# Overseas Adoption 70 Years Archives & Art

Exhibition

2023. 7. 7 Fri ~ 7. 21 Fri 12pm – 7pm

Opening 2023. 7. 7 4pm

Artists Talk 5:30pm

Co-curation

Jerry Ji Young Yoo & kimura byol lemoine

#### **Artists**

Michou Amelynck Lia Barrett Nari Baker Raphaël Bourgeois JooYoung Choi Jennifer Kwon Dobbs Florian Bong Kil GROSSE Lee Herrick Maïté Minh Tâm Jeannolin Jung Maja Lee Langvad Julayne Lee kimura byol lemoine Eunha Lovell 메아리/MehAhRi Cathy Min Jung Leah '양진 Nichols Mirae kh RHEE (이미래/李未來) Lisa Wool-Rim Sjöblom Ji Sun Sjogren Tanja Sørensen & Heeja Kramhøft Kim Sperling KimSu Theiler





### Introduction





Photo Credits: Thaiphy Phan-Quang, Michael Hurt, Lawrence Elizabeth Knox, courtesy of Weingarten Art Group and Houston Endowment

The concept is to showcase 20+ Korean adoptee artists for KoRoot's 20 years of existence.

Among those artists we prioritized artists that had works at KoRoot during this period of time.

The two-week display is to 'complement' KoRoot timeline archives, artifacts and also in terms of time, people-power, budget and sustainability, and selected older and newer artworks.

The result of this show that features visual artwork, poetry and videos, is to give an overview of overseas Korean adoptees, and their descendant's visions and concerns through art, language and expressions.

-- co-curator kimura byol lemoine

Unlike the gallery space, made of white cubes, the exhibition space here may be cramped and uncomfortable, but, still, the combination of the work of the adoptees and the KoRoot house will create a unique space to reflect on the 70 years of overseas adoption and the 20 years of the history of KoRoot in different contexts.

Overseas adoption has not been a significant issue in Korean society, despite its historical, social, and human rights implications. Koreans feel only a 'positive fantasy' about overseas adoption influenced by media portraying 'successful Korean adoptees in the West'. In Korean society, overseas adoptees are the forgotten ones in history by Korean fantasies about the West. Through the 20th anniversary exhibition of the KoRoot, incorporating the voices of overseas adoptees in different media, I hope the voices of adoptees will reach wider Korean audiences.

-- co-curator Ji Young Jerry Yoo

## Second Floor Korean Adoptee Artist Exhibit

#### **Stairs**

Eunha Lovell, Your name here, 2007

#### **Living room**

Jisun Sjogren, *My two dads*, 1996 Raphael Bourgeois, 양부모, 2003 Lisa Wool-Rim Sjöblom, *Palimpsests*, 2015

#### Hallway

Florian Bong Kil Grosse, *Game*, 2015 Jennifer Kwon Dobbs, *A Small Gift*, 2007

Room 1 - Screening (approx. running time: 12 mins)

kimura byol lemoine
Who Are You?, 2014
KimSu Theiler
Place-names: Seoul, 2010
Leah 양진 Nichols
Adoption time, 2021
Tanja Sørensen/Hee Ja Kramhøft
Letters to mothers, 2023
Nari Baker
Combination Lock Faux, 2012

#### Room 2 - Self (green)

Maja Lee Langvad, *20 new questions for myself,* 2012 Jung, *Racines*, 2022 Julayne Lee, *I Am From a Revolution*, 2016

#### Room 3 - Birth (pink)

Lia Barrett, *Before Adoption: The Lost Imagery*, 2008 Lisa Sjöblom, *Babies for sales*, 2003 Lee Herrick, *How Music Stays in The Body*, 2018

## Basement KoRoot OAK Art Collection

#### **Front space**

Cathy Min Jung Les Bonnes Intentions, 2012 Mirae kh RHEE Untitled (Jilisan), 2005 JooYoung Choi (Nalcatuns Growth Cycle Series), 2009 Caterpillars Chrysalis **Emerged** Jung La jeune fille et le Vent, 1999 Maïté Minh Tâm Jeannolin Family tree, 2023 Florian Bong Kil Grosse Sofa, Wall Michou Amelynck The Path of Rebirth\_Girl, 2000 The Path of Rebirth\_Boy, 2000

#### **Back space**

Kim Sperling, Felix Kong, 2008 메아리/MehAhRi – 메아리/MehAhRi KoRoot Artifacts from adoptees: Suitcase DK, Resilience: Camera, Guitar, Magazines, Art catalogs. Cho Mihee – Saek-2-Tong (US.), 2004 Kim Sperling – Jonathan Rodriguez, 2008 Cho Mihee – 50 years- Ads, 2003 Kim Sperling – Jonathan Rodriguez, 2008 Cho Mihee – 100 White Koreans, 2003 Cho Mihee – 50 years - Numbers, 2003 Cho Mihee – 50 years - years, 2003



Artworks are for sale (not all), please request KoRoot or the artist. Les oeuvres sont à vendre, veuillez contacter KoRoot ou l'artiste.





## 해외입양 70년, 뿌리의집 20년 70 years of Overseas Adoption, 20 years of KoRoot

July 7th to 21st, 2023 Open hours noon - 7pm

125-10 Jahamun-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul, South Korea Contact +82 2-3210-2451

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Co-curators
Ji Young Jerry Yoo
kimura byol lemoine

Display
Second floor: Korean Adoptee Artist Exhibit
First floor: KoRoot Archives
Basement = KoRoot OAK Art Collection Exhibit

해외입양 70년, 뿌리의집 20년 - 70 years of Overseas Adoption, 20 years of KoRoot's event is to celebrate the 20 years of KoRoot's existence and as its closing event of the guesthouse, 20+ overseas Korean adoptee and their descendants' artwork will be on display from July 7th to 21st, 2023.

The 20+ selected artists have been a part of / or are in connection with KoRoot as visitors, collaborators, donors or event participants.

Special Thanks to Simone Choi, Andrea Kjelsvik and Chris Kim