

JAENA KWON

Volta New York 2020

Booth 1.19

SPACE 776

PREVIEW

Wednesday, March 4

2- 9 PM

REGULAR HOURS

Thursday, March 5 – Saturday, March 7

12 – 8 PM

Sunday, March 8

12 – 5 PM



<Canary> 2019 Acrylic on Light Density Fiberboard
39(H) x 45(W) inches

Brooklyn - Space 776 is pleased to announce an exhibition of Jaena Kwon at Volta art fair in 2020 New York Armory week. For VIP Preview tickets and the question about the art works, please give us inquiry to info@space776.com.

About Jaena Kwon

Jaena Kwon (b. 1986, South Korea) earned her MFA Painting and Printmaking at Yale University School of Art. Her work deals with the elements of painting and the possibility of expanding the pictorial space of the flat surface. In her practice, folding and sanding is a way of expanding the surface and support structure of painting. Working with wood, light density fiberboard, gesso, acrylic, and pigments, she creates shaped work that achieves a fluid and haptic texture that heighten the logic of dimensions and psychological affect. Her work has been exhibited in numerous venues in the US and South Korea.

Artist Statement

My abstract works began as research into the elements of painting and the possibility of expanding the pictorial space of the flat surface. Traditionally, paintings were thought of frames into another space or scene. Confronted with the limitations of expressing three-dimensional sensibilities on a two-dimensional surface, I explored ways to expand the use of painting elements such as colors and perspective through my work. Such interest in the grammar of painting drew me to abstract works and to the problem of contemporary painting where we challenge the material presence and flatness of the painting surface. Through exploring the spatial qualities within flatness, my work reconstructs the pictorial space to extend the possibility of psychological and perceptual fields of the flat surface.

Folding and layering are important concepts in my work which I developed using various media from paper models to wood sculptures, canvas paintings, and digital modeling. My interest in folds and layered space began during my time at conservation studios studying microscopic cross-sectional samples of old master's paintings. 20X magnifications under stereomicroscopes revealed hidden layers of thin paints that could not be seen with naked eyes. Giant spheres of pigment powders and smooth fields of colors were sublime landscapes within a micro-universe. Paintings are complex objects created with multiple layers of material and repetitive hours of labor, containing a wealth of information beyond simple images. Painting became a means to contain compressed spatial information through overlaying lines and surfaces in a confined space. My idea of folds and layers developed as a way to express compressed brush strokes and drawing marks and expand the pictorial space of the surface into the psychological space of volume.

I focused on specific areas of painting and created their shapes with folded paper. The gestural forms of each paint layer became subjects for my paper models. The thin layers of paint were tested with thicker paper models and then became enlarged layered wood sculptures. Line weights and the brushstrokes were replaced by the fiber and grains of paper, and then into larger monochrome wooden shapes. This process led to a discovery of new types of form and dimensions within flat surfaces. Traditionally, linear perspective and scale have been used to create three-dimensional qualities within the pictorial space of the flat canvas. My larger wood sculptures expand the pictorial space to include the work, the space, and the viewer within the volume of the space. The position and the angle of the viewer's body transform my sculptures into a complex object that expands the spatial relationship of the viewer to the pictorial space of painting.

In a canvas painting, space was in the relationship between the flat surface and the image. In my work, this relationship was brought out to the physical space, focusing on the relationship between the tangible object and its surrounding volume - a transition from sense to perception. By redefining the pictorial space as a volumetric relationship, the viewer has to not only use her vision, but her entire body to experience the work, gradually activating different senses as the path of her vision and body move around about the work and slowly fill the space. As oil paint was developed to best represent tactility and texture of human flesh, I sought a similar quality in my work by controlling the smoothness of the wood and the viscosity of paint on canvas. By creating tactile senses through vision and seeing paintings with the body, I address the viewer's perceptual event that considers light, direction, and space.

JAENA KWON

EDUCATION

2014 MFA Painting and Printmaking, Yale University School of Art, New Haven, CT
2012 MFA Painting, Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea
2010 BFA Painting, Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea
2009 Visiting Student, Summer Residency, School of Visual Art, New York, NY
2008-2009 Visiting Student, Painting and Drawing, University of Iowa, IA

SOLO / TWO PERSON EXHIBITION

2020 Beyond Canvas Plane, Crossing Art Gallery, New York, NY (Solo)
2018 Fold, Illuminated, Thomas Park Gallery, New York, NY (Solo)
2018 Tactile Space, Spotte Art, New York, NY (Solo)
2017 Color Forms, Amy Simon Fine Art, Westport, CT (Two-person)
2012 Naturally Beautiful, ING Art Project, Seoul, South Korea (Solo)
2011 Analog Hologram, Songeun Artcube, Seoul, South Korea (Solo)

GROUP EXHIBITION / ART FAIR

2020 Volta New York, New York, NY
2019 Aqua Art Miami, Miami Beach, FL
2019 Gemeaux de Minuit,, Stella Ripley, Quabec, Canada
2018 iFireSale, Present Company, New York, NY
2018 Common Ground, Amy Simon Fine Art, Westport, CT
2018 Five Sided, +81 Gallery, New York, NY
2018 Paddle8 Benefit Auction, AHL Foundation, New York, NY
2018 Passion. Continued, Korean Cultural Center of New York, New York, NY
2017 Passion. Connected. 100x100, Korean Cultural Center of New York, New York, NY
2017 Discrete Blueprints, Collaboration with The AHL Foudation and Bank of Hope, New York, NY
2017 Fight or Flight, The Painting Center, New York, NY
2017 The Other Art Fair, Brooklyn Expo Center, New York, NY
2017 Fluctuating Identities, SIA NY Gallery, New York, NY
2016 NOT curated, Bushwick Open Studios, New York, NY
2016 A Korean Phrase for 'Fooling Around', SIA Gallery, New York, NY
2016 Drishti: A Concentrated Gaze, 1285 Avenue of the Americas Art Gallery, New York, NY
2016 Surface Feat, SPRING/BREAK Art Show
2016, New York, NY 2016 Surface One, ARENA@Brooklyn Dermatology, New York, NY
2015 Layering & Compositon-Global Influence, Tenri Cultural Institute, New York, NY
2015 Summer Love, SongEun Art Space, Seoul, South Korea
2015 Wrap Around, ARENA@Suite 806, New York, NY
2014 Boston Young Contemporaries, 808 Gallery, Boston, MA
2014 Condensd Matter-Thesis Exhibition, New Haven, CT
2013 Jaena Kwon, Open Gallery, Seoul, South Korea
2012 New Caledonia Hotel Art Fair, Noumea, New Caledonia
2011 Compoundings, Woosuk hall, Seoul, Korea
2010 Hue and Deep, Woosuk hall, Seoul, South Korea
2010 Asian Student and Young Artists Art Festival, Seoul, South Korea
2010 751 years old Leesungseo, Sungkyun gallery, Seoul, South Korea
2008 Small Work Show, The Chait Gallery, Iowa City, IA

RESIDENCIES / AWARDS / SCHOLARSHIPS

2017 The Studios, MASS MoCA, North Adams, MA
2014 Boston Young Contemporaries RGH Prize , Boston, MA
2014 Carol Schlosberg Memorial Prize, New Haven, CT
2013-2014 The Andrea Frank Foundation Sanyou Scholarship, New Haven, CT
2012 IELTS Scholarships, British Council Korea, Seoul, South Korea
2011 Teaching Assistant Fellowship, Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea
2008 Hwajeon Paint Award, Seoul, South Korea



Title: Canary
Year: 2019
Medium: Acrylic on Light Density Fiberboard
Size: 39(H) x 45(W) inches
Price: \$4,500



Title: Serpentine
Year: 2020
Medium: Acrylic on Light Density Fiberboard
Size: 58(H) x 39(W) inches
Price: \$5,000



Title: Chromatic Dispersion
Year: 2020
Medium: Acrylic on Light Density Fiberboard
Size: 43(H) x 42(W) inches
Price: \$4,800



Title: Organza Fold
Year: 2020
Medium: Acrylic on Light Density Fiberboard
Size: 42(H) x 53(W) inches
Price: \$4,800



Title: Spectrum
Year: 2020
Medium: Acrylic on Light Density Fiberboard
Size: 42(H) x 41(W) inches
\$4,800



Title: Berkshire Blue
Year: 2018
Medium: Acrylic on Light Density Fiberboard
Size: 32(H) x 47(W) inches
Price: \$4,500



Title: Blue Flash
Year: 2020
Medium: Acrylic on Light Density Fiberboard
Size: 54(H) x 48(W) inches
\$5,000



Title: Angel
Year: 2019
Medium: Oil on Canvas
Size: 36(H) x 48(W) inches
\$3,800