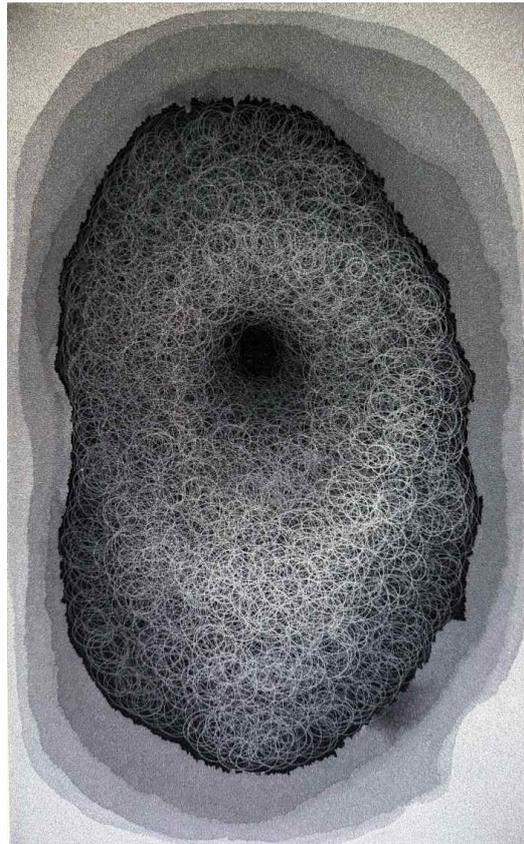


LEE & BAE

Sangsun Bae



Sangsun Bae has been making two types of paintings: one type made using blueblack ink and charcoal on white surfaces coated with gesso mixed with the blue-black ink, and another type made by drawing countless fine lines of gesso using a fine-point brush on surfaces of black velvet in a way that brings out the jet-black color. These works have their origins in abstracted profile lines extracted from figure sketches, and they thus carry a rhythm of organic lines that relate to the bonds that are formed between lives and also to her current knotted forms. Bae, who started off by drawing people in order to better understand herself, eventually developed an interest in the very movements of people. While exploring her thoughts through delving into the questions of what it means to be human and what it means to live, she eventually began to focus on the subtle changes in the air that occur between two posing models set in the different combinations of woman-woman, man-man, or man-woman. Here lies an important concept of Bae, who has discovered the imperceptible and indefinite aura or energy generated and exchanged between people that constantly shifts in direction and strength. The single placid lines that she makes differ from the slicing lines of the West: they are Eastern lines that mix the internal and external worlds together from

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both sides. Like traces of ink, they seep out into their surrounds and make observers conscious of the outside world. I believe that both the concept of the boundary that arises between the black and white and the idea of inverting the black and white that are seen in her work have been shaped through her realization of the meaning of the line that mixes together the inside and outside. Bae's paintings—composed from single lines, the stoic use of emotionless black and white, and the intensely powerful sense of vitality that is a special characteristic of the artist—has its footings on a fundamental style of painting that stands at an opposite extreme to the paintings of recent trends that are over-reliant on instinctive color combinations and innovation of technique. I am drawn to the life force in her paintings that is born from her sincere approach to creation. Bae's work, which makes us aware of the meaning and power of living through our bonds with other people at a time when human relationships have become shallow and fleeting, brims with appeal: it reminds us of the true nature of paintings and enables us to feel sensations that mature through the passing of time spent in its presence. Recently, she has produced sculptural works using ropes knotted in a way that cannot be unraveled, which she has made based on an experience through which she felt a deep connection to the birth of life. I am eager to watch over how she will continue to evolve her work that carries within its voids the potential for the bonds and relationships that humans form to be further explored.

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Sangsun Bae (b.1971, Hwasun, Korea)

■ Educations

- 2008 PhD Candidate, Kyoto City University of the Arts, Kyoto, Japan
- 2003 Royal College of Art, London, UK
- 2002 MFA Fine Art, Musashino Art University, Tokyo, Japan
- 1997 BFA Fine Art, Sung Kyun Kwan University of Fine Art, Seoul, Korea

■ Selected Solo Exhibition

- 2025 Bloodline, LEE & BAE, Busan, Korea
- 2024 ONGO JISHIN, Bum Gallery, Seoul, Korea
- 2024 Echoes of Renewal, YOD Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2023 Layers of time, Tune stay Kyoto, Kyoto, Japan
- 2022 Overlapping layers, Takashimaya, Osaka, Japan
- 2020 Chandelier, Ashiya Schule Gallery, Ashiyasi, Japan
 - More & Less, Tosei Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
 - Layers of Time , Tosei Gallery & KG+, Kyoto, Japan
- 2019 Layers of time, LEE & BAE, Busan, Korea
 - Moon-bow, Kyotography KG+, Kyoto, Japan
 - Repeat & Repeat, Sfera Exhibition, Kyoto, Japan
- 2018 Circle of Life, LEE & BAE, Busan, Korea
- 2017 Repeat & Repeat Sfera Exhibition, Kyoto, Japan
 - International Artist's Solo Exhibition, CIGE, Beijing, China
- 2014 Over & Over, Imura Art Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
 - Broken Knot, Gallery Dam, Seoul, Korea
- 2013 Line's Echo, Ujong Museum of Art, Korea
- 2012 Broken Knot, Gallery Dam, Seoul, Korea
- 2011 Gordian Knot, Imura art Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2010 Knot : Relationship's Metaphor, Gallery Dam, Seoul, Korea
- 2009 Relationship's Shape, Imura Art Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
 - White and Black, Shinsegae Gallery, Gwangju, Korea
 - White and Black, Shinsegae Gallery, Busan, Korea
- 2008 Sangsun Bae, Gallery Yemac, Seoul, Korea
- 2007 The Dynamics of Stilness, Sfera Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
 - Sangsun Bae, Gallery 3A, Kyoto, Japan
 - Sangsun Bae, Gallery NV, Seoul, Korea
- 2005 Time's Layers, Gallery La Fenice, Osaka, Japan
- 2004 The Active White, INAX gallery II, Tokyo, Japan

■ Selected Group Exhibition

- 2025 Korean Artists Series 2025: Unfolding Silence, Korean Cultural Center Hong Kong
- The 12th Cheongju International Contemporary Art Exhibition: The Resonance of Light and Color in Asia, Schema Museum of Art, Cheongju, Korea
- Interpretation of Medium, LEE & BAE, Busan, Korea

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- BLACK & WHITE, Kura Monzen Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
SHITSURAI –Offerings XI, Terminal Kyoto, Kyoto, Japan
[KG + 2025] 60th Anniversary of Japan-Korea Normalization: "Dialogue of Earth"
YIPF(Yeosu International Photo Festival)Group exhibition, Oharano Studio Gallery,
Kyoto, Japan
- 2024 Flowering Oharano's Exhibition, Oharano Studio Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
Yi Tai Sculpture & Installation Projects, Central Harbourfront, Hong Kong
The inaugural group exhibition, SUN CONTEMPORARY, Bali, Indonesia
Echo Oharano 2024 - Deep breathing, Kyoto, Japan
ART MARKET TENNOZ 2024, WHAT CAFE, Tokyo, Japan
Art Central HONG KONG 2024, Hong Kong
- 2023 Whoever was using this bed, Art Corner H, Seoul, Korea
Synergy, YOD Gallery Tokyo, Japan
Etude of Lines, Khalifa Gallery, Seoul, Korea
- 2022 Static x Motion: Tracing the Spirit of Korea, The Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park,
Shigaraki, Japan
The Dignity of Art, LEE & BAE, Busan, Korea
3 Artists Exploring the Theme of Ar', Tosei Kyoto Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
Black, and White: The color of silence, LEE & BAE, Busan, Korea
Art Busan, BEXCO, Busan, Korea
Explore, Tosei Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
DIALOGUE, Korea Arts Management Service, Seoul, Korea
- 2021 Images don't or do they talk to each other?, KG+ Tosei Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
Manifold : Manual, Hangaram Art Museum, Seoul, Korea
Soje, remember the city – City Memory Project, Daejeon Narae Museum,
Daejeon, Korea
Art Central Hong Kong, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Hong Kong
Art Busan, BEXCO, Busan, Korea
- 2020 Abu Dhabi Art 2020, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, UAE
Sofa Chicago 2020, Virtual Fair
KYOEN International Artists inspired by Kyoto, Kyoto, Japan
Art Busan 2020, BEXCO, Busan, Korea
KIAF Seoul 2020, Virtual Fair
- 2019 Busan : It exists now as it was then, Busan Cultural Foundation, Busan, Korea
Busan : It exists now as it was then, F1963, Busan, Korea
Asia Now 2019, Les Salons Hoche, Paris, France
VOLTA Basel 2019, Elsässerstrasse 215, Basel, Switzerland
- 2018 KIAF Seoul 2018, COEX, Seoul, Korea
Art Busan 2018, Bexco, Busan, Korea
Entwined Repeating, Sfera Exhibition, Kyoto, Japan
CIRCLE Michael Whittle & Sangsun Bae, Trinity gallery, Seoul, Korea
Circle of life Sangsun Bae & Yokomizo Miyuki,, LEE & BAE, Busan, Korea
- 2016 Regional Research Project Final Exhibition 2016, TEMI Art Center, Daejeon, Korea
2013 Gift – 5 Women artists group show S fera exhibition, Kyoto, Japan

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- 2012 Art Across Asia – Renewed Encounters - Asian Artists' exchange exhibition,
Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata, India
Dividing Line – Connecting Line, Zuiun-an Project Space, Kyoto, Japan
Secret Garden exhibition of abstract artists 31, Uijong Museum, Uijong Korea
- 2011 Traces of Emotion II : International Drawing Exhibition,
Mudeung Museum of Contemporary Art, Gwangju, Korea
Asian Artists exchange exhibition, Kyoto City University of the Arts Gallery,
Kyoto, Japan
Asian Artists exchange exhibition, Kyung Sung University Museum, Busan, Korea
- 2010 Flatland : a romance in many dimensions, APT gallery, London, UK
- 2009 Prize Winnder's Group Show, Shinsegae Gallery, Gwangju, Korea
- 2008 The Vision Of Contemporary Art 2008, The Ueno Mori Royal Museum,
Tokyo, Japan
- 2005 The Vision Of Contemporary Art 2005, The Ueno Mori Royal Museum,
Tokyo, Japan
Art for healing, Mushroom Art Open Center, New York, USA
Plein Air Workshop – Art Association of Germany and Japan, Teterow, Germany
- 2004 Festival fo Young Asian Artists Exhibition, Changwon, Korea

■ Artist residency

- 2016 Artist in Residnce, TEMI Art Center, Daejeon, Koreaa
- 2015 Artist in Residnce, TEMI Art Center, Daejeon, Koreaa
- 2014 Artist in Residnce, TEMI Art Center, Daejeon, Koreaa

■ Award

- 2008 Shinsegage Gallery Prize, Gwangju, Korea
- 2005 Plein Air Workshop Scholarship, Art Association of Germany and Japan
Tenryu River Prize, Akino Art Museum, Japan
- 2003 Royal College of Art Scholarship
Obama Prize

■ Art Project & Collaboration

- 2015 Daejeon research project, 2 years, Daejeon, Korea
- 2014 DMZ project, 3 years, Gangwon-do, Korea
- 2013 Dividing Line, Connecting Line, Collaboration with Michael Whittle, Zuian-an,
Kyoto, Japan
- 2008 Daejeon research project, 2 years, Daejeon, Korea

■ Permanent Collections

- The Allen Thomas Junior Collection, USA
- The Korean National Museum of Contemporary Art - Art Bank, Korea
- The Akino Fuku Museum, Japan
- The Ujong Museum, Korea
- The Kimg Chongyung Sculpture Museum, Korea

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The International SUzuki Foundation, Japan