

Artist's Note

My work based on the theme of the nature was motivated by understanding of human psychology in which people feel emotional peace in the image of the nature that reside in their memory through which they temporarily escape spiritual suffering.

In modern society, people are living amidst a fierce competition in search of satisfying desire. However, as result they feel deficit in emotional comfort and a peaceful haven for rest. Therefore, they seek a haven in the nature and based on which they go through various experiences, which they cultivate them and exchange with other people. I, too, since I was young, received comfort and healing through exchange with the nature, which motivated me to create these works.

From time immemorial, the nature was an aesthetic object that gave men poetic inspiration as well as materials for art. I wanted to express them using various shapes of plants in the real world. Using the images of plants and the nature, I want to approach the objects in my memory from senses and understand them; and visualize them based on my subjective interpretation. The emotion produced from such memory is the psychology of return and includes nostalgic emotion. Therefore, they are expressed as static image in reality, not floating plants. Also, I used the photographs I took myself to add historicity. Although I use photographs, I do not use them as they are but reconstruct them. This is because photographs are more meaningful as mental object rather than in the appearance of reality. In order to indicate that they are a mental object, silk screen method can be used. However, I used methods used in painting such as spraying, spilling, etc., upon which I created symbolic shape by changing the shape of plant. The expression of emotion is a feeling that, although one knows that one has certain sentiment about something but does not precisely understand what it is. Understanding is about perceiving agitation in heart and a change in psychological emotions, but not quite comprehend its specific properties. Since it is unconscious acts and not planned, it does not have form.

Impure mimesis, or the way you remember the world ¹

Choi Yu-kyung uses plant as motif. The artist understands the nature as an aesthetic object that inspires visual images as well as artistic materials. She says the experience of consolation, excitement and healing obtained from exchange with the nature as a motif for her work. Such motif uses only oneself as purpose, and expresses itself as meaning in satisfying physical desire or making up deficit in experience. In other words, the artist's work begins from a pure philosophical reasoning ("listening oneself speaking") and materializes in self-induction, internalization and self-affirming dialogue.

Here, we need to reconsider the artist's works. The plant images the artist is borrowing from is not the image as found in the nature but exists inside the greenhouse or in the form of interior decoration, i.e., places that people can touch. The variability and subjectivity of memory is related to postmodern explanation about subject. Regardless of the

artist's intention, in her works are a mix of things that are imagined and exists in reality. However, the images do not describe reality but becomes reality in itself. On Kant's mimesis theory that claims the excellence of the nature's beauty and derives beauty from its relation from the nature, David Norman Rodocwick interprets it as impure mimesis or the teleology of aesthetics and discusses it in much more aggressive perspective than it was conventionally. The concept of 'impure mimesis', which is in line with the theme of Choi Yu-kyung, focuses on how it mediated subject and object, and defines art as not mimesis of the nature but an aesthetic product created by the free play of imagination.

The artist's subject understanding is revealed in her artistic techniques. Roughly overlaid layer and intentionally edited composition maximizes instability of memory, adding tension to the work. In particular, if she in her earlier work tried to represent the subject visually through distortion or modification of reality, her recent work such as 'Re-jeju (2016)' uses increasingly more liberal scree composition, transforming the original memory into nostalgic memory. Such changes seem to indicate that the artist began to understand her memory not as automatic or passive phenomenon but active phenomenon that is created from the choice of subject.

In addition, the artist has been making efforts to explore new techniques of expression by combining photographs, digital media and other media forms. I expect her to produce even more expanded 'impure mimesis' based on firmer subject understanding.

1 'Impure mimesis, or the way you remember reality' was quoted from David Norman Rodowick's 'Impure mimesis or aesthetic purpose' and Jang Gang-myeong's novel 'The End of Month, or the Way You Remember the World'.

Choi yukyung – (cyk871031@gmail.com)

[Educations]

1987 Born in Korea

2003 Graduated from Yewon School

2006 Graduated from Seoul Art High School

2012 B.F.A in printmaking, Dept of Fine Art Musashino Art University (Tokyo, Japan)

2015 M.A in printmaking, Graduated School of Hongik University (Seoul, Korea)

2016 PhD in printmaking, at Hongik University (Seoul, Korea) Present

[Award]

2013 The Finalist of Contemporary Korean Print Contest

The Finalist of Seoul Art Grand Prize Contest

The Finalist of Korea conception Contest

The Finalist of Korea Healing Art Contest

2014 Art Ulsan New Artist Prize winner

2015 Korea Abstract Art Prize winner

[Collection]

Cho Sun-ok, Jeju Vista K Hotel, La Casa Hotel, Private collector

[Solo Exhibition]

2014 bbungalow Solo Exhibition Contest – Seoul bbungalow gallery

2015 memory of plants – Sedec gallery

2016 memory of plants – Anseli museum

[Group Exhibition]

2013 Seoul Art High School 60'th anniversary Exhibition – Seoul Art Center

2013 Kimi Art gallery 10'th anniversary Exhibition – Kimi Art gallery

2013 Busan Art Fair (biaf) – Busan Bexco

2014 Limited Edition 3 people Exhibition – Seoul Sam-cheong gallery

2015 Korea Abstract Art Contest Prize Exhibition – Cheon-an Art Center

2015 Contemporary Art Korean & Japan Exhibition – Hanjeon Art Center

2016 Breeze Art Fair – Seoul Blue Square

2017 Modern Art show – Seoul Art Center

2017 Seoul Art Show – Seoul Coex hall

More than 50 times Group exhibition