



Whisper Only to You

2019

Single-channel video, color, sound

9:30 minutes

preview: <https://vimeo.com/363078377>



Thousand Leaves

2018

Dimensions variable

Folding screen, tree root, 3D printed sculpture



Bari
2019
24K gold leaf, 3D printed sculpture
39x24x27cm



Translated Vase_2018 TVG 3

2018

137x91x96cm

Ceramic shards, epoxy, 24K gold leaf



Past Life Regression Painting_Saint, Making a Crystal Ball with the Impurity of the World
2015
Acrylic on canvas
130x194cm



Moonlight Crown_On the Cliff

2018

Steel, brass, glass, epoxy, wood, pearl, 24K gold leaf, mother-of-pearl

191x107x107c

Yeesookyung Studio

14 Changuimun-ro 7-gil, Jongro-gu, Seoul, Korea 03022

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Moonlight Crown_On the Cliff (detail)



Moonlight Crown_Dragon's Bride

2018

Steel, brass, glass, epoxy, wood, pearl, 24K gold leaf, mother-of-pearl

162x90x90cm

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Moonlight Crown_Lion Totem

2019

Steel, brass, glass, epoxy, wood, feather, mirror, pearl, 24K gold leaf, mother-of-pearl
225x87x87cm



Moonlight Crown_Bari's Tears

2019

Steel, brass, glass, epoxy, wood, resin, crystal, 24K gold leaf, mother-of-pearl
197x42x42cm



Moonlight Crown_Bari's Tears (detail)



Moonlight Crown_Shhh...

2019

Steel, epoxy, wood

191x105x105cm



Whisper Only to You

2019

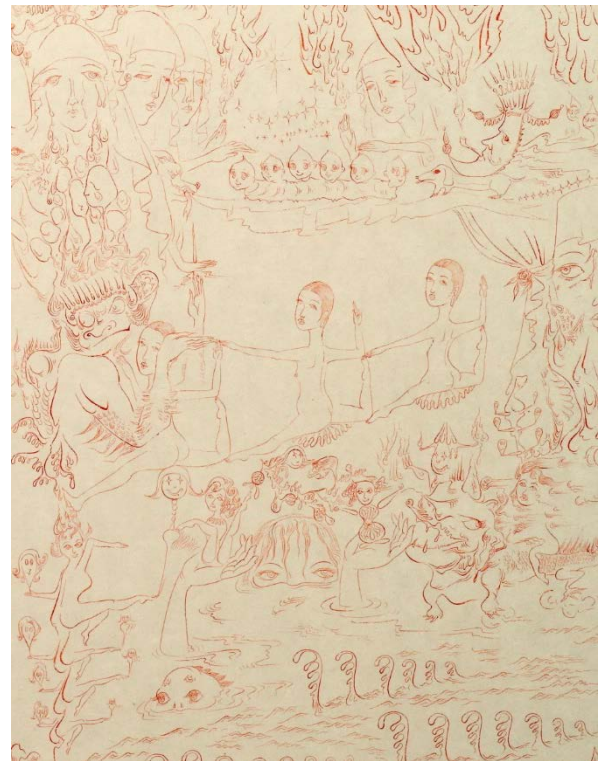
Single-channel video, color, sound

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It is a video work closely filmed details of a painting entitled "Flame." While the camera moves around of the drawing depicted uncanny and mysterious figures, I kept on improvising a never-ending story in whispers. However the story is not delivered clearly to the audience since I whisper in Korean without any subtitle. I hope the audience to excavate the hidden narratives and multifaceted meaning by using their own senses and imaginations from this work.

(Flame: This is a painting on Korean paper, drawn with cinnabar in 2009– a commonly used material in East Asia, mainly for talisman or Buddhist paintings. I kept asking myself "what is flame?" While working on this painting just like a Buddhist monk holds a single question until reaching enlightenment. I often experienced that the brush stroke moved automatically and generated images continuously as if by itself.)



detail of *Flame* 2009-3
2009

Cinnabar on Korean paper
196x260cm

Courtesy of the artist
Photo: Kim Sangtae

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Thousand Leaves

2018

Folding screen, tree root, 3D printed sculpture

Dimensions variable

In 2017, I found an old tree root and it caught my eye. I felt it was an object in which the accumulation of time was crystalized. I made a 3D scan out of it, vertically reflected and printed, then painted the surface in order to resemble the original tree root. And it became a symmetrical pair. Between them, I placed the folding screen of white silk fabric. The energy of dead tree root becomes revitalized by becoming a pair. As a perfect symmetry, this grotesque root reaches out to immortality.

The folding screens of the slightly different shades of white fabric on the panels can be a metaphor of uncountable leaves falling and sprouting through the life of the tree. In Korea, the color white has been traditionally used in funerals, deeply related to death and rebirth. Those panels with different shades of white allude to the different layers of souls.



Bari

2019

24K gold leaf, 3D printed sculpture

39x24x27cm

“Princess Bari” is a mother of Korean shamans and a mythical figure that often appears in my work. The rose necklace is made by Caselli Porcelain Institute in Naples.



Translated Vase_2018 TVG 3

2018

Ceramic shards, epoxy, 24K gold leaf

137x91x96cm

The Translated Vase series consists of sculptures reconstructed from discarded ceramic fragments. Skillful ceramic masters reproduce traditional Korean ceramics, and the vases with minor defects are destroyed to keep the rarity and value of the surviving masterpieces. I piece these destroyed pots back together in the manner of three-dimensional jigsaw puzzles, covering the cracks in gold. From the moment of destruction, I obtain a chance to intervene and fabricate new narratives with my own translation.



Past Life Regression Painting_Saint, Making a Crystal Ball with the Impurity of the World

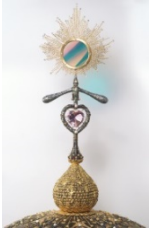
2015

Acrylic on canvas

130x194cm

Beginning from January 2014, once a month, I experienced past life regression through hypnosis with the help of a professional hypnotherapist. It is an attempt to find and express what is oppressed in the unconscious. Based on this thought, I cross-examined my own visions of reincarnation and past life, which, for better or worse, is a central aspect of East Asian thinking. Images and narratives I see during every past life regression are captured in these paintings.

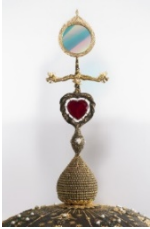
Moonlight Crown Series *images are detail view of each work



Moonlight Crown_On the Cliff

2018

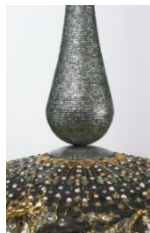
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Moonlight Crown_Dragon's Bride

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Moonlight Crown_Lion Totem

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Moonlight Crown_Shhh...

2019

Steel, epoxy, wood
191x105x105cm

My idea initiated from a short story “A crown of feathers”, from a book by Polish-American writer Isaac Bashevis Singer in 1973. He said in his interview "If there is such a thing as truth, it is as intricate and hidden as a crown of feathers." It triggered my long pursuit for excavating hidden truths and beliefs by questioning conventional and stereotypical notions. Each work has a crown in the bottom and bears a heavy and overly decorated sphere. Upon it, a vertical structure arises. Through this project, I incorporate ubiquitous symbols and images such as angels, praying hands and dragons to develop new narratives. In the past, those sacred objects and images were considered to be sublime and powerful, exclusively used in special rituals. However, through the repetitive consummation, today they have become easily accessible. I believe that a human being in ancient times could recognize a halo of the chosen spiritual leader. I think the halo replaced the crown to descending its power. All of the images separated from its own world are arranged to build an organic structure and connect the hidden links between past and present, myth and history. I hope this work could be a coronation to the individual spirituality in us.

Image credit line and copyright

Whisper Only to You, 2019

Thousand Leaves, 2018

Bari, 2019

Translated Vase_2018 TVG 3, 2018

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Moonlight Crown_Lion Totem, 2019

Moonlight Crown_Bari's Tears, 2019

Moonlight Crown_Shhh..., 2019

Courtesy of the artist

Photo: Yang Ian

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Past Life Regression Painting_Saint, Making a Crystal Ball with the Impurity of the World, 2015

Courtesy of the artist

Photo: Kwack Gongshin

©Yeesookyung

detail of *Flame 2009-3*, 2009

Courtesy of the artist

Photo: Kim Sangtae

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