

LEEAH JOO

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Kurosawa's film *Dreams* has a scene where a beautiful snow spirit drapes a fallen hiker with layer upon layer of shimmering fabric. Despite the warmth, these blankets of snow, fatigue and slumber, must be shaken off for the hiker to survive. The art historian Irving Lavin's take on the metaphor for drapery in context of Baroque Art refers to another kind that separates the fictive from the real world, connecting the past with the present, like a curtain at a theater. My recent paintings explore these different connotations of drapery as a still life subject. In one sense, it celebrates the simple beauty and the tradition of Korean brocades saved for special occasions, birthdays or New Year. Then the drapery transforms into mountains and oceans to suggest stories from the past eclipsing the present. In these paintings of wrapped, bundled, swathed landscapes of silken brocades, stories of family, folklore and history unravel.

One Person Exhibitions

- 2017 "Knots and Loose Ends" Andrew Bae Gallery, Chicago, IL
"Sexybeast" Project Wall, H&R Block Artspace, KCAI, Kansas City, MO
- 2016 "Wrapped" Christopher Newport University, Newport, VA
- 2014 "Gatherings: New Paintings" Andrew Bae Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2012 "From Bricks to Gold: Last 15 Years" Schumacher Gallery, Middlebury, CT
- 2011 "Dokkebi and Other Tales" Andrew Bae Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2009 "Looking Out, Looking In" Edinboro University, Edinboro, PA
"Looking Out, Looking In" Eastern Tennessee University, Johnson City, TN
- 2008 "Leeah Joo" Hendrix University, Conway, AR
- 2007 "Circularity" Andrew Bae Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2005 "Vignettes: Paintings by Leeah Joo" DePauw University, Greencastle, IN
"Window Tales" Andrew Bae Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2003 "Recent Works" Wichita Center for the Arts, Wichita, KS
"Recent Works" Bethany College, Lindsborg, KS
- 2002 "Window Paintings" Dennis Morgan Gallery, Kansas City, MO
"Five Years in Kansas City" Embry Gallery, Barstow School, Kansas City, MO
- 2000 "Kansas Cityscapes" Michael Cross Gallery, Kansas City, MO
- 1999 "Observations from Portugal" Wichita State University, Wichita, KS
"Paintings from the Attic" Michael Cross Gallery, Kansas City, MO
- 1996 "Fountain Street Paintings" Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2016 "New Works", Andrew Bae Gallery, Chicago, IL
"Embodied Narratives" Artspace, Willimantic, CT
- 2015 "Ley Lines: Intersecting Conversations" Univ. of Wyoming Art Museum, Laramie, WY
"Weaving Time: Archive of Korean American Artists" AHL Foundation, New York,
- 2014 "In Retrospect" Gallery Korea - Korean Cultural Service of New York, New York, NY
"Beneath Raw Skin" Artspace, Eastern CT State University, Willimantic, CT
- 2013-14 "Memories and Meditations" Metropolitan Capital, Chicago, IL

- 2012 "East and West" Atrium Gallery, New London, CT
- 2012 "Los Angeles Art Expo", Los Angeles Convention Center, CA
- 2011 "Drawing Resurfaced" Purdue University Galleries, West Lafayette, IN
- "Art Chicago" Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL
- 2010 "Figurative Distance" CCAT Gallery, Hartford, CT
- "Where Lies Beauty" Mattatuck Museum of Art and History, Waterbury, CT
- "Ripe" Keyhole Gallery and Leedy-Voulkos Gallery, Kansas City, MO
- 2009 "New Works" Andrew Bae Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2008 "Never Routine: the Course of Daily Lives of Women" Grace Institute, New York, NY
- 2007 "Here and There: Immigrant Stories" New Bedford Art Center, New Bedford, MA
- 2006 "Contemporary Asian Art 2006", Art Center of Battle Creek, Battle Creek, MI
- 2005 Andrew Bae Gallery at Navy Pier Art Expo, Chicago, IL
- 2004 Truth or Fiction: Young Korean Overseas Artist Exhibition" -
Hangaram Art Museum at Seoul Art Center, Seoul, S. Korea
Annual Invitational - Korean Cultural Center, Los Angeles, CA
Andrew Bae Gallery at Navy Pier Art Expo, Chicago, IL
- 2003 "Landscape Unlimited" - The Fine Arts Building Gallery, Chicago, IL
Summer Group Exhibition, Dennis Morgan Gallery, Kansas City, MO
- 2002 "Perceptual Experience: A Decade of Contemporary American Figure Drawing"
- Frye Art Museum, Seattle, WA
"New Talent" - Gross McCleaf Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
"Gathering Influences" - H&R Block Artspace, Kansas City, MO
- 2001 "Small Packages" - Wood Street Gallery and Sculpture Garden, Chicago, IL
"Kansas City Flat Files" - H&R Block Artspace, Kansas City, MO
"Charlotte Street Fund Exhibition" - H&R Block Artspace, Kansas City, MO
- 2000 "New Faculty" - H&R Block Artspace, Kansas City, MO
Benefit Exhibition - Bellwether Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 1999 "Supermarket 1999" - Lamar University, Beaumont, TX
- 1998 "Realism 98" - Stage Gallery, Merrick, NY
"Women in Visual Arts" - Erector Gallery, New Haven, CT
"International Perspectives" - University of New Haven, West Haven, CT
"6 Schools Faculty Exhibition" - Artspace, New Haven, CT
- 1997 "Halpert Biennial" - Appalachian State University, Boone, NC
"Connecticut Women Artists" - University of Hartford, Hartford, CT
- 1996 "Painting Today" - Erector Gallery, New Haven, CT
"New Talent" - Alpha Gallery, Boston, MA

Awards and Honors

- 2016-17 MacMillan-Stewart Painting Chair, Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD
- 2013 A.R.T. Grant Recipient, Berkshire Taconic Foundation
- 2013 Puffin Foundation Grant Recipient
- 2008 Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism Grant Recipient
- 2006 Pollock Krasner Foundation Grant Recipient
- 2004 George Sugarman Foundation Grant Recipient
- 2001 Charlotte Street Fund Recipient
- 1996 Helen W. Winternitz Award, Yale School of Art, New Haven, CT

Bibliography

- Robin Tung, "Interview with Leeah Joo" *Daily Serving*, Web. December 13, 2013.
- Martha Vickery, "In Mind's Eye: Leeah Joo's Paintings" *Korean Quarterly*, August 2013; 40-43. Print.
- Yolanda Green, "A Silent Guide: Works from River North" *Chicago Art Magazine*, Web. Jan 18, 2011.
- Tracy O'Shaughnessy, "Where Beauty Lies" *Republican-American*, June 29, 2010. Print.
- Korean Beacon, "Visiting Korean artist Leeah Joo", *Korean Beacon*, Web. January 26, 2009.
- Alaina Akens, "Visiting Korean Artist Leeah Joo Presents Lecture to Inspiring Artists"
East Tennessean, Web. January 26, 2009
- Depauw University Press, "Vignettes: Paintings by Leeah Joo at Peeler Art Center" *DePauw University
New and Media*, Web. September 29, 2005.
- Alan G. Artner, "Leeah Joo's Storytelling Works" *Chicago Tribune*, March 25, 2005. Print.
- Katherine Rook Lieber, "Leeah Joo" *Artscope.net*. Web. March 18, 2005.
- Michael Workman, "Unsolved Mysteries" *Newcitychicago.com*. Web. March 19, 2005.
- Bridgette R. McCullough, "Leeah Joo, Window Tales" *TimeOut Chicago*, Web. January 6, 2005.
- Teggi Moon, "Six Korean Artists Selected" *The Korea Times (L.A. edition)*, October 7, 2004. Print.
- "Korean Artists Stand Out..." *The Korea Daily (L.A. edition)*, October 12, 2004. Print.
- Mi-Jin Kim, "Review: Truth and Fiction" *Seoul Art Center Magazine*, August 2004. Print.
- Dong-Hyun Yu, "Young Artists' Reaction" *Wolganmisool*, August 2004. Print.
- Yun-Mee Lee, "Young Artists' Truth and Fiction" *Herald Media*, July 2004. Print.
- Young-Jin Kim, "Adventures from Foreign Lands..." *Misulsegae*, July 2004. Print.
- Min-suk, Suh, "The Truth and Fiction in Art" *Seoul Art Center Magazine*, July 2004. Print.
- Christopher Swetala, "Intimation through a Veiled Window", *Review: News, Features and Art in KC*,
February/March 2003. Print.
- Alice Thorson, "Panes and Pleasures", *Kansas City Star*, December 13, 2002: 29. Print.
- Theresa Bembnister, "A Glass Act", *Pitchweekly*, December 5-11, 2002:37. Print.
- Kate Hackman, "Charlotte Street Exhibition Opens" *Review*, September 2001: 29-33. Print.
- Kate Hackman, "Charlotte Street Fund", *Review*, April 2001:14. Print.
- Alice Thorson, "Winning Works", *Kansas City Star*, April 2001: 11-13. Print.
- Lisa Fanning, "Joo at Michael Cross", *Review*, November 2000, Vol 3, No. 1: 41. Print.
- Jan Marsh, "Faculty Show at Block" *Review*, October 2000, Vol 2, No. 12: 33. Print.
- Elisabeth Kirsch, "A block party for creative versatility: Extraordinary diversity" *K.C. Star*,
Sept. 1, 2000. Print.
- Elisabeth Kirsch, "Cat Always Comes Back: Paintings from the Attic" *Kansas City Star*,
April 18, 1999: 16-18. Print.
- Christopher Leitch, "A Room with a View of One's Own" *Review*, May 1999, No.7: 18. Print.

Publications

- Ley Lines*, Harvey Hix, Ontario: Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2014.
- Charlotte Street Foundation, 10 years*; Charlotte Street Foundation, Kansas city, MO, 2007
- Truth and Fiction, Young Korean Overseas Artists*, Seoul, Korea: Seoul Art Center
and Hangaram Art Museum, 2004
- Perception of Appearance, A Decade of Contemporary American Figure Drawing*, Norman Lundin,
Seattle, WA: University of Washington Press and Frye Art Museum. 2002
- New Letters, A Magazine of Writing and Art*, Vol 67, No. 1, Kansas City, MO: UMKC. 2000

Visiting Artist Lectures, Workshops

- 2017 Maryland Institute College of Art

2016 Christopher Newport University, Newport News, VA
Stepping Stone Childrens Museum, Norwalk, CT

2012 Fairfield University, CT
Westover School, Middlebury, CT

2010 Mattatuck Museum, Waterbury, CT

2009 Eastern Tennessee University, Johnson City, TN
Edinboro University, Edinboro, PA

2008 Visiting Artist, Hendrix College, Conway, AR

2005 Visiting Artist, DePauw University, Greencastle, IN

2003 Visiting Artist, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS
Visiting Artist, Bethany College, Lindsborg, KS

2002 Visiting Artist, Barstow School, Kansas City, MO
Friends of Art Artist Lecture Series, Nelson-Atkins Museum, Kansas City, MO

1999 Visiting Artist, Wichita State University, Wichita, KS

1998 Visiting Artist Lecture Series, KCAI, Kansas City, MO

1996 Visiting Artist, Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT

Teaching Experience

2012-current lecturer, Art Department, Southern Ct State University, New Haven, CT

2010-2016 Instructor - Drawing and Painting - Westover School, Middlebury, CT

2012-2013 Visiting Adjunct Professor, Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT

2002-2004 Assistant Professor, Painting Department - Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO

1998-2002 Special Instructor/Artist in Residence - Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO

1996-1998 lecturer- University of New Haven, West Haven, CT

Education

1996 MFA Painting, Yale School of Art, New Haven, CT

1994 BFA Painting, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

1994 BA Art History, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN