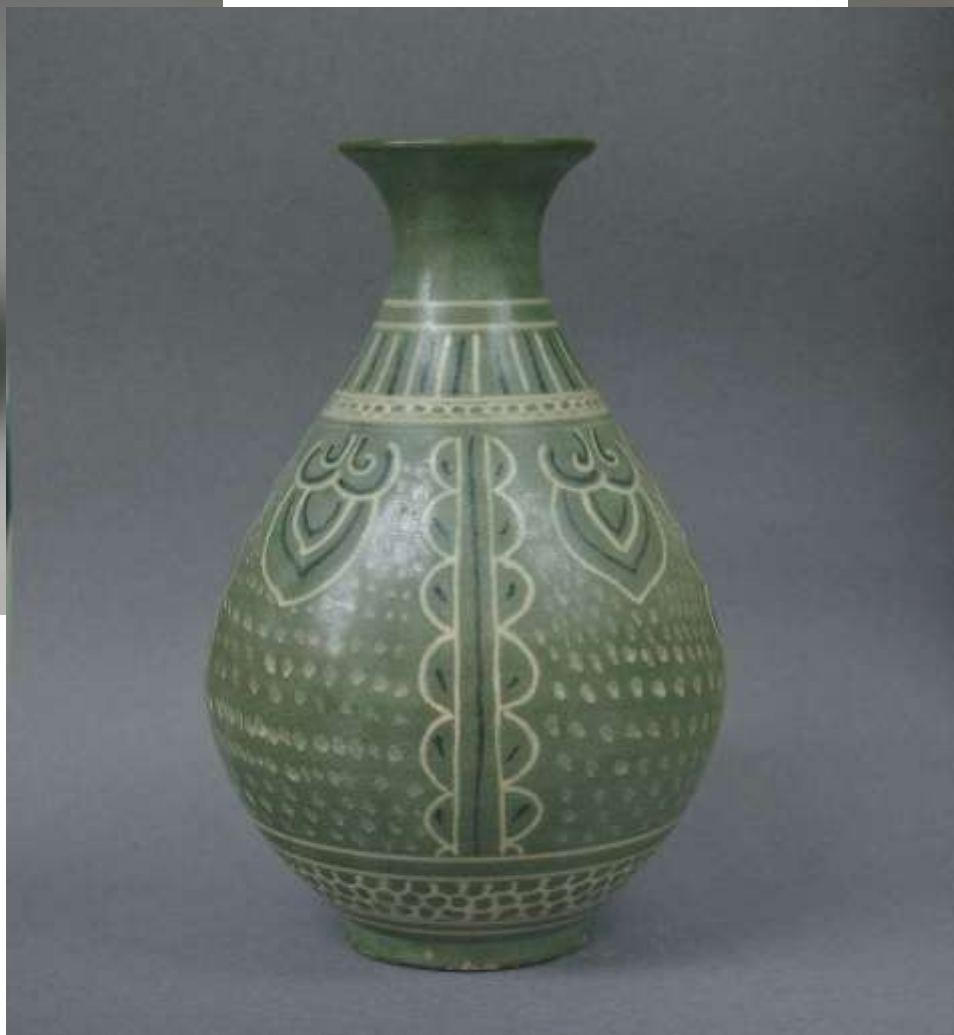


Korean Celadon Pottery

The celadon (or greenware) ceramics produced in ancient [Korea](#) during the [Goryeo Dynasty](#) (918-1392 CE), are regarded as some of the finest and most elegant [pottery](#) pieces produced anywhere. With a pale green lustre reminiscent of jade and a super smooth glaze [Goryeo](#) celadons remain some of the most prized collector's items in the world of ceramics.

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2vSpWt7qC_M











Hanji—Korean Paper

Korean paper or hanji is the name of traditional handmade paper from Korea. Hanji is made from the inner bark of *Broussonetia papyrifera* known colloquially as paper mulberry, a tree native to Korea that grows well on its rocky mountainsides, known in Korean as dak.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xYnK1urhVhw> (good)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x7mPGaaNMA>



Aimee Lee

Aimee Lee is an artist, papermaker, writer, and the leading hanji researcher and practitioner in North America. Her Fulbright research on Korean paper led to her award-winning book, [*Hanji Unfurled*](#) (The Legacy Press) and the first-ever American hanji studio, located in Cleveland. She teaches, lectures, exhibits, and is collected internationally.

<https://aimeelee.net/>

[Hanji](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fDM6E784Bxs> (good)



Contemporary Korean Art

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SSTnwl4pWxl>

Chun Kang Young



Seoul-based artist Chun Kwang Young (b. 1944, Hongcheon County, Korea) received his BFA from Hongik University in Korea in 1968 and MFA from the Philadelphia College of Art, USA in 1971. Known for his sculptural assemblages—both freestanding pieces and wall-hung low reliefs—Chun composes his forms from a myriad of small shapes wrapped in Korean mulberry paper. With a trompe l'oeil quality, his sculptures create the illusion of depth and coalescence and, ultimately, represent the harmony and conflict in the unity of many.

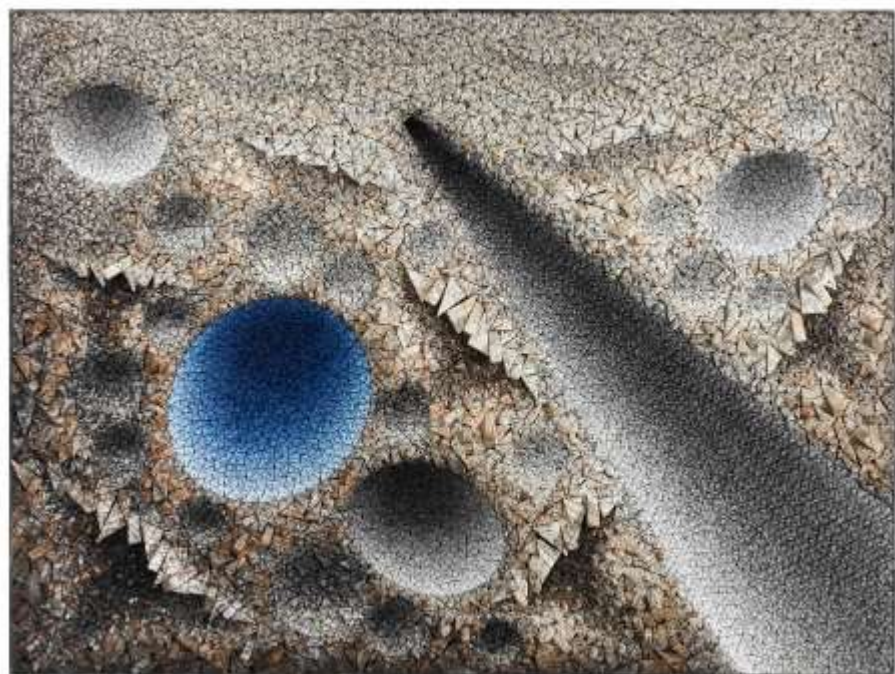
Inspired by childhood memories of clusters of medicine packages, wrapped in mulberry paper and hung from the ceiling at the clinic, Chun Kwang Young began using this material in his works, deeply imbuing them with distinctly Korean connotations and sensibilities. His well-known sculptural *Aggregations* feature hand-cut triangles of polystyrene, individually wrapped in delicate mulberry paper pages torn from old books. The result is a strikingly textured low-relief wall work, both visually and materially. Chun also works with monumental sculptural pieces that feature sensuous surfaces rippling with texture, either suspended from the ceiling or rising from the ground.

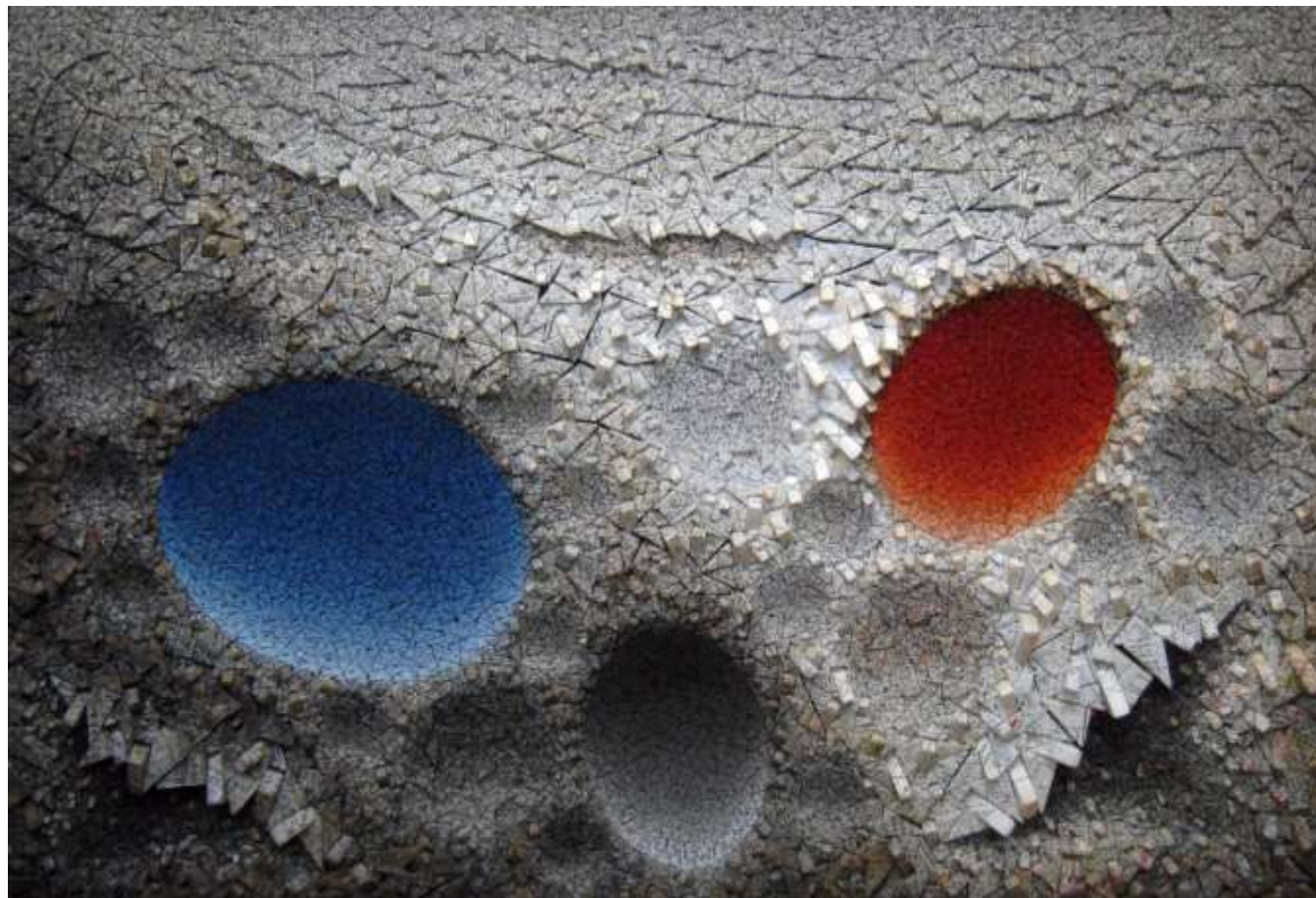
Aggregations' by Chun Kwang Young, a Korean artist working with hanji.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qkIX8a5Wn5c>









Seongmin Ahn

Influenced by Minwha

Seongmin Ahn received B.F.A. and M.F.A. in Asian traditional painting from Seoul National University in Seoul Korea and then received the second M.F.A from Maryland Institute College of Art. With practical experience and deep understand of tradition, her work takes Asian traditional painting as starting point and transform it into something experimental with her own interpretation bridging tradition and modern, and East and West.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NDp_Q01EJG8&t=32s

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CuMwW0OiDwA&t=197s>

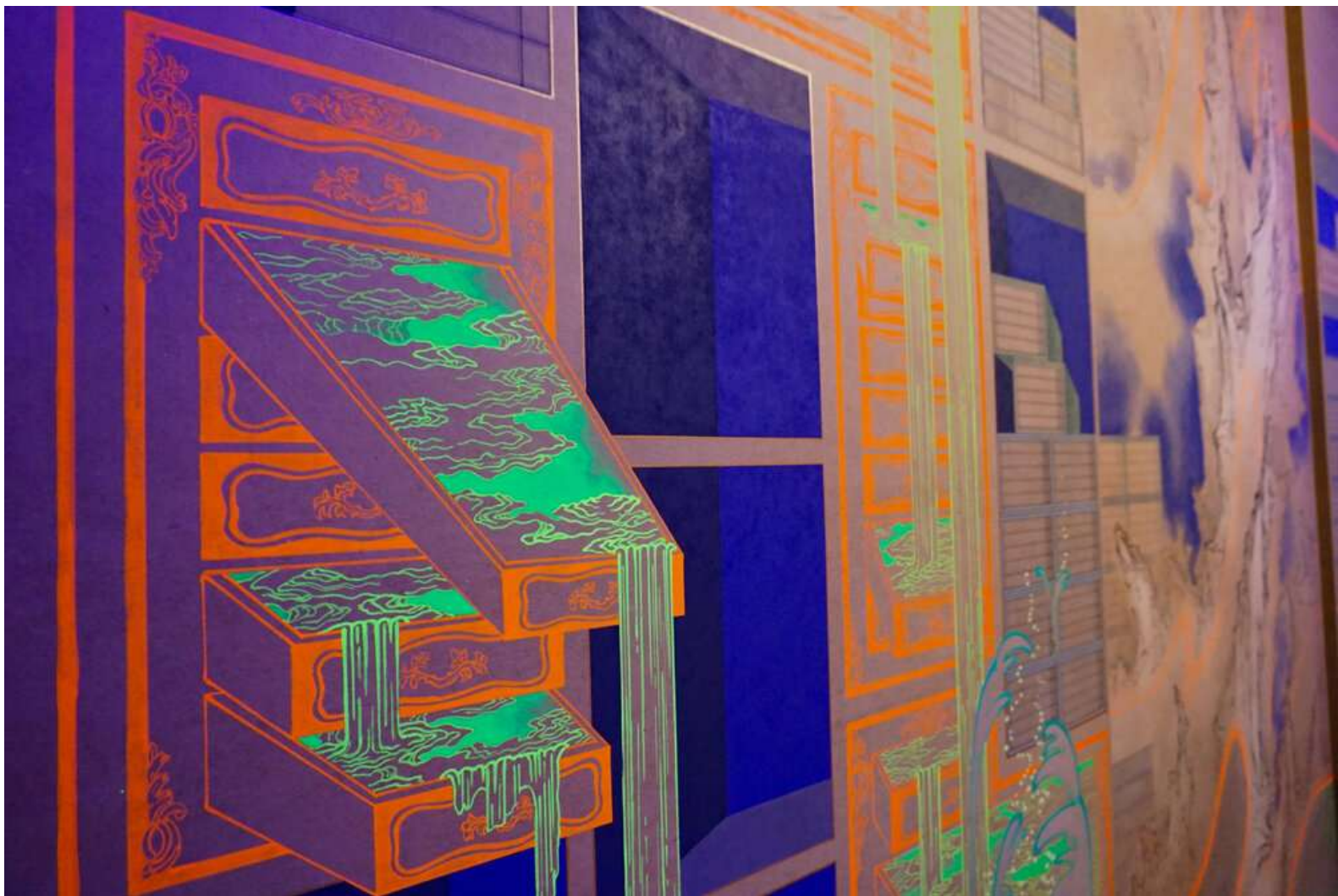
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B1vSghxQe3o>























Haegue Yang

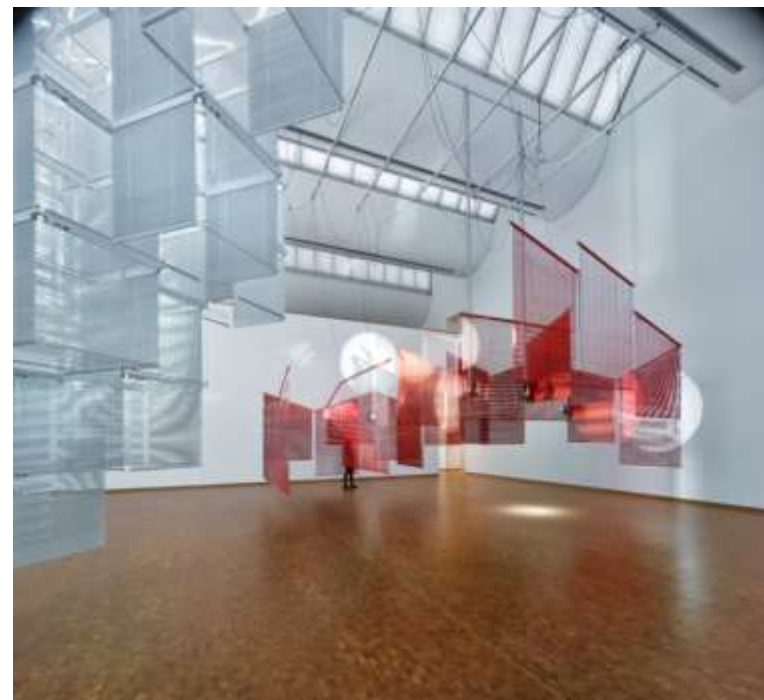
Known for using utilitarian household items, from space heaters to extension cords, and placing them out of context, Haegue Yang's works reflect the transitory nature of the artist's own experience of living and working in multiple locations. Her works in video explore displacement and alienation in both geographical and personal terms through a combination of fiction and documentary. Yang's visual, sound, and olfactory installations reveal the intersections of public and private. To this end, she often includes complex formations of ordinary Venetian blinds, which provide porous boundaries for viewers to navigate around. The installation *Non-Indépliables* (2006 –2011) features drying racks clothed in layers of colorful yarn or adorned with hanging lightbulbs, wires, and assorted pieces of fabric.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RCzsqSgIAac>















Suki Seokyeong Kang

Suki Seokyeong Kang is a visual artist based in Seoul, Korea. Kang's practice traverses painting, sculpture, performance, video and installation. Inspired by cultural traditions of Korea as well as contemporary artistic and literary discourses.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FLPyHDAqxQ>









Minouk Lim

Minouk Lim is a South Korean multimedia artist, and documentary filmmaker. She has had exhibitions at such institutes as National Museum of Fine Arts, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Walker Art Center, and the Tamayo Contemporary Art Museum.

- <https://vimeo.com/446848310>
- <https://vimeo.com/491748494>













Assignment Suggestions...

- Create a **Chaekkori Painting**—you can base it on a set of shelves in your house or an ideal one for your office or reading nook.
- Create a piece of aggregate art—it can be a bas relief or 3D.
- Use Celadon green in a painting or work of art.
- Create a bird from bound and woven paper.
- Create an artwork that celebrates the mundane.