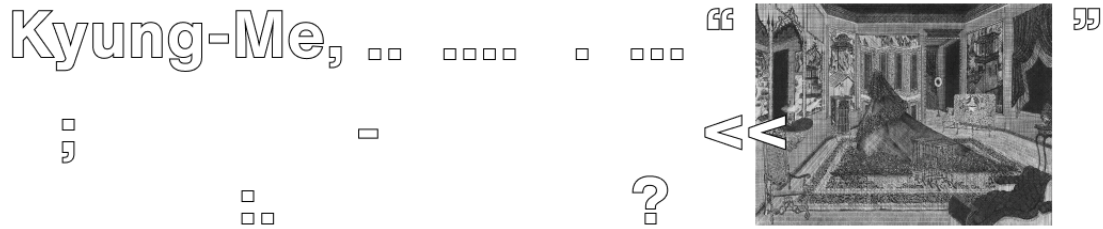


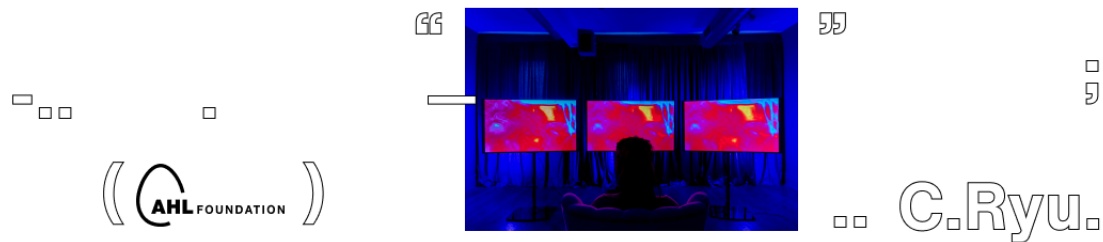
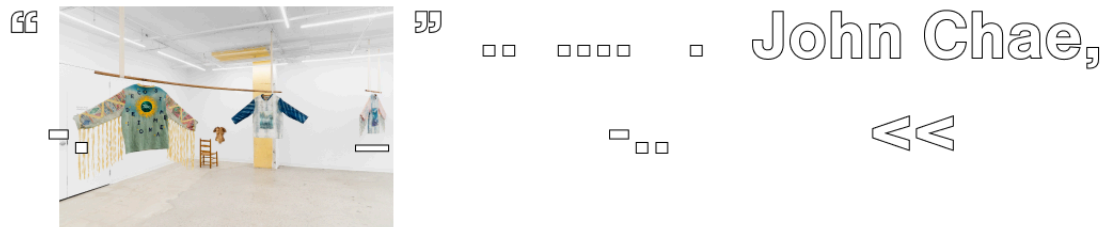


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AHL Foundation to Host the 2024 AHL-T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Awards Exhibition



AHL-T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Award Winners Exhibition



- Exhibition Dates: November 1, 2024 (Fri) - December 6, 2024 (Fri)
- Gallery Hours: Wed-Sat, 12 PM - 6 PM
- Location: AHL Foundation Gallery (2605 Frederick Douglass Blvd. #C1, New York, NY 10030)
- Curator: Ian Wallace
- Participating Artists: Kyung-Me, John Hee Taek Chae, C. Ryu
- Opening Reception: November 1, 2024 (Fri) 5 PM - 7 PM

AHL Foundation will hold the 2024 AHL-T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Awards Exhibition at the AHL Foundation Gallery (2605 Frederick Douglass Blvd. #C1, New York, NY

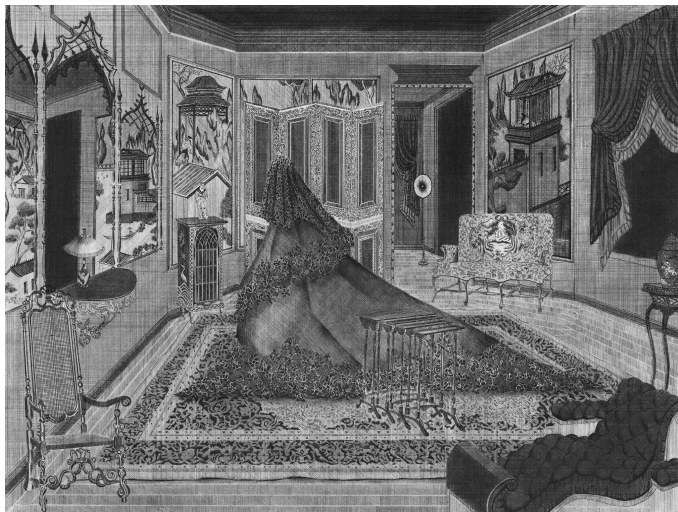
10030) opening on November 1, 2024 (Fri). This year, the exhibition was curated by Ian Wallace, the Associate Curator at Amant, and will showcase a range of works including drawings, paintings, installations, and videos by this year's awardees. Awarded artists, Kyung-Me (Gold), John Hee Taek Chae (Silver), and C. Ryu (Bronze), were selected as winners of the 2024 AHL-T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Awards.

These exceptional artists circle the themes of 'obfuscation' in dynamic ways, questioning how ambiguity can be utilized as a creative tool to explore the thematic relationships between identity and reality. Their works, curated as one, delve into the productive potential of ambiguity, alluring audiences to engage with their innovative visual and conceptual artistic languages.

Kyung-Me's intricate ink and charcoal drawings depict surreal architectural spaces, exploring the relationship between the figurative and the symbolic. John Chae's paintings and installations explore identity as a second-generation Korean American through a blend of autobiographical elements and historical references, while C. Ryu's thermal surveillance video installations address taboo images of the body in Korea and critically examine their relationship with silenced voices in the country's historical context. Curator Ian Wallace says, "Through these artists' works, we are able to begin to see the ways that these questions intersect with the experiences of immigration, cultural assimilation, being in diaspora, surveillance, and alienation; some of the most pressing social issues of our time."

The AHL-T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Award, one of AHL Foundation's flagship programs, has been an annual open-call structured competition for Korean artists in the U.S. since its establishment in 2003. Since 2016, the award has been generously supported by the T&W Foundation, founded by renowned artist and cultural philanthropists Wonsook Kim, and Thomas Park Clement.

About the Artists



Kyung-Me

Half-Mourning

ink and charcoal on paper, 18" x 24"

2018

Kyung-Me (Gold Award)'s work explores potential architectures of the subconscious and how images, objects, and memory are intertwined to conjure complex and spiritual spaces. Working predominantly in ink and charcoal, she creates drawings of labyrinthian spaces. In these interior worlds, she explores the seductive and sinister nature of entrapment structures.

She is interested in the invisible architecture of entrapment -- from the familial and societal to the psychological and spiritual. Kyung-Me (b. 1991, lives and works in New York, NY) graduated from the Yale School of Art with an MFA in 2018. Her work has been collected by the Whitney Museum of Art, Baltimore Museum of Art, and Magasin III. Recent shows include: "Sister", Bureau, New York, NY (2022); "Introverse: Allegory Today", 80WSE, New York, NY (2022); "Liminal Spaces", Kraupa-Tuskany Zeidler, Berlin, 2019; "Coniunctio" with Harry Gould Harvey IV, Bureau, New York, NY (2019); "Poor Thing" with Sydney Shen, Hotel Art Pavilion, Brooklyn (2018); "Copy Kitty", Selena Gallery, Brooklyn (2017); and "Bad Korean", 17 Essex Gallery, New York, (2016). Kyung-Me is represented by Bureau (New York) and Kiang Malingue (Hong Kong). She is the author of two books, *Copy Kitty*, published by 2dCloud (2020) and *Bad Korean*, published by Spaceface Books (2016). She also teaches at Rhode Island School of Design, New York University, and the Pacific Northwest College of the Arts.



John Chae

A Dark and Bloody Ground

Wood, oil on linen, cyanotype, fabric dye on linen, silk, cotton, and polyester, Installation

2023

John Hee Taek Chae (Silver Award) is an artist and educator whose work is interested in the hybridization and mutation of visual culture primarily through the practice of painting. John received his BFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art in 2010 and his MFA in Painting and Printmaking from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2020. His previous solo exhibitions include *A Dark and Bloody Ground* at Institute 193 (Lexington, KY), *Shed Your Eyes* at MARCH (New York, NY), *Western Paintings* at D. D. D. (New York, NY), and *Make. Believe.* at MOCA Jacksonville (Jacksonville, FL), among others, and he was awarded the MacDowell Fellowship in 2021 and was a Yaddo Fellow in 2022. He was the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Scholar in Residence at the University of Houston in 2023 and is now Assistant Professor in the School of Art and Design at Alfred University.



C.Ryu

Alice & Alice: in Free Fall

New Media 3 channel installation in fabricated blue room

2023-2024

C. Ryu (Bronze Award) is an interdisciplinary artist using translation as a tool to map forgotten histories – to reveal psychological shadows haunting | hunting the diaspora – and performs contemporary translations of rituals for the living. Ryu was born and raised in the United States to Korean immigrants. Ryu moved a total of 8 times over the first 18 years of life. Infatuated with moving, memory & movement, and migration, Ryu's practice spans through mediums of performance, social practice, intimate gatherings, and video installations often using techniques conflating documentary and science fiction to parse through the warped nature of emotional time in migration storytelling. Tracing the edges of the hidden and silenced perspectives of the past to inform the personal and political of the present, C. visualizes narratives utilizing multiple voices in tension with each other to highlight the complicated structures of empire and power while unraveling imperial illusions through geopolitical poetry. C. Ryu is a co-founder and co-leader of [Hwa Records](#), JADED (named 2022 People of the Year by the Pittsburgh City Paper), and Han Diaspora Group. Ryu has performed, exhibited, and culturally produced at Carnegie Museum of Art; Institute of Contemporary Art, San Francisco; McDonough Museum of Art; University of Southern California; LA Art Show; Kelly Strayhorn Theater; and more.

About the AHL-T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Awards

Established in 2003, the Contemporary Visual Art Awards is an annual competition open to all contemporary artists of Korean descent active in the United States and is part of AHL Foundation's core program. The awards recognize the work of exemplary young emerging contemporary artists of Korean descent and provide them with a monetary prize and the opportunity to have their work presented at a group exhibition in New York. Since 2016, the award has been generously supported by the T&W Foundation, established by Wonsook Kim and Thomas Park Clement

For media inquiries, please contact:

info@ahlfoundation.org