

ART PARIS 2016

31. 03. - 3. 04. 2016

Guest of honor: KOREA

Grand Palais Av. Winston Churchill 75008 Paris [www.artparis.fr](http://www.artparis.fr)

new works by

LEE JIN WOO - MIN JUNG-YEON

The quest for elsewhere lies at the center of Lee Jin Woo's work, whereas Min Jung-Yeon conveys, in a figurative manner, her "here"; her feelings, dreams, everyday life and revisited past. Thus, what we see is only but an invitation to enter the real topic.

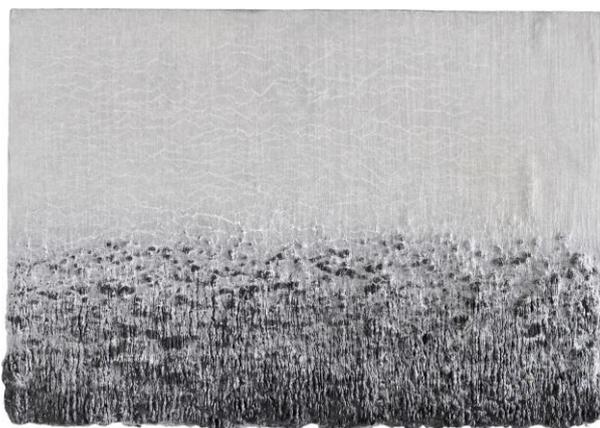
LEE JIN WOO

If one takes the time to look, to look again, to let go, far, inside a work by Lee Jin Woo, the silence of an enlarged space, of an extended time can also be heard...

Spontaneously, we call these works "landscapes". Contemplation landscapes, made of organic matters (Hanji paper, charcoal, pigments, ink) that have re-become nature and turned into vectors of transcendence.

These works are born from an essential need: the artist's desire to merge with matter, Nature, in the "Being" - to disappear. In order to succeed, working becomes a way of living; his labour is a form of meditation, a way to let himself be absorbed in order for something to maybe emerge. Far from concepts and programs, working for the artist equals searching.

Like the *Dansaekhwa* artists, Lee Jin Woo felt the need to reconnect with Korean culture - after a first stay in France in the 1980s. However, if his work shows formal similarities with this movement - tri-dimensionality, the use of Hanji paper, the relationship to nature and the importance of simply *doing* - Lee Jin-Woo belongs to the next generation. His work is eminently personal; it is about finding a way to breathe. It is his breathing that his works carry.



1. LEE Jin Woo working in his workshop, 2016

2. LEE Jin Woo | untitled | 51 x 74 cm | wooden charcoal and Hanji paper | 2016 - photos : Marc-Antoine Bulot

background

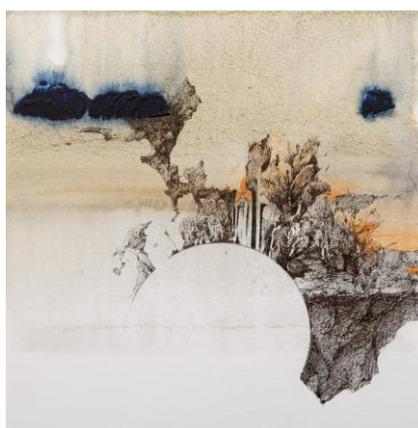
Lee Jin Woo (born in 1959) regularly exhibits in Korea, China and Europe. The Galerie Maria Lund has presented five shows of the artist in Paris (2007, 2009, 2012, 2014 and 2015) and exhibited his work at the *KIAF*, Seoul (2008-2011 and 2015). In 2006 the *Galerie Manes* in Prague welcomed a major exhibition of his work. The *Rijswijk museum* in the Netherlands invited Lee Jin Woo to participate in the *Holland Paper Biennial in 2008*. Recently, the artist has been a visiting professor at the *Sichuan Fine Art Institute* in China to share his views on contemporary art.

As this year celebrates Korea in France, the artist participated in the exhibition *Seoul-Paris-Seoul* at the *Cernuschi Museum* in Paris.

In October 2016, the Korean newspaper *Chosun Ilbo* will present a solo show of Lee Jin Woo's work in its Seoul quarters. The French editor *Actes Sud* publishes a monograph of the artist in autumn 2016.

## MIN JUNG-YEON

Min Jung-Yeon asserts an expression and a universe, which are characterized by the encounter of organic elements, fluidity and components both structured and structural. She is the heiress of Asian landscape paintings and drawings, where Nature represents the state of mind of those inhabiting them. In subtle scenes, the artist attempts to convey existence, permanent movement and parallel temporalities through the use of metaphors. Based on her everyday life, her observations and emotions, she deals with the universal subject of reality's complexity. Femininity and masculinity are another recurrent topic: The dialogue is not simple; these two forces confront each other, sometimes merge or live in simple juxtaposition. Min Jung-Yeon's fascination for philosophy and natural science pervades her entire work, from a post-Darwinian vision of life and the fight between species and plants, or the battle between the sexes, to her allusions to the paradoxes of physics\*. The artist's latest drawings bear more resemblance to her paintings: To the fluidity of watercolors, the textured stroke of the pencil and the thousands of tiny lines of Indian ink, she has added layers of acrylic paint, playing with density or transparency, thus bringing to existence impenetrable "bodies". The paper once left bare to act as a counterpoint to the forms unfolding is now almost entirely covered in more or less abstract planes; "landscapes" drawn in darker hues, brightened by luminous patches of diluted acrylic or by black, white, and grey ink shapes or marked with a bold graphic line. The artist uses a *chiaroscuro* of muted tones, bringing to life planes and "natures", which are subtly intertwined.



3. MIN Jung-Yeon | *Monter un théâtre* | 29 x 24 cm | Indian ink, colour pencil and acrylic on paper | 2016

4. MIN Jung-Yeon | *Le doute d'horizon II* | 16,1 x 16,1 cm | Indian ink, colour pencil and acrylic on paper | 2016

5. MIN Jung-Yeon | *Nulle part ou aujourd'hui I* | 32,2 x 32 cm | Indian ink, colour pencil and acrylic on paper | 2016

### background

Born in 1979 in South Korea, Min Jung-Yeon graduated in Fine Arts (Hongick University, Seoul, 2003 and the Academy of Fine Arts in Paris (ENSBA), 2005). Showing regularly in Asian, European and Middle Eastern galleries since 2004, she also participated in *Medi(t)ation*, the third *Asian Contemporary Art Biennial* presented in the **Taiwan National Museum of Fine Arts** in 2011. The GALERIE MARIA LUND has been collaborating with the artist since 2010. The gallery hosted two of her solo shows *Memories from a greenhouse (Mémoire de la serre)* in 2012, and *Yesterday I understood today better (Hier je comprenais mieux aujourd'hui)* in 2015, and has also shown her work in fairs and collective exhibitions (*Contemporary drawing Salon - Drawing Now*, Paris, 2010, 2011 and 2012, *YIA*, Paris 2014 and 2015). **Min Jung-Yeon is the third winner of the Prix des Partenaires of the Musée d'Art Moderne de Saint-Etienne Métropole.** The award was a solo show of her drawings in the summer of 2012, the publishing of a catalogue and the acquisition of several of her drawings by the museum. To celebrate the Korean Year in France, the artist was presented in the figurative section of the *Séoul-Paris-Séoul* curated by the **Musée Cernuschi** in Paris (2015). **Min Jung-Yeon's** work has been the subject of a dozen catalogs and numerous publications in the media in both Europe and Korea. *Hibernation*, a monographic publication appeared in 2009.

\* For example Richard Dawkins *The selfish gene* and *Schrödinger's cat*, a paradox formulated by physicist Erwin Schrödinger

### event at the gallery

**READING KOREAN LITERATURE (IN FRENCH): Thursday March 31st at 8 pm**

La Liseuse presents *ici comme ailleurs* by Lee Seung-U.

Read by Donatien Guillot, voice directed by Caroline Girard with a soundtrack by Vincent Rioux.

### actual exhibition at the gallery

**OUTLINING A SHELTER - TRAITS D'UN ABRI** drawing sculpture video **ESBEN KLEMMANN - MARTINET&TEXEREAU - SHOI**

For further information or visuals, please contact: **Maria Lund, Sini Rinne-Kanto or Clémence Rouzaud**

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