



Je Yeoran

Born in 1960, Seoul, South Korea

Lives and works in Gyeonggi-do, South Korea

Je Yeoran is an iconic Korean abstract artist who has practiced performing arts on canvas with the use of squeegee instead of the more traditional paintbrush for over 30 years. Concentrating the energy of her entire body movement into the squeegee, she completes each work through the repetition of turning and halting on canvas. Traces of the artist's movements form a unique matière of abstract art, and the curvatures and colors on canvas entwine to emerge as a new image to each viewer's perspective.

The artist's paintings are represented by antagonism and dynamism. The dichotomies emphasized between ascent and descent, expansion and contraction, brightness and darkness, and anger and ecstasy clash and convey their dynamic nature, at the same time balancing one another to ultimately bring calmness or a peaceful state of mind. Such interaction reflects the meaning behind the title, *Usquam Nusquam* and represent the artist's understanding of the power of visual art as everything and nothing at the same time.

Although she juxtaposes contrasting values in her work, her use of colors goes beyond the dialectic approach and instead suggest a new way of looking. Theoretically dark blue-black colors and bright red-pink colors are contrary to one another. However, the artist's use of colors must not be limited to such dichotomization but instead be understood in the entire context of the painting—immediately after casting herself into the energy of dark colors, it is only natural for her work to follow the opposite line of emotions.

Je Yeoran graduated with a master's degree in Fine Arts from Hongik University in Seoul. The guidance she received from artists Lee Ufan, Choi Myoung Young, and Yun Hyong-Keun during her graduate school days has influenced her work to this day. She recently had a solo exhibition at 313 Art Project Paris in 2021 and 313 Art Project Seoul in 2024. She presented solo exhibitions at Jeon Hyucklim Museum of Art in Tongyeong in 2018, at Mimesis Art Museum in Paju in 2016, and at Indang Museum in Daegu in 2015. She has participated in numerous group exhibitions, at Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Seoul, National Museum of Art in Tokyo, International Museum in Osaka, ICAS Museum in Singapore, and Kumho Museum in Seoul. Her works have been collected by numerous foundations, including Ludwig Cologne Foundation, Germany, Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea; Seoul Museum of Art, Korea; and Paradise Group, Korea.

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EDUCATION

- 1988 M.F.A., Department of Painting, Hongik University, Seoul, Korea
1985 B.F.A., Department of Painting, Hongik University, Seoul, Korea

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 313 Art Project, Seoul
2023 Anywhere and Nowhere: Yeoran's Journey to Utopia, Sotheby's, Hongkong
2022 Space K Museum, Seoul
2021 313 Art Project, Paris
2019 313 Art Project, Seoul
2018 Insights, Art Basel Hong Kong 2018
2016 Mimesis Art Museum, Paju, Korea
2015 Indang Museum, Daegu, Korea
2014 Space K, Daegu, Gwacheon, Korea
Kong-gan gallery, Busan, Korea
2013 Space Can Beijing, Beijing, China

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 Decision to discuss, 313 Art Project, Seoul
2021 Usquam Nusquam, 313 Art Project, Paris
De l'air, 313 Art Project, Paris
2020 Gate, 313 Art Project, Seoul
2018 *SBD Project – A View Part 2*, 313 Art Project, Seoul
SBD Project – A View, 313 Art Project, Seoul
2016 *Prelude / Subversion*, Gallery Baton, Seoul
Under the Skin, Sejul Gallery, Seoul
Korean Dansaekjohwehwa: Manifestation of the Time, Progression and Vacancy, Theran, Iran
La Plenitude de la nada, Centro Cultural Recoleta, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Korean Dansaekjohwehwa: Manifestation of the Time, Progression and Vacancy, KOM, Changwon, Korea
2014 *Hommage a Whanki*, Whanki Museum, Seoul
Two Kinds of Phenomenon, LIG Art Center, Seoul
2013 *Manual*, Chonbuk University Museum, Chonju, Korea
Da'am-hua / Reconfiguring Contemporary Art: From a Korean Perspective, ICAS Museum, Singapore
Hongik International Art Festival, HOMA – Hongik Museum of Art, Seoul
2012 *Manner in Korean Painting*, HITE Collection, Seoul
2011 *2011 Contemporary of Art "Doorsill of Summer"*, Chonbuk National Art Promotion Center, Chonju, Korea

- 2009 *2009 Hongik Art Design Festival*, Hongik Museum of Art Center, Seoul
ES-CORAZON 2009 Peace Dream Arts Festival, Cas centro de las Artes de Sevilla, Espanola
- 2008 *Busan Biennale 2008 Contemporary Art Exhibition*, Busan Museum of Modern Art, Busan, Korea
- 2007 *New Acquisition Exhibition*, Seoul Museum of Modern Art, Seoul
- 2006 *Light and Mind*, SHIN Museum of Art, Cheongju, Korea
- 2000 *Water*, Seoul Museum of Modern Art, Seoul
- 1998 *Kumho Museum Opening Exhibition*, Kumho Museum, Seoul
The Exhibition of 'Brushed and Non-brushed', Sai Gallery, Seoul
14 Artists Korean Print Exhibition, Print Center, Philadelphia
- 1997 *The Seoul Cologne Artists Exchange Program of 1997*, Gotaer Kunstforum, Cologne, Germany
- 1996 *An Aspect of Korean Art in the 1990s*, National Museum of Art, Tokyo, and International Museum, Osaka
- 1995 *Korean Women Artist Festival '95*, Seoul Museum of Modern Art, Seoul
- 1990 *85 Artists Exhibition of Todays*, "The East and the West Artist", POSCO Center, Seoul
- 1989 *Korean Contemporary Art Situation of 80's*, Dongsung Art Center, Seoul
Korean Contemporary Art Today 2, Total Museum, Changheung, Korea
- 1985 *Young Artist Exhibition in Spring*, Trade Center Hyundai Gallery, Seoul
Korean 31 Contemporary Women Artists Exhibition, Kwanhoon Gallery, Seoul
Seoul 5 Contemporary Women Artists, Gonoha Gallery, Tokyo
- 1985-1987 *The Korea Exhibition of Contemporary Paintings*, Fine Art Center, Seoul
SPACE International Exhibition of Prints, Space Gallery, Seoul
The 11~13th Seoul Contemporary Art Festival, Fine Art Center, Seoul
- 1984~1987 *The 10~13th Independents*, National Museum of Modern Art, Seoul

AWARDS & RESIDENCY

Grand Prix, The Exhibition of Public Prize, Korea Contemporary Print Association

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Seoul

Paradise Group

National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Tokyo

Ludwig Cologne Foundation

Seoul Museum of Art

Posco Center

Total Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul