

# 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.

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**Stella Maris**

2024

Oil on linen

150 x 200 cm

Exhibition View  
Museum of East Asian Art, Cologne





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Amitabha Buddha

2021

Oil on linen

250 x 185 cm

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San Geronimo

2021

Oil on linen

230 x 160 cm



# HELENA PARADA KIM



**Veronika**  
2024-2025  
Oil on linen  
180 x 140 cm

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**Abrigo**  
2025  
Oil on linen  
170 x 140 cm



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Rachel 's Flowers

2025

Oil on linen

170 x 130 cm

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Green Earth

2025

Oil on linen

140 x 100 cm



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Nurses and Cranes

2025

Oil on Alu-Dibond  
60 x 80 cm (framed)



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Under Maple Trees

2025

Oil on Copper

50 x 40 cm



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Alchemilla  
2025  
Oil on copper  
50 x 25 cm

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**A Sister**

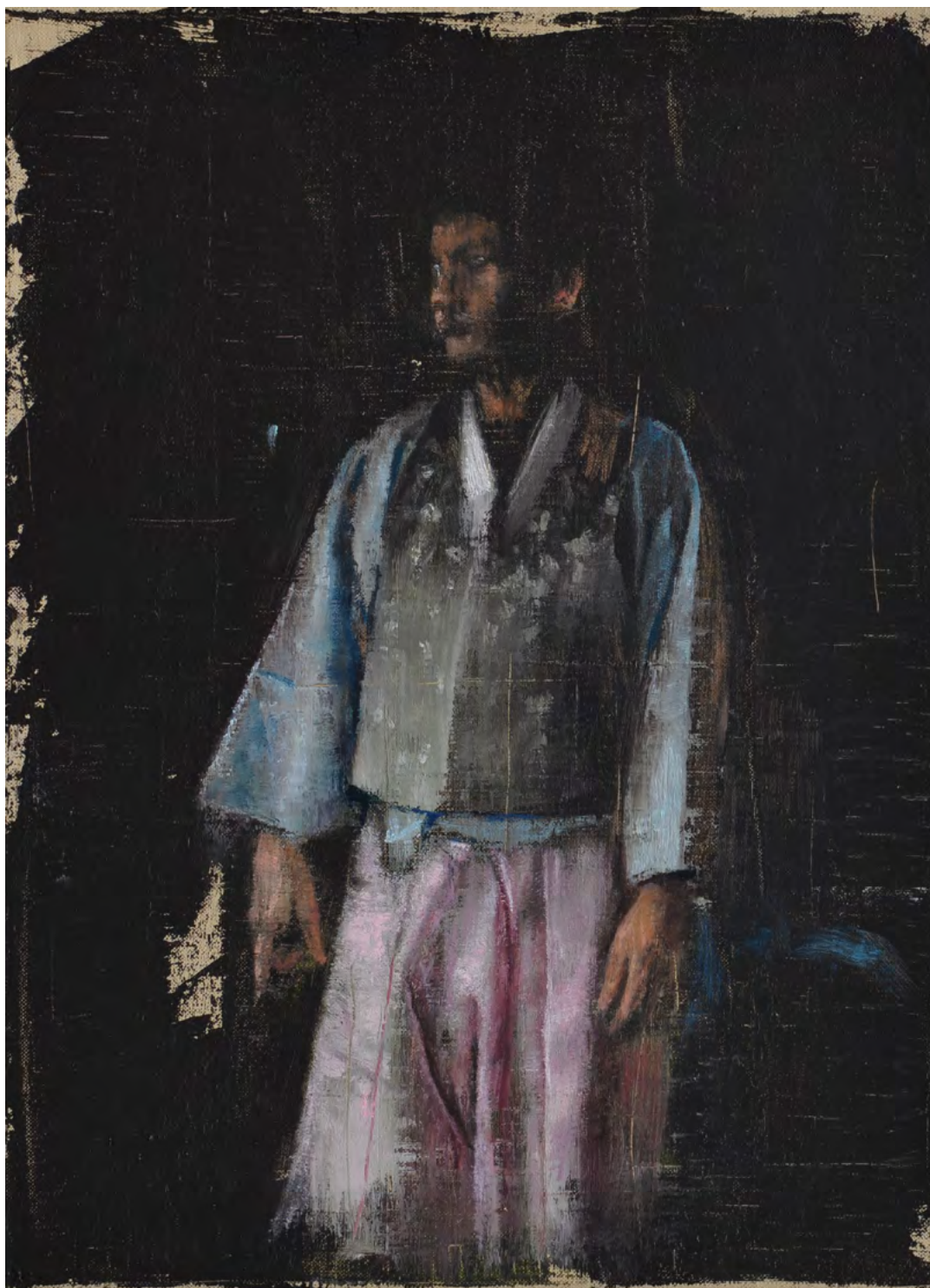
2025

Oil on Aluminium

40 x 30 cm



HELENA PARADA KIM



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)



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Two Sisters

2025

Oil on Copper

30 x 20 cm



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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

- 2024 Zwischenräume, Museum of East Asian Art, 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

- 2023 HUMAN, CHOI&CHOI Gallery, 2023  
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.!' 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 and 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