

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SPEED OF LIGHT

With Henry Biber, Leslie Ford, Augustus Goertz, Francie Lyshak, Francesca Schwartz, and Pamela J. Wallace.

Concept by Priska Juschka.

Exhibition Dates: JUNE 3 – JUNE 25, 2022

PANEL on KOREAN ARTISTS MODERATED by JONATHAN GOODMAN

With Hyemi Kim, Stephanie S. Lee, Sui Park, Hyeree Christina Mary Ro

With Q&A and RECEPTION: THURSDAY, JUNE 23 | 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Press Release:

Lichtundfire is pleased to present and welcomes all to A PANEL ON KOREAN ARTISTS moderated by JONATHAN GOODMAN with Q&A and RECEPTION concurrent with the exhibition SPEED OF LIGHT with work in various media during the month of June and at the time of the summer solstice. SPEED OF LIGHT brings together work that incorporates the element of light as an integral and essential part of its composition, technique and medium.

About the Panelists:

JONATHAN GOODMAN (MODERATOR) is a poet and writer and reviewer detailing new and historical shows for a number of New York magazines: The Brooklyn Rail, WhiteHot, Tussle, Two Coats of Paint, and Arte Fuse. He has also worked as an art reviews editor, and taught for many years contemporary art history and the introduction to art theory. He sees good art writing as essential to the continuing progress of new art. Goodman was born and raised in New York City, and studied English and German at Columbia University in NYC as an undergraduate, and medieval English poetry at the University of Pennsylvania (Penn) in Philadelphia, PA where he received a master's degree.

HYEMI KIM is a South Korean multidisciplinary artist based in New York and Seoul. Kim received her MFA in Photography, Video, and Related Media from the School of Visual Arts and got her first MFA and BFA in Painting from Seoul, South Korea. She works with a variety of mediums including video, photography, painting and installation. In recent years, Kim has focused on the video collages series, "City Collage" that is composed of different cities and landscapes to create a new digital utopia of scattered memories and experiences while finding a new video narrative. Her videos were shown at Times Square from the ZAZ corner and in several group shows in NYC. She participated in 2021 New Media Art Conference, had her second solo show at CICA Museum and also participated in the 2017 Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism, and the 2016 ASYAF in South Korea.

STEPHANIE S. LEE currently lives in Queens, New York. She earned both BFA and MS from Pratt Institute and studied Korean folk art painting at Busan National University in Korea. Her work has been exhibited in group shows throughout Asia, Europe, and the United States, in the National Museum of Korea, Seoul; the Indang Museum, Daegu, South Korea; Islip Art Museum, Islip, NY; Edward Hopper House Museum Study Center, Nyack, NY; Charles B. Wang Center, Queens College Art Center, and Flushing Town Hall, Flushing, NY; Belskie Museum of Art, Closter, NJ; and Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY, and in solo exhibitions in the public libraries of Piermont, Ridgewood, and Closter. Lee received grants from the New York Foundation for the Arts and from the Queens Council on the Arts, and was the artist of the month at the Edward Hopper House Museum & Study Center. Her work has been featured in WNBC News, CBS News, NY 1 News, TKC TV, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, Asia Week, The Korean Times a.o.

SUI PARK is a New York-based artist, born in Seoul, Korea. Her education includes an MDes in Interior Architecture at Rhode Island School of Design and a BFA in Environmental Design at Maryland Institute College of Art, and she also holds an MFA and BFA in Fiber Arts at Ewha Womans University, Seoul, Korea. Park's work involves and is characteristic for her 3-dimensional flexible organic forms. She has had several solo exhibitions and public art commissions including *Immersion in Black and White* at Sapar Contemporary in 2021, and has participated in over 130 exhibitions internationally. Her work has been acquired by the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art in Oregon among others; and has been mentioned in The New York Times, The Washington Post, Hyperallergic, Artnet, Vice and Colossal as well as in other publications. She is represented by Sapar Contemporary in New York City.

HYEREE CHRISTINA MARY RO was born and raised in Seoul, Korea and Santa Rosa, California. She received her BFA from Korea National University of Arts in 2017 and her MFA from Yale University in 2021, where she was awarded the Critical Practice Research Fellowship and Susan H. Whedon Award. She is interested in how objects can relate to the body. Her sculptural, bilingual, narrative-based performances explore the social, historical, and topographical relationships of the Korean immigrant experience, often along with her own family history. Her work has been exhibited at Leeum Museum of Art (Seoul, Korea), NARS gallery (Brooklyn, NY), Korean Culture Centre (Ottawa, Canada), Akiyoshidai International Art Village (Yamaguchi, Japan) a.o.

SPEED OF LIGHT Press Release:

Light, by its inherent means, is an elusive agent that when applied successfully has a significant and distinguishing effect on medium and composition that makes the difference between a mere presence of an art work and the experience of an illuminating far beyond reaching, radiating aura that alludes to an infinite and eternal existence of creation.

Light is often defined as a natural agent that stimulates sight and makes things visible. While light can literally be a light source, it also exist indirectly in color, contrast in composition and the use of materials or medium. The artists in this exhibition work individually differently but what brings them together is the element and employment of light by all its various connotations.

Einstein's Theory of Special Relativity concluded that the Speed of Light is a constant no matter the frame of reference. It means, in this case and for the exhibition, that no matter how the element of LIGHT is applied and used on the individual work by each artist – the original premise is the same – and it sparks an outcome that permeates beyond the visible and into the realm of the metaphysical.

About the Artists:

HENRY BIBER uses areas of light within his digitally conceived, abstract compositions as a powerful source to convey what we conjure up in the depth of the unconscious, also known as imagination – inspirations by a wandering mind that draws from the unknown and excavates often lost perspectives.

LESLIE FORD's latest Problem Solving Series, intimate-size diamond/rhombus shaped paintings – light flooded veils of paint that reflect barely discernible, abstracted landscapes with a visible center horizon-line – nourish, by emphasizing their shape, a symbolic message of equilibrium, harmony and unity.

AUGUSTUS GOERTZ's mixed media process uses the contrast of dark and light masterfully to create complex abstract paintings, sometimes purely minimal but often with topographical or otherwise far reaching perspectives into distant universes.

FRANCIE LYSHAK's minimal, often seemingly monochromatic paintings with visceral application of paint, reveal layers of process and underlying compositions, often of different color, that disclose a complex process of incorporating light as it is reflected by the medium or to the other extreme – swallowed by the paint.

FRANCESCA SCHWARTZ integrates light within the composition or by choice of materials, stark-white bones, chiffon, encaustic, paper, photo imprint are only a few materials that can either be an indirect source or a conduit for light. Her work moves freely and with sovereignty between an experience of the concrete and the ephemeral.

PAMELA J. WALLACE mainly creates three-dimensional mixed-media work, always mindful how light is modulated by the materials – handmade abaca paper, with its organic translucency, has a skin-like quality, while varying textures of wood, gritty concrete, or dark metal reflect light in their own characteristic ways. Her mixed-media objects are often floated off the wall so that light can bounce and illuminate them from the back.

For additional information, images, events and to arrange an appointment, please contact Priska Juschka at 917.675.7835, info@lichtundfire.com

About Lichtundfire:

LICHTUNDFIRE was established in 2015, with a visual program emphasizing on nonrepresentational, conceptual, and abstract art; especially minimal, color field, geometrical, straight edge, abstract expressionist painting, lyrical abstraction, and process work in all media, as well as abstracted representation.

By its exhibitions, Lichtundfire's program is dedicated to developing and nurturing an active, engaged, progressive, and emancipated art community that addresses cultural and social realities as expressed through visual arts.

Beyond its carefully curated visual program, Lichtundfire seeks to actively connect with other parts of the creative community, especially in the field of poetry, literature, philosophy and Critical Theory.

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Gallery Hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 12 – 6 pm, or by appointment
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