

HELENA PARADA KIM

(b. 1982, GERMAN)

HELENA PARADA KIM

Born in 1982, Cologne, Germany
Lives and works in Berlin, Germany



Photo: DAHAHM CHOI

ABOUT THE ARTIST

독일 베를린에 거주하며 활동하고 있는 헬레나 파라다 김은 이민 1세대인 한국인 간호사 어머니와 스페인 아버지 사이에서 태어나 독일을 쾰른에서 자랐다. 다양한 정체성과 문화적인 배경 속에서 성장한 헬레나는 우연히 보게 된 어머니의 옛 앨범 속 파독 간호사들의 모습에서 영감을 받게 되었고, 이후 어머니의 나라인 한국의 역사와 문화에 대해 큰 관심을 가지기 시작 하면서 파독 간호사, 한복, 제사 등의 한국적인 소재들을 자신의 작품에 담아내기 시작했다. 특히 그녀는 누군가가 입었던 ‘전통 한복’이 지니는 서정적이면서도 개인적인 스토리를 주제로 다양한 연작을 제작했다. 그의 그림 속에 등장하는 한복은 한 개인의 역사에 대한 탐구에서 시작하여 집단의 역사로 확장되었던 특정한 시대와 순간으로 관람객들을 인도한다. 또한 몇 년 전부터 베를린 작업실 뒤에 방치된 정원을 우연히 돌보기 시작한 작가는 자연을 다룬 정물화에 심취해 다양한 식물과 꽃들이 주는 분위기를 캔버스에 옮긴다. 이 아름다운 정물화들은 피고 지는 꽃처럼 아름답지만 동시에 그 끝이 존재하는 우리의 삶에 대한 명상을 이끌어 낸다.

Born to a Korean nurse and a Spanish immigrant worker, Parada Kim was brought up in Cologne, Germany. Deeply touched by photographs featuring Korean nurses dispatched to Germany in her mother's photo album, she began tackling subject matters such as Korean nurses, ancestral rites, and especially 'hanbok,' exploring the personal stories pertaining to this traditional dress. The hanbok in her paintings ushers viewers to a specific era and moment, extending the arena of exploration to collective history.

The artist's interest in plants and gardening went hand in hand with her desire to paint them. The water lilies as well as the dandelion, rhododendron and hollyhocks which are depicted in her paintings are almost banal plants in their ubiquity. But it is precisely their supposed mundanity that provides the particular stimulus for the painter to extract the mysterious and almost inscrutable qualities from these plants.

HELENA PARADA KIM



Stella Maris

2024

Oil on linen

150 x 200 cm

Exhibition View



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Amitabha Buddha

2021

Oil on linen

250 x 185 cm

Exhibition View



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San Geronimo
2021
Oil on linen
230 x 160 cm

Exhibition View



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Veronika
2024-2025
Oil on linen
180 x 140 cm

Exhibition View



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Abrigo
2025
Oil on linen
170 x 140 cm

Exhibition View



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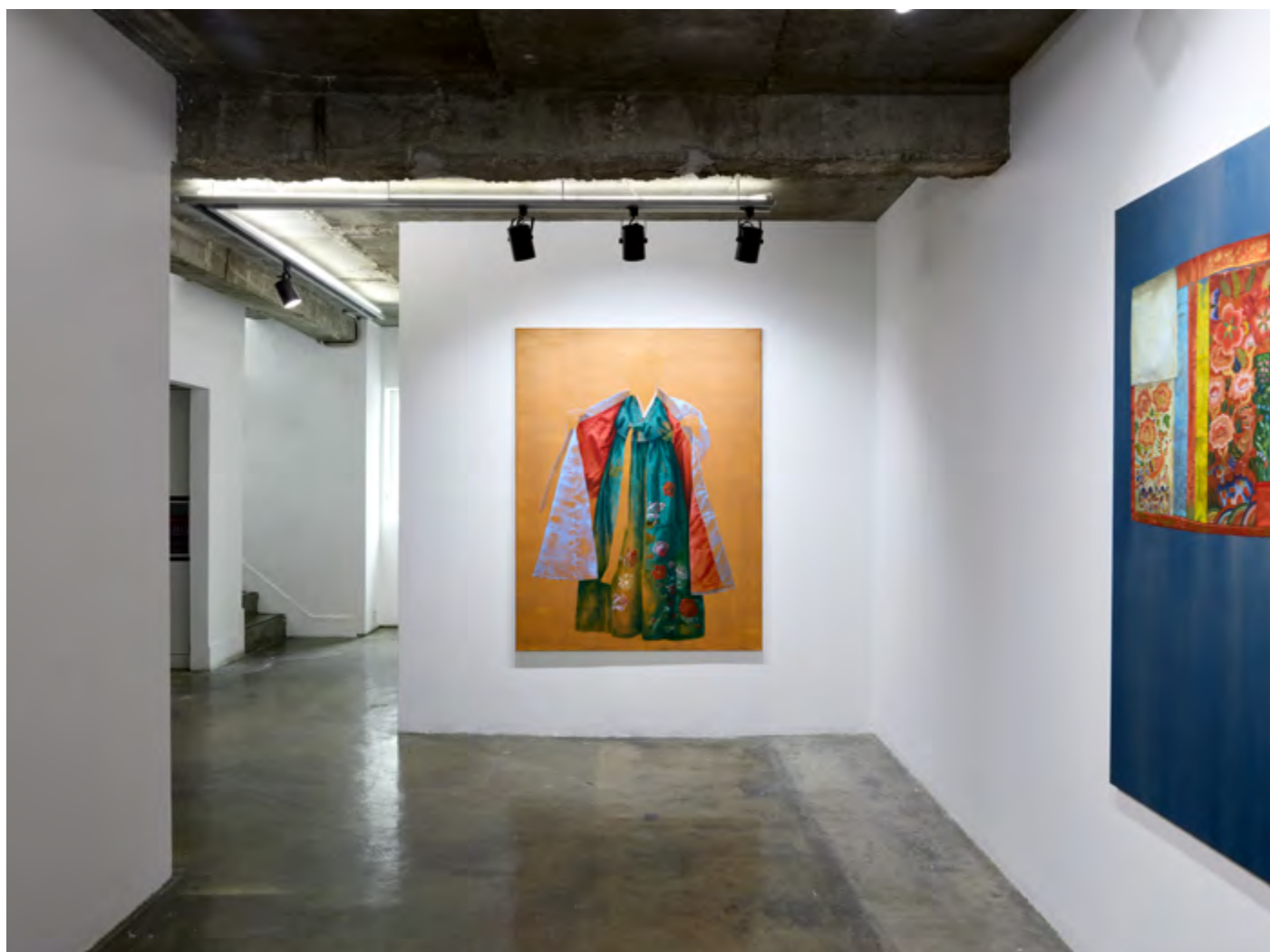
Rachel's Flowers

2025

Oil on linen

170 x 130 cm

Exhibition View



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Green Earth

2025

Oil on linen

140 x 100 cm

Exhibition View



HELENA PARADA KIM



Nurses and Cranes

2025

Oil on Alu-Dibond

60 x 80 cm (framed)

Exhibition View



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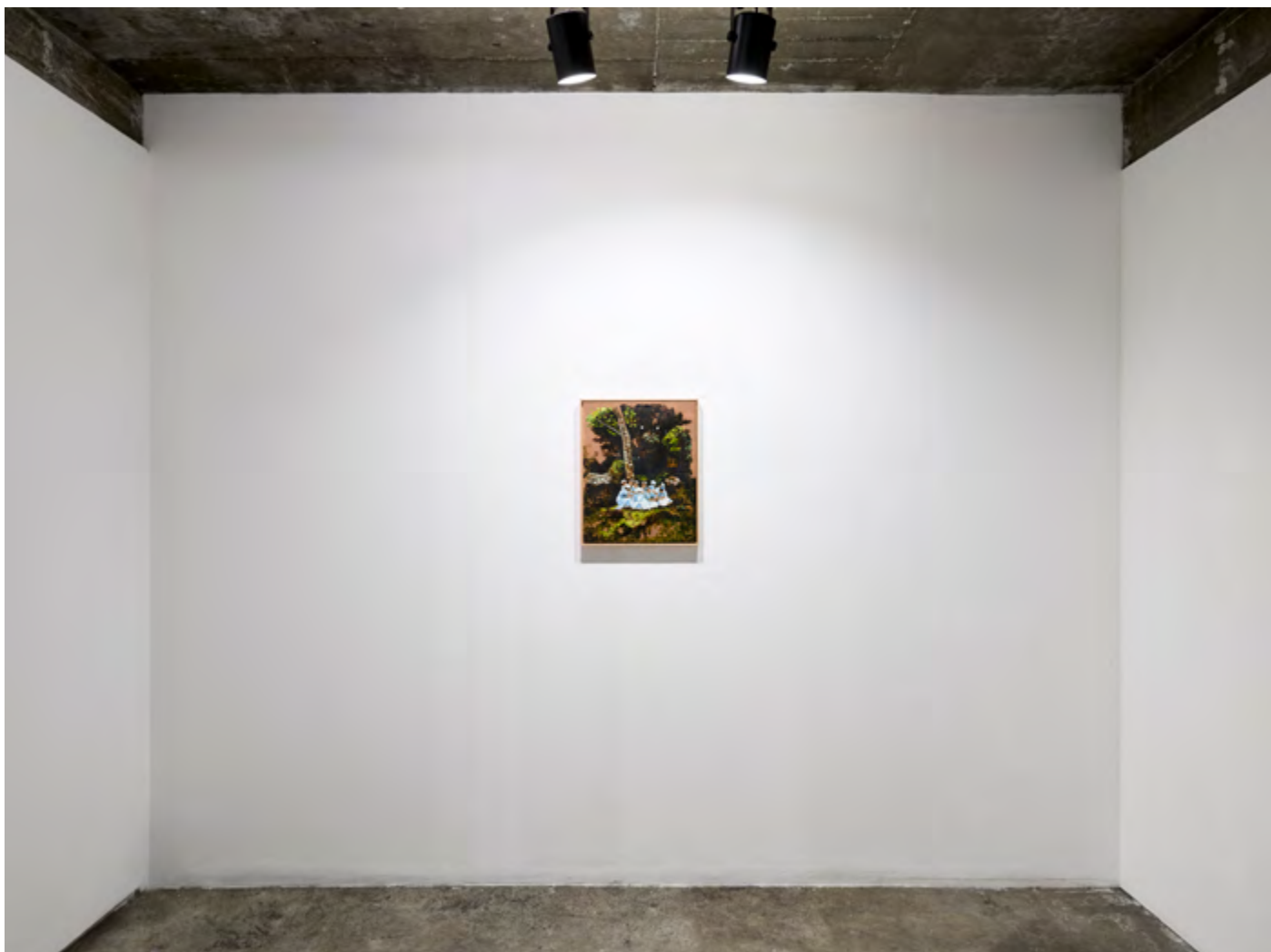
Under Maple Trees

2025

Oil on Copper

50 x 40 cm

Exhibition View

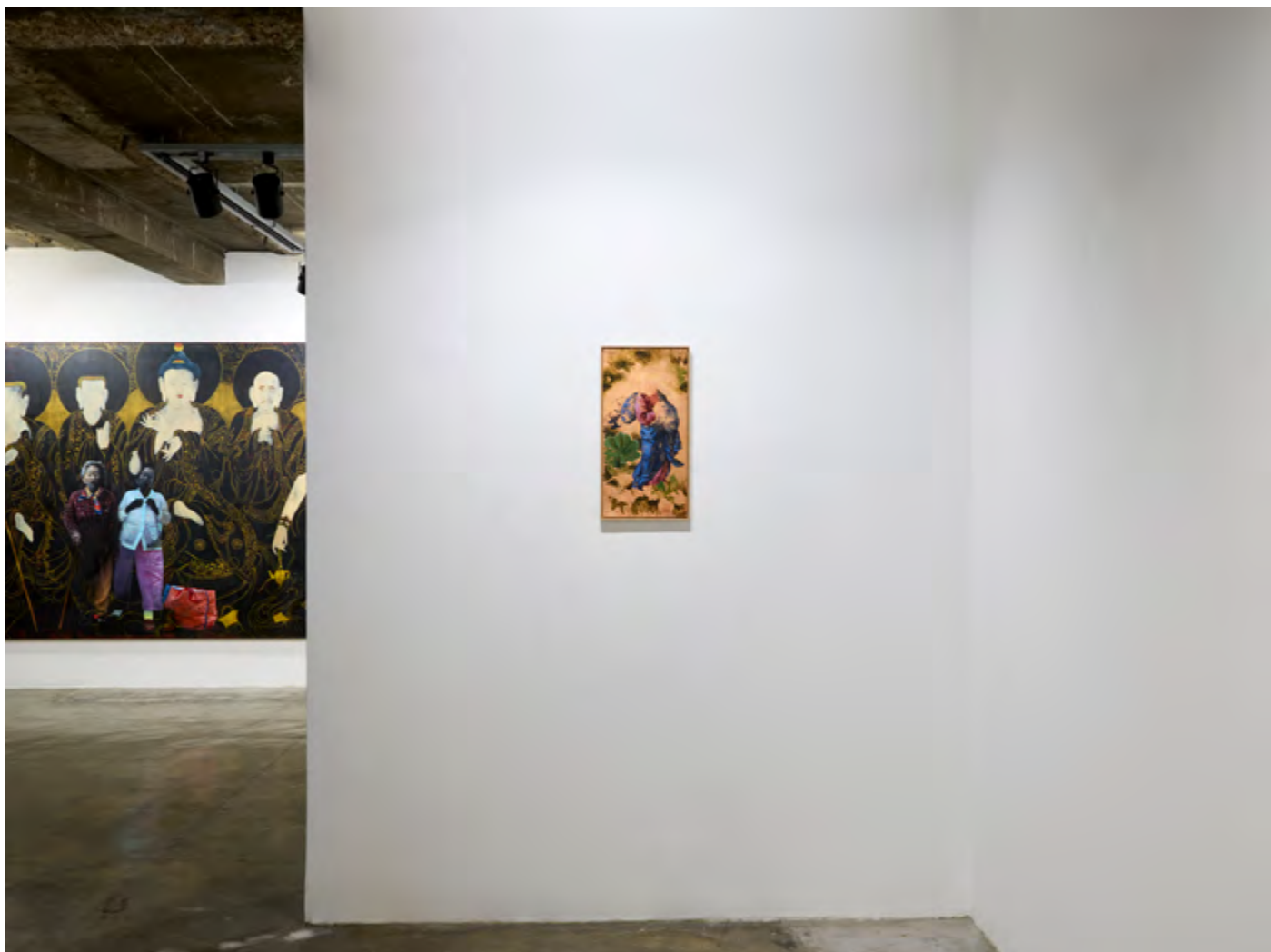


HELENA PARADA KIM



Alchemilla
2025
Oil on copper
50 x 25 cm

Exhibition View



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A Sister

2025

Oil on Aluminium

40 x 30 cm

Exhibition View



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The Brother
2023
Oil on linen
50 x 40 cm (framed)

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Josang (A Mourner)
2023
Oil on linen
50 x 40 cm (framed)

Exhibition View

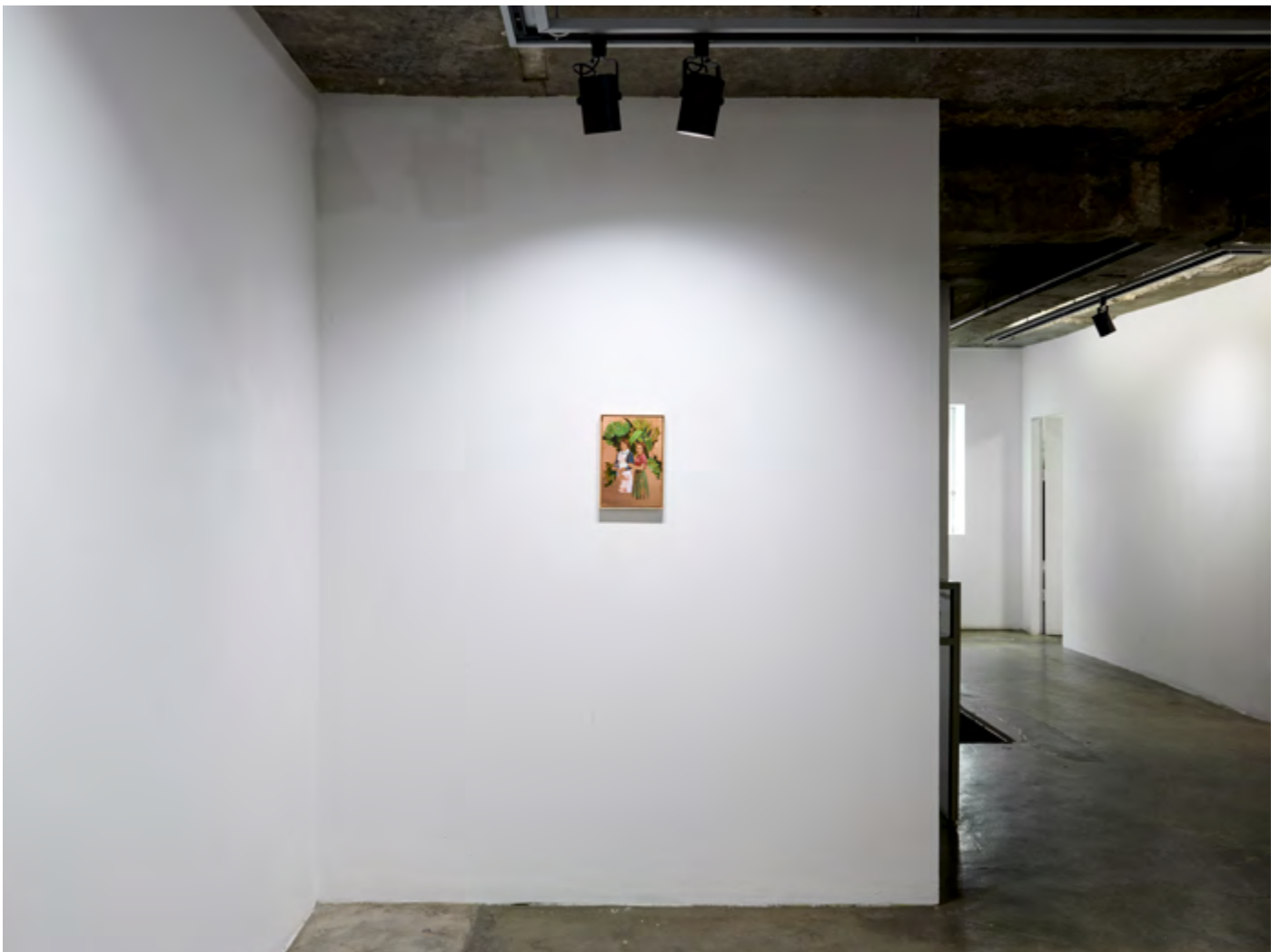


HELENA PARADA KIM



Two Sisters
2025
Oil on Copper
30 x 20 cm

Exhibition View



HELENA PARADA KIM



Hanbok 2

2022

Oil on silver grounded paper

43 x 30 cm

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EDUCATION

- 2002 – 2009 Kunstakademie Düsseldorf
2005 – 2009 Student of Prof. Peter Doig
2009 Masterstudent of Prof. Peter Doig

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 'In Times of Light', CHOI&CHOI Gallery, Seoul
2024 'Zwischenräume', Museum of East Asian Art, Cologne
'Bermejo's Goldfinch', Galerie Martin Kudlek, Cologne
2022 'Helena Parada Kim', Galleria Patricia Armocida, Milano
2021 'CACHÉ', Choi & Lager Gallery, Cologne
'AQUILEGIA', Villa Angeli Pegognaga, Italy
2019 'Wasser, Portraits, Schatten' Neue Galerie Galdbeck, Gladbeck
2018 'Ausencias', Centro Cultural Coreano, Madrid, Spain
2018 HELENA PARADA KIM & ANDREAS BLANK, CHOI&LAGER Gallery, Seoul, Korea
2016 Helena Parada-Kim with Gorka Mohamed, Choi&Lager Gallery, Cologne, Germany
2015 'In Mother's Hanbok', Galerie Tristan Lorenz, Frankfurt a.M., Germany
2010 'Helena Parada', Galerie Bugdahn und Kaimer, Düsseldorf, Germany
2009 'Die Gesandten', Kunstverein Recklinghausen, Recklinghausen, Germany

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 'Distant Voices / Still Lives', Braunsfelder, Cologne
2023 'HUMAN', CHOI&CHOI Gallery
'From Berlin to Seoul: Crossing Horizons', CHOI&CHOI Gallery, HORI Artspace, AIF Lounge, Seoul and
Bermel von Luxburg Gallery, Berlin
2022 'FLOWER', CHOI&CHOI Gallery, Seoul
'Girl Meets Girl', Vestfossen Museum, Norway
2020 'Korean Eye 2020', Seoul, Korea
2018 'NON SENSE MUSIC # 2 - BORDERS', Kunstraum Kreuzberg/Bethanien, Berlin
2017 'The king of table', entretempo Kitchen Gallery, Berlin
'The room of desires', raumwerk, Munich, Germany Weinosten, Hilbert Raum, Berlin
2016 'Please return to Busan Port', Vestfossen Kunstlaboratorium, Vestfossen, Norway (collaboration
curated by Choi&Lager Gallery)
Participation at Art Busan with Choi& Lager Gallery, Busan, Korea
Participation at 'Cofa(Cologne Fine Art)' Art Fair with Choi& Lager Gallery, Cologne, Germany
Works in the Penz Collection, Sammlung Penz, Berlin, Germany
'Bab-Sang Story', Entretempo Kitchen Gallery, Berlin, Germany
2015 ASIA NOW PARIS Asian Contemporary Platform, with Choi&Lager Gallery, Paris, France
'Neujahrspunsch', Galerie Tristan Lorenz, Frankfurt a.M., Germany Participation at Art Karlsruhe with
Galerie Tristan Lorenz, Karlsruhe, Germany
2014 'Hängengeblieben', Kunsthalle Recklinghausen, Recklinghausen, Germany Private and public
Portrait-commissions
2012 'NO.1' Kunstakademie Düsseldorf at Sky Office, curated by Julia Ritterskamp, Düsseldorf, Germany
2010 Participation at Art Cologne with Galerie Bugdahn und Kaimer, Cologne, Germany
'Self-Consciousness' curated by Peter Doig and Hilton Als, Veneklasen and Werner, Berlin, Germany
'Berlin Summer Interval', Bugdahn und Kaimer, Düsseldorf, Germany 'SHARED.DIVIDED.UNITED',
Kunstverein Hildesheim, Hildesheim, Germany

- 2009 SHARED.DIVIDED.UNITED Neue Gesellschaft für Bildende Kunst, Berlin, Germany
'Selected...continued', Galerie Bugdahn und Kaimer, Düsseldorf, Germany 'Werke', Staedtische Galerie
Kaarst (group show), Germany
- 2008 Klasse Peter Doig in der Zeche Zollverein-Mischanlage, Essen, Germany 'Woher kommen? Was sind
wir? Wohin gehen wir?', Galerie Arteversum, Düsseldorf, Germany
- 2007 Junge Düsseldorfer Maler, Kunsthalle Koblenz, Koblenz, Germany
- 2005 'Eine Woche junge Kunst' im Mediapark 5, Cologne, Germany
Maxims Art Award, Cologne, Germany
- 2004 1. Art Award of Kö-Galerie, Dusseldorf Lovells Art Award, Dusseldorf, Gemany
- 2002 'Passion'- vierzehn Kreuzwegstationen", Basilika St. Aposteln, Cologne, Germany

COLLECTIONS

Rathaus Düsseldorf

IHK Düsseldorf

Deutsches Literaturarchiv Marbach

Rockefeller Foundation

Bankhaus von Metzler

Candida Höfer Stiftung

PARKSEOKBO Foundation