



HAJI OH  
PARIS PHOTO 2024

THIS IS NO FANTASY  
dianne tanzer + nicola stein

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## HAJI OH

### HAJI OH | GRAND-MOTHER ISLAND PROJECT

Winner of the Tokyo Contemporary Art Award 2024, Haji Oh is third-generation Zainichi Korean. Born and raised in Japan, she is now living in Wollongong, Australia.

Through her use of hand-woven woven textiles, photography, and cyanotype Oh reframes traditional methods and materials, each imbued with memory and a sense of place, to explore history, identity and the complexities of heritage.

Oh's practice distils her upbringing as a third generation Zainichi Korean raised in Osaka, Japan, and her migration to Australia in 2014. She also draws on her family's migration from Jeju Island, Korea, to Japan in the 1930s.

History and narratives of migration play out in works that balance broad strokes of history and nuanced stories of individuals often overlooked in grand historical narratives. As she shifts seamlessly between the personal and global, the memory of Oh's ancestors – often her grandmother - are carried into the present as both grounding figures and metaphors for inherited pasts. In doing so she creates an intimate space for viewers to reimagine the past while reflecting on the limits of national boundaries.

Oh's work also reflects on the importance of intergenerational storytelling as a means of interpreting history and processing generational trauma.

Three Generations and Three Generations of Time express the 'unknowability' of her grandmother's migration story after she passed away in 2001. Combining portraiture and traditional dress, these works address Oh's identity as a Korean in Japan and raises questions about her grandmother's past, and the ripples that flow on from it.

Following her migration to Australia, since 2017 Oh has engaged in a series called grand-mother island project, in which she attempts to trace the trajectories of people who have crossed the seas between Australia, Japan and South Korea. Tracing the untold stories of these migrant labour communities across the Pacific, Oh focuses on the individual narratives that are interwoven with history. Directing her gaze at the individual, she teases out the liminality of communities that are often obscured by national histories.

Each of her installations is a form of ritual. Through the labour intensive processes of hand-weaving, dyeing, unravelling and printing, Oh uses textile to explore the three-dimensional space of memory, revealing hidden layers and blank spaces that mirror the variability of reconstructed narratives.

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## HAJI OH

### HAJI OH | PROJET ÎLE GRAND-MÈRE

Lauréate du Tokyo Contemporary Art Award 2024, Haji Oh est une Coréenne Zainichi de troisième génération. Née et élevée au Japon, elle vit aujourd’hui à Wollongong, en Australie.

À travers l’utilisation de textiles tissés à la main, de la photographie et du cyanotype, Oh recadre des méthodes et des matériaux traditionnels, chacun imprégné de mémoire et d’un sens du lieu, pour explorer l’histoire, l’identité et les complexités du patrimoine.

La pratique d’Oh distille son éducation en tant que Coréenne Zainichi de troisième génération élevée à Osaka, au Japon, et sa migration en Australie en 2014. Elle puise également dans la migration de sa famille de l’île de Jeju, en Corée, vers le Japon dans les années 1930.

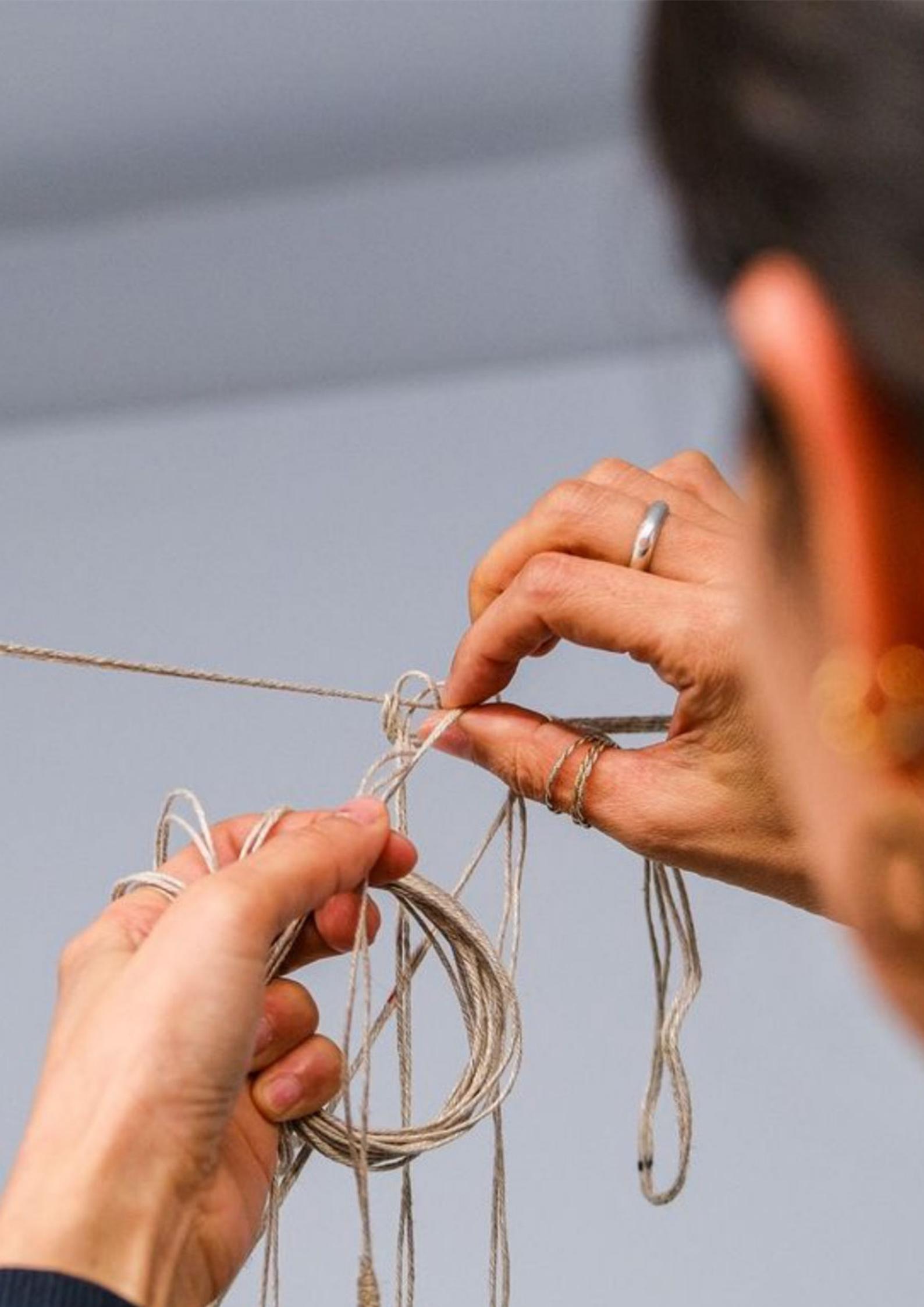
L’histoire et les récits de migration se manifestent dans des œuvres qui équilibrent les grandes lignes de l’histoire et les récits nuancés d’individus souvent négligés dans les grands récits historiques. Alors qu’elle oscille sans heurts entre le personnel et le global, la mémoire des ancêtres d’Oh – souvent sa grand-mère – est transportée dans le présent comme figures fondatrices et métaphores des passés hérités. Ce faisant, elle crée un espace intime où les spectateurs peuvent réimaginer le passé tout en réfléchissant aux limites des frontières nationales.

Le travail d’Oh reflète également l’importance de la narration intergénérationnelle comme moyen d’interpréter l’histoire et de traiter les traumatismes générationnels.

Trois générations et Trois générations du temps expriment « l’inconnaissabilité » de l’histoire de migration de sa grand-mère après son décès en 2001. En combinant le portrait et les costumes traditionnels, ces œuvres abordent l’identité d’Oh en tant que Coréenne au Japon et soulèvent des questions sur le passé de sa grand-mère et les répercussions qui en découlent.

Depuis 2017, après sa migration en Australie, Oh s’est engagée dans une série intitulée Grand-Mère île, dans laquelle elle tente de retracer les trajectoires des personnes qui ont traversé les mers entre l’Australie, le Japon et la Corée du Sud. En retraçant les histoires inédites de ces communautés de travailleurs migrants à travers le Pacifique, Oh se concentre sur les récits individuels qui se tissent avec l’histoire. En portant son regard vers l’individu, elle fait ressortir la liminalité des communautés qui sont souvent occultées par les histoires nationales.

Chacune de ses installations est une forme de rituel. À travers les processus laborieux de tissage à la main, de teinture, d’effilochage et d’impression, Oh utilise le textile pour explorer l’espace tridimensionnel de la mémoire, révélant des couches cachées et des espaces vides qui reflètent la variabilité des récits reconstruits.



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## HAJI OH

### BIOGRAPHY

Haji Oh is a third-generation Zainichi Korean artist, born and raised in Japan, now living and working in Wollongong, Australia.

Oh utilises the techniques of weaving, dyeing, tying, stitching, photography, text, and audio in her installations to shed light on the untold stories of people whose lives have touched hers, and to give expression to the silent memories of women and unnamed individuals. Oh collects memories through community workshops and dialogue, and develops them in her practice to explore the effects of post-memory.

In 2024 she was awarded the prestigious Tokyo Contemporary Art Prize 2024-26, which includes a solo exhibition at the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo in 2025.

Oh's recent and upcoming exhibiting highlights include the 11th Asia Pacific Triennial (APT11) at Queensland Art Gallery / Gallery of Modern Art; Paris Photo 2024; Anteprima x CHAT Contemporary Textile Art Prize, Hong Kong; Un/Weaving, Alison Bradley Projects New York 2024; KANTEN: The Limits of History, apexart, New York 2023; Roppongi Crossing: Coming & Going, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo 2022-23; TEXTURE, Canberra Contemporary Art Space 2023; Publicness of the Art Center, Art Tower Mito, Japan 2019-2020; Memories in Weaving, Oyama City Kurumaya Museum of Art, Japan 2019; Kanazawa: Altering Home, Neighborhoods in Kanazawa City.

### BIOGRAPHIE

artiste coréen Zainichi de troisième génération , né et élevé au Japon, vivant et travaillant désormais à Wollongong, en Australie.

Oh utilise les techniques du tissage, de la teinture, du nouage, de la couture, de la photographie, du texte et de l'audio pour mettre en lumière les histoires inédites de personnes dont la vie a touché la sienne et pour exprimer les souvenirs silencieux de femmes et d'individus anonymes. Oh collecte des souvenirs à travers des ateliers communautaires et des dialogues, et les développe dans sa pratique pour explorer les effets de la post-mémoire.

En 2024, elle a reçu le prestigieux Prix d'art contemporain de Tokyo 2024-26, qui comprend une exposition personnelle au Musée d'art contemporain de Tokyo en 2025.

Français Les expositions récentes et à venir d'Oh comprennent la 11e Triennale Asie-Pacifique (APT11) à la Queensland Art Gallery / Gallery of Modern Art ; Paris Photo 2024 ; Anteprima x CHAT Contemporary Textile Art Prize, Hong Kong ; Un/Weaving, Alison Bradley Projects New York 2024 ; KANTEN : The Limits of History, apexart , New York 2023 ; Roppongi Crossing : Coming & Going, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo 2022-23 ; TEXTURE, Canberra Contemporary Art Space 2023 ; Publicness of the Art Center , Art Tower Mito, Japon 2019-2020 ; Memories in Weaving, Oyama City Kurumaya Museum of Art, Japon 2019 ; Kanazawa : Altering Home, Neighborhoods in Kanazawa City.

# HAJI OH



HAJI OH  
Three Generations of Time, 2004  
thermal transfer photograph on hemp cloth  
45 x 500 cm  
Edition of 5 + 1AP  
€5,250



# HAJI OH



HAJI OH  
Three Generations, 2004  
C-print in custom frame  
22 x 98 cm  
Edition of 3 + 1AP  
€4,000





# HAJI OH



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Curtain, (A House of Memory Traces), 2004  
cyanotype, macrame, back-strap weaving, linen

164 x 300 cm

€13,500



# HAJI OH



HAJI OH

Partition, (A House of Memory Traces), 2019

Cyanotype, macrame, back-strap weaving, linen

82 x 280 cm

€7,400

# HAJI OH



HAJI OH  
Untitled, 2019  
Backstrap weaving, linen, wooden spools  
90 x 300 x 40 cm  
€5,000



# HAJI OH CV

## QUALIFICATIONS

- 2012 Ph.D. in Fine Arts, Kyoto City University of Arts, Kyoto, Japan  
2002 M.A.in Fine Arts, Kyoto City University of Art, Kyoto, Japan  
2000 B.A.in Fine Arts, Kyoto City University of Art, Kyoto, Japan - Major: Dyeing and Weaving

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 (forthcoming), Tokyo Contemporary Art Award Winner exhibition, Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo  
2024 Paris Photo, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Grand Palais, Paris FR  
Grant Mother Island (Nautical Map), THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne VIC  
Un / Weaving, Alison Bradley Projects, New York, USA  
Grand Mother Island: Chapter 1 (Nautical Map), Linden New Art, Melbourne VIC  
2019 Memories In Weaving, Oyama City Kurumaya Museum of Art, Tochigi, Japan  
2017 The Imaginary Landscape – Grandmother Island, MATSUO MEGUMI + Voice Gallery, Kyoto, Japan  
2015 Wearing Memory, TEAM Gallery, University of Wollongong, NSW  
2014 Wearing Memory, Koganei Art Spot Chateau2F, Tokyo, Japan  
2013 OH haji x Aomori City Archives 'Gestures in Clothing', Aomori Contemporary Art Center, Aomori, Japan  
2010 Dwelling of Memory, Shibakawa Building, Osaka, Japan  
2008 Slipping Through the Texture – The Moment of Silence – From the Journey in the Philippines, Voice Gallery, Kyoto, Japan  
2006 Memory, Voice Gallery, Kyoto, Japan  
2001 Roots, Voice Gallery, Kyoto, Japan

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 Asia Pacific Triennial (APT11), Queensland Art Gallery/Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA), Brisbane QLD  
Anteprima x CHAT Contemporary Textile Art Prize, Centre for Heritage, Arts, and Textile, Hong Kong  
2023 KANTEN: The Limits of History, Apexart, New York, USA  
Texture, Canberra Contemporary Art Space, Canberra  
2022 Roppongi Crossing 2022, Coming & Going, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan  
2022 Nuno no Tsubasa, Some Seiryukan, Kyoto, Japan  
2020 Grandmother's Life, Tracing the Passage of Memories, Koganei Art Spot, Chateau2F, Tokyo, Japan  
2019 Publicness of the Art Center, Art Tower of Mito, Ibaraki, Japan  
2018 Culture City of East Asia 2018, Kanazawa: Altering Home, Kanazawa, Ishikawa, Japan  
2017 Binding Threads/Expanding Threads – The Art of Creating 'Between-ness', Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art, Hiroshima, Japan  
Everyday Life – Sigh of Awareness, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, Ishikawa, Japan  
2016 Crafts of Korean Peninsula, Pojagi as a Portrait – with Haji Oh's Photograph Works, Kurumaya Museum of Art, Tochigi, Japan  
2014 Going, Going, Until I Meet the Tide, Busan Biennale Special Exhibition, Kiswire Factory, Busan, South Korea  
Breaker Project, ex-pots 2011-2013, Enoco and Kioku Shugei-kan Tansu, Osaka, Japan  
2012 VOCA – Vision of Contemporary Art 2012, The Ueno Royal Museum, Tokyo, Japan  
2011 Inner Voices, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, Ishikawa, Japan

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- 2010 We Love Books! International Book Art Picnic, Nakanoshima Library, Osaka, Japan  
2009 HOME, Aomori Contemporary Art Center, Aomori, Japan  
2008 HIROSHIMA ART DOCUMENT 2008, The Former Bank of Japan Hiroshima, Atom-Bombed Construction, Hiroshima, Japan  
2007 Young Artist Selective, The Museum of Kyoto, Kyoto, Japan  
2006 NIPPON vs. FINE ART, Striving for Identity in the Context of Western Art, Osaka City Museum of Modern Art, Shinsaibashi Temporary Exhibition Space, Osaka, Japan  
✓Roots, Ho-nen in Temple, Kyoto, Japan  
2005 Zone-Poetic Moment, Tokyo Wonder Site, Tokyo, Japan  
Orientity, Fringe Club, Hong Kong  
2004 Orientity, Kyoto Art Center, Kyoto, Japan  
2002 Several Situation, Kyoto Style Lab, 02 Exhibition, Kyoto Art Center, Kyoto, Japan

## AWARDS | GRANTS | RESIDENCIES

- 2024 Winner, Tokyo Contemporary Art Award 2024-26, Japan  
Finalist, ANTEPRIMAxCHAT Contemporary Textile Art Prize, Centre for Heritage Arts and Textile, Hong Kong  
2022 Artist in Residence, Bundanon Art Museum, NSW  
2019 Artist in Residence, Art Tower Mito, Ibaraki, Japan  
2015 Artist in Residence, University of Wollongong, NSW  
2012-14 Textiles of Andes Archives (Research), Kyoto City University of Arts  
2011 Han Chang-Woo-Tetsu Cultural Foundation Grant  
2009 Artist in Residence, Aomori Contemporary Art Center  
Internship, Textile Museum of Canada, Toronto, Canada  
2008 Visiting Scholar, York University, York Center for Asian Research, Toronto, Canada  
2008 The Korean Scholarship Foundation, The Museum of Kyoto, Japan  
2007 Young Artist Selective Exhibition, The Museum of Kyoto, Kyoto, Japan  
2003 Korean Traditional Costume Restoration Class, National Folk Museum, Seoul, South Korea  
2002 Shoreisho Encouragement Award, Kyoto City University of Arts  
Ogosho, Professor Ogo Prize, Kyoto City University of Arts

## SELECTED WORKSHOPS FACILITATION

- 2024 Un/Weaving, Alison Bradley Projects, New York USA  
2022 Weaving Stripes, Australian National University  
2019 Reading Stories of Japanese War Brides, Mito Art Center, Ibaraki, Japan  
Gesture in Weaving, Mito Art Center, Kurumara, Museum of Art, Japan  
2018 Exposing Shadow, Tracing Memory, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, Ishikawa, Japan  
2016 Patch-work Workshop of Small Pieces of Pojagi, Kurumaya Museum of Art, Tochigi, Japan  
2014 Unravel Knitwear/Memories, Koganei Art Spot, Chateau2F, Tokyo, Japan  
2013 Unravel Knitwear/Memories, Midori-en Welfare Facilities, Kioku Shugei-kan Tansu, Japan



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