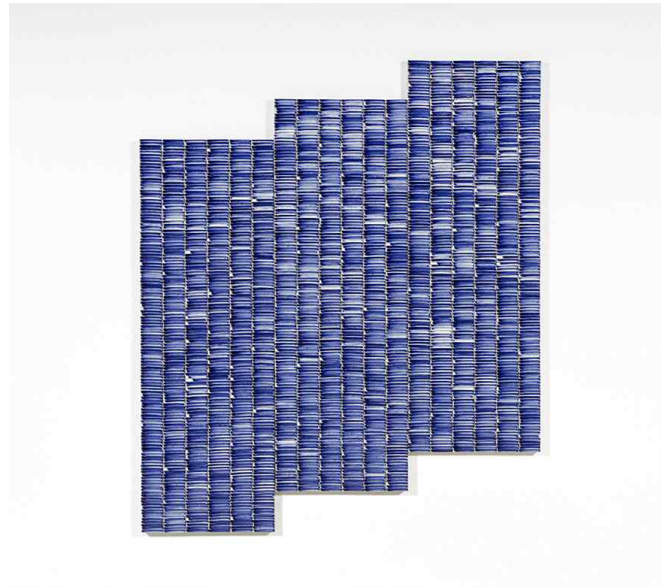


Lee Eun



Lee Eun paints her own sea through the use of earth and brush. Her choice to depict the seascape using soil may seem unconventional, yet it evokes a longstanding symbolic connection between earth and water as primal substances associated with maternity and origin in human culture. In particular, the sea—unfixed, ever-shifting, and ceaseless in its cycles of emergence and dissolution—evokes the transience of life and the limits of human existence.

Her work captures the sea's mobility between horizon and skyline, as well as the scattering of light across its surface, through layered blue brushstrokes and the tactile density of soil. This is not a literal representation of a specific landscape, but a subjective one—distilled from memory and sensation. For the artist, the sea of her hometown is both a point of departure and a sustaining spiritual anchor. The process itself mirrors the rhythm of waves—repetitive and meditative. Lee cuts and dries coarse, thick clay into warped, varied forms, then hand-paints each one in cobalt blue. This labor-intensive method demands focus and patience, and her brushwork—reminiscent of the way wind and light brush across the sea—imbues the clay with a quiet vitality.

Though Lee's works may appear abstract, they conjure vivid sensory impressions: the movement of waves, the cries of seabirds, the scent of salt in the air. Her repetitive gestures act as both a summons of the past and a confrontation with the elemental nature of the sea—a way to reflect on the self and the essence of life. Ultimately, her practice becomes a sculptural meditation that distills singular forms of perception and solace from everyday contemplation.

LEE & BAE

Lee Eun (b.1961, Busan, Korea)

■ Educations

1986 ChuGye University for the Arts

■ Selected Solo Exhibition

2025 Korea Galleries Art Fair, Artspace3, Seoul, Republic of Korea

2019 Sea, Gallery Royal, Seoul, Republic of Korea

2017 Sea, Artspace3, Seoul, Republic of Korea

2015 Solo Exhibition Sea, Artspace3, Seoul, Republic of Korea

My Sea, Gallery lydo, Seoul, Republic of Korea

My Sea, Gallery Idm, Busan, Republic of Korea

2013 Solo Exhibition, Artspace3, Seoul, Republic of Korea

2010 Solo Exhibition, Gallery NANUM, Seoul, Republic of Korea

2008 Solo Exhibition, Gallery KOMAKONE, Paju, Republic of Korea

■ Selected Group Exhibition

2024 Sea, Uartspace, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Like the Moon, Mountains and Winding Rivers, Seoul, Republic of Korea

2022 ART-IST : WAYS OF SEEING, Boontheshop, Seoul, Republic of Korea

2021 Sansudo, Artspace3, Seoul, Republic of Korea

2018 COLLECT 2018, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK

Kim Taikyun, Lee Eun Two person Exhibition, Gallery B'one, Seoul, Republic of Korea

2017 ART CENTRAL Hongkong 2017, Central Harbourfront, Hongkong

2014 From The Buncheong, Artspace3, Seoul, Republic of Korea

2013 Sympathy, Artspace3, Seoul, Republic of Korea

2011 MIX up+ (Korea Ceramic Foundation)

2009 Anima-Animal : Gallery SOBAB, Yang-Pyeong, GyeonGi-do, Republic of Korea

1994-5 Toart Fair, Seoul, Republic of Korea

1986-8 JEJAK Group Exhibition, KWANHOON Gallery, Seoul, Republic of Korea

■ Public Collections

National Museum of Modern Contemporary Art, Art Bank