



Jisook Jung

Jisook Jung (b.1987) is a Seoul-based artist whose work gives sculptural form to everyday sensation and to the internal energies that sustain life. Using clay, foam clay, artificial clay, and occasionally urethane, she explores how the condition of being alive can surface through color, texture and touch.

Her sculptures examine the internal states that arise simply from being alive—states that exist before emotion takes shape. They do not depict identifiable emotions. Instead, they emerge from the conditions that precede emotion: the force that keeps a body upright, moments of tension and release, impulses to approach or withdraw, and the quiet warmth that appears when a gentle thought settles in. These early states condense into form, offering a glimpse of life before it becomes expression. Because of this, Jung's figures drift between organism, plant structure, and soft bodily mass without resolving into a single identity. They appear less as creatures than as pulses or clusters of life energy asserting their presence in the world. Their ambiguous physiologies and tactile surfaces encourage viewers to sense rather than decode, opening a space where bodily memory and unspoken states can resonate.

Jung received her Master's degree in Ceramics from Kookmin University in 2014 and her Bachelor's degree in Ceramic Arts from the same institution in 2012. Her work has been presented internationally at major art fairs including Chicago SOFA, Art Taipei, San Francisco Art Fair, Fine Art Asia Hong Kong, and Maison & Objet in Paris. She has participated in residencies such as Clayarch Gimhae Museum (Korea) and Marunuma Art Park (Japan), and is a recipient of the Grand Prize at the Gwanghwamun International Art Festival and the Young Korean Artists Award.

Jung Jisook (B. 1987) / Lives and Works in Seoul

CV

EDUCATION

2014 Master's Degree in Ceramics, Graduate School of Fine Arts, Kookmin University, Korea
2012 Bachelor's Degree in Ceramic Arts, College of Fine Arts, Kookmin University, Korea

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025 "Dopamine Farm", Gallery Playlist, Busan, Korea
"Exploration step 1", Particle, Seoul, Korea
2024 "Sense Collection", Simple Objec, Taiwan
"Daytime Dream", Hyundai Dept. Jungdong Branch, Bucheon, Korea
"Liberation Diary", Finork Seoul, Seoul, Korea
2023 "Dreamer with Joy", Finork Busan, Busan, Korea
"Mass of Fancy", Artcode gallery, Seoul, Korea
"Catch the Daydream", Gallery kabinet, Seoul, Korea
2022 "Lumpy Bumpy", Gallery doqument, Seoul, Korea
"Feeling Lab", The untitled void, Seoul, Korea
"Living Garden", Gallery color beat, Seoul, Korea
2021 "Various Kinds of I", Gallery GBD, Busan, Korea
"Crafts On The Hill", Seoul, Korea
"Art House Yeonchung", Seoul, Korea
"Space UM", Seoul, Korea
"Jeonjin Moonhwasa", Seoul, Korea
2019 "Marunuma Art Park", Asaka, Japan
"A Blue Whale", Seoul, Korea
2017 "Gallery Knot", Seoul, Korea
2015 "Gallery Planet", Seoul, Korea

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025 "Soft Landing", Gallery Playlist, San Francisco, USA
"Geeky Land", K Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul, Korea
"Delight for You", Cheongju Craft Biennale, Cheongju, Korea
"Summoning Monsters", Daegu Arts Center, Daegu, Korea
"Ceramic", Make an Object, Yeongam Pottery Museum, Yeongam, Korea
2023 "PRADA Mode 'Plural and Parallel'", KOTE, Seoul, Korea
"Colorful", Aram Art Museum, Goyang, Korea
"Dancing Grid", Spacebe, Seoul, Korea
2022 "MIRAGE", VLAB gallery, Madrid, Spain
2021 "Four Rooms", Four Questions, Clayarch Gimhae Museum, Gimhae, Korea
2019 "Unfamiliar Harmony", Azabujuban gallery, Tokyo, Japan

PRESS

2024 "MOKAMANG" #68, France
"ENTREZ DANS L'UNIVERS MÉTAPHORIQUE DE L'ARTISTE CORÉENNE"

RESIDENCY

2021 "Clayarch Gimhae Museum", Gimhae, Korea
2019 "Marunuma Art Park", Saitama, Japan

SELECTED ART FAIR

2026 "Felix LA", Los Angeles, USA
"San Francisco Art Fair", San Francisco, USA
2025 "San Francisco Art Fair", San Francisco, USA
"Art Taipei", Taipei, Taiwan
"Urban Break", Seoul, Korea
"LA Art Fair", LA, USA
2024 "San Francisco Art Fair", San Francisco, USA
2023 "Fine Art Asia Hong Kong", Wanchai, Hong Kong
"Art Taichung", Taichung, Taiwan
2022 "Art Formosa", Taipei, Taiwan
"Plastic Art Seoul", Seoul, Korea
"Art Busan", Bexco, Busan, Korea
2021 "Craft Trend Fair", Seoul, Korea
"Art Shoping", Louvre Museum, Paris, France
"Plastic Art Seoul", Seoul, Korea
"Galleries Art Fair", Seoul, Korea
2016 "Chicago SOFA", Navy Pier, Chicago, USA
2015 "Maison & Object", Nord Villepinte, Paris, France

RESIDENCY

2021 "Clayarch Gimhae Museum", Gimhae, Korea
2019 "Marunuma Art Park", Asaka, Japan

AWARDS

2020 "Association Prize", Young Korean Artists Award
2019 "Grand Prize", Gwanghwamun International Art Festival
2017 "Grand prize", Design Art Fair
2014 "Artist of the Year Award", Craft Trend Fair



Heejo Kim

Heejo Kim (B.1995) is a painter based in Seoul and Baltimore who explores questions of identity, memory, and connection through quietly surreal figurative oil paintings. Her works depict figures drawn from memory or imagination. These figures often appear large and still, situated in confined spaces, and seem emotionally distant even when surrounded by others. Their eyes and mouths are frequently left out, suggesting a sense of concealment or dreamlike withdrawal. While their bodies appear heavy, they also seem to float, evoking the suspended feeling of memory and the passing of time.

Despite their solitude, the figures engage in gentle and intentional gestures. Influenced by Roland Barthes' idea of tenderness as a metonym for love, Kim expresses longing and emotional sensitivity through subtle body language. Her characters occupy small spaces such as balconies or compact rooms, yet they maintain a delicate distance from each other. This distance reflects a quiet waiting for affection rather than a desire to claim it. Through this restraint, they offer love as a conscious and generous act.

Kim's practice is also informed by the Buddhist concept of Dependent Arising, or *Yeongi-sull*, which suggests that the self has no fixed reality but becomes visible through interaction. In her paintings, identity is formed through relationships with others and with objects. Even everyday things like a bean or a salt shaker serve as anchors for self-awareness. Gender is intentionally obscured. The figures turn away or cover their bodies, allowing presence to take precedence over classification.

For Kim, love and identity are not fixed states but ongoing processes of attention and care. Her figures live not through grand gestures but in quiet moments of sensing, remembering, and being with others. These small acts affirm existence in the absence of certainty and offer a visual language of mutual recognition and belonging.

Kim received her MFA from the LeRoy E. Hoffberger School of Painting at the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) in 2023 and her BFA from Hongik University in Seoul in 2018. Based between Seoul and the United States, she has received recognition including the AHL-T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Award (New York), a Maryland State Arts Council (MASC) Grant, and selection as a semifinalist for the Janet & Walter Sondheim Art Prize at the Walters Art Museum. Her work has been featured in *New American Paintings* and she has participated in residencies such as Vermont Studio Center, Wassaic Project, and Monson Arts.

Heejo Kim (B. 1995) / Lives and Works in Baltimore, MD

CV

EDUCATION

2023 M.F.A. LeRoy E. Hoffberger School of Painting, Maryland Institute College of Art, USA
2018 B.F.A. Painting, Hongik University, Korea

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022 “Hi, could you spare some time for me?”, Student Space Gallery Fall 2022 MICA, USA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026 “Art Busan 2026” with the Gallery Playlist, Busan, Korea (forthcoming)
“Felix fair Los Angeles 2026 “ with the Gallery Playlist, LA, USA
2025 “The Last Picture Show” C. Grimaldis Gallery, MD, USA
“Soft Landing” Gallery Playlist, San Francisco, USA
“2025 AHL-T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Awards” AHL Foundation Gallery, NY, USA
“Summer ’25” C. Grimaldis Gallery, MD, USA
“Still There, Foundations 2025” Artsy Foundations Art Fair with the Gallery Playlist
“That’s Baloney” Tugalleries, Towson Art Gallery, MD, USA
“Sondheim Prize semifinalists 2025”, MD, USA
“Baltimore to Boston – New Contemporary Art”, LaiSun Keane Gallery, Boston, USA
“2025 San Francisco Art Fair” with the Gallery Playlist, San Francisco, USA
“Palm Beach Modern + Contemporary with the C”. Grimaldis Gallery, Florida, USA
“Pantone 2025 Mocha Mousse [Exhibition]” Capturing a Global Mood of Connection, Comfort, and Harmony. by Not Real Art, LA, USA
2024 “Art Miami”, Art Miami with the C. Grimaldis Gallery, Miami, USA
“Beyond Boundaries. #8” online exhibition by Artsin Square
“Under \$2500 2024”, Maryland Art Place Gallery, MD, USA
“Artscape B_24 Exhibition”, The Figgs and Leidy Galleries, MD, USA
“False Relations, Heejo Kim + Markus Baldeggar”, C. Grimaldis Gallery, MD, USA
“Translation Through Art”, The Mansion at Strathmore, MD, USA
“Confluence”, Area 405, MD, USA
“Summer Comes to My Hometown”, Seoul, Consulate General of the Republic of Korea, DC, USA
“Asia North 2024, Love Letters to Baltimore + the DMV”, Motor House Gallery, MD, USA
“Marquee Ball Silent Auction”, Creative Alliance, MD, USA
“Art Palm Beach with the C”. Grimaldis Gallery, Florida, USA
2023 “Art Miami”, Art Miami with the C. Grimaldis Gallery, Miami, USA
“Phat Of The Land”, Arnolds Gallery, MD, USA
“Under \$500 2023”, Maryland Art Place Gallery, MD, USA
“Summer Focus Collection”, Uprise Art Gallery, NY, USA
“Summer 23”, C. Grimaldis Gallery, MD, USA
“Constellations”, The Peale Museum, MD, USA
2022 “Figure / Narrative”, C. Grimaldis Gallery, MD, USA
“We Are Not Similar”, The LeRoy E. Hoffberger School of Painting Fall 2022 Exhibition, MD, USA
“With Body and Earth”, MFA 1st Year Juried Show 2022 MICA, MD, USA
2021 “Eyes In The Light”, The LeRoy e. Hoffberger School of Painting Fall 2021 Exhibition, MD, USA
2018 “The 19th GPS Exhibition” Beyond The Painting, Korea

AWARD, RECOGNITION, INCLUSION IN PUBLICATIONS

- 2026 "Monson Arts Partial Fellowship" Monson, ME, USA (forthcoming)
2025 "2025 AHL-T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Awards" AHL Foundation, New York, NY, USA
"MASC Grant for Artist by Maryland State Arts Council (MASC)" Maryland, MD, USA
"Semifinalists for the 2025 Janet & Walter Sondheim Art Prize" in partnership with the Walters Art Museum, supported by the Maryland State Arts Council, MD, USA
"Wassaic Project Honorarium for Winter Residency 2025" Wassaic, NY, USA
2024 "Vermont Studio Center Partial Fellowship" Johnson, VT, USA
2023 "May Grant Honorable Mention" MyMA, MD, USA
2020 "LeRoy E. Hoffberger Graduate Merit Scholarship" MICA, MD, USA

PRESS

- 2025 "Gentle Traveller" Artist Interview
"Booooooom": Artist Spotlight
2024 "Canvas Rebel Magazine" Interview
"Shoutout LA Magazine" Interview
"Voyage Michigan Magazine" Interview
"BoldJourney" Interview
"Artist Interview: The Intense Yet Warm World of Artist" Heejo Kim, Korean version
"Bmore Art", False Relations: Heejo Kim and Markus Baldegger
"Bmore Art's Picks": May 14-20
"New American Paintings", No. 171, MFA Annual Issue
"Art Maze Magazine", Anniversary Edition 35
2023 "INERTIA Studio Visits", Heejo Kim interviewed by Julia Gould
2022 "Bmore Art", Gallery Roundup: The Parlor, C.Grimaldis Gallery, and Catalyst Contemporary

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

- 2026 "Monson Arts" Winter Residency, Monson, ME, USA (forthcoming)
2025 "Sitka Center for Art and Ecology" Winter Residency, Otis, OR, USA
"Artsy" Billboard Campaign in New York, NY, USA
"KARMA" Sponsorship of paintings for Netflix Original Series Karma episode 2
"Wassaic Project" Winter Residency, Wassaic, NY, USA
2024 "Vermont Studio Center Residency" Johnson, VT, USA
"Crown Studio Tours 2024" supported by The National Park Service & Baltimore National Heritage Area and hosted by the Highlandtown Arts & Entertainment District, MD, USA
2023 "Artist's Talk" Life Drawing (FYE) class at Maryland Institute College of Art, MICA, MD, USA
2022 – 2021 "Exhibition Team at The LeRoy E. Hoffberger School of Painting Program" MICA, MD, USA