

Aekyung Gu

Through repetitive gestures, akin to a meditative practice, I engage in a process of confronting essence. While everything is in a state of flux, there are things that remain unchanged from the beginning—this is essence. The pursuit of essence is a longing for the fundamental, and I employ the surface and material properties of hanji (Korean traditional paper) as a primary methodology in my work. The grid is the most fundamental structural form and represents the essence of modernist painting. I construct compositions by exploring the structure and density of the grid, as well as the materiality of lines and their core elements, within a minimalist aesthetic. By varying the spacing, direction, and transformations of horizontal and vertical alignments, I introduce a sense of physical and psychological temporality.

As the inherent properties of hanji cause its surface to curl and warp, I embrace this natural texture, allowing the surface to exist as both an image and an object simultaneously. Beyond the materiality and strength of hanji, I transcend its flatness through gestures of layering, peeling, and pressing. The aesthetics of repetition, at times methodical and at times liberated, construct an intrinsic and homogeneous pictorial space.

Education

M.F.A, Hongik University, Department of Fine Arts

Solo Exhibitions

2024 Anarkh (IRIS HALL), Uijeongbu

2024 Uijeongbu Culture Foundation (Uijeongbu Arts Center), Uijeongbu

2023 Gallery Pyeonghwa, Uijeongbu

2022 Gallery Er, Seoul

2021 Gallery iLHO, Seoul

2020 Pocheon Banwol Art Hall Gallery, Pocheon

Group Exhibitions

2025 CHANGE OF POSITION 100, Gallery iLHO, Seoul

2024 Contemporary Art Exhibition, Uijeongbu Arts Center, Uijeongbu

2024 Anseong Art prism, Anseong Art Hall, Anseong

2024 The 17th Gyeonggi's Four Seasons-Beautiful Landscape, Uijeongbu Arts Center, Uijeongbu

2024 Gungpyeong Port – Flags: The Roar, Gyeonggi Art Association Annual Exhibition

2024 Suwon Art Association 60th Anniversary Exhibition, Suwon Manseok Gallery, Suwon

2024 Bouquet, Kepco Art Center, Seoul

2024 IEUM Culture Station Opening Exhibition, IEUM Gallery, Uijeongbu

2024 Connect, Anarkh (IRIS HALL), Uijeongbu

2024 Ah! Korea-Opening Exhibition, Shinhan University Art Center

2023 Thanks and a New Era, Kyunmin Museum of Art, Uijeongbu

2023 Inside out, Gallery iLHO, Seoul

2023 Connect, Gallery iLHO, Seoul, etc.

Public Collection

Pocheon City Hall