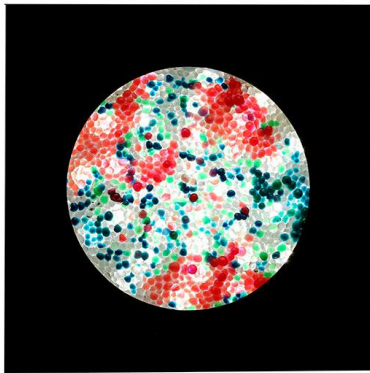


Sunsook Roh



Press Kit 2014

Sunsook ROH

Biography Sunsook ROH



Sunsook Roh is an installation sculptor and interactive performance artist based in Singapore and New York. She has exhibited installation sculpture and did performance works in New York, Japan, Singapore, Turkey, and Korea. The motivation that keeps Sunsook Roh tirelessly working and creating is the wish to reach out to the global human family to share her inspiration.

Selected exhibitions and performances include “The Reconstruction Biennial,” Exit Art, New York, “Form,” Korean Cultural Center, New York, “JAALA Exchange Exhibition,” Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Art, “Tree of Life V,” solo show at Sculpture Square, Singapore, “2010 Asia Contemporary Art / Now and Next,” Gwangju National Museum, Korea, “Displacement:6” Institute of Contemporary Art, Lasalle College of Arts, Singapore, and “Synaptic Tales,” SPACEWOMB Gallery, New York, New York.

She obtained a BFA majoring in Sculpture with a minor in Art History from Parsons School of Design, New York. She also obtained a MFA in Sculpture from Bard College, New York.

Artist Statement



Sunsook Roh

In my art, I deal with no single issue or concern. My works embody recurring themes and interests on interconnected levels. The first level is a strong and free energy flow that is the deterministic continuum of time. The next level is the transience of our own existence and death; Mortality. This level tests our limited comprehension of the unpredictable, as well as our uncertainty about tomorrow. The final level is my internal compass through my relationship with God.

Transience is my own personal struggle, as I grapple with my identity gained and lost through living in different countries. I grew up in Korea, but studied arts in the United States and now am making art in Singapore. My concern over time and impermanence are the reality that I experience as an 'in-betweenener.'

My sculpture addresses transformation through an interactive process with the viewers, and sometimes through performance, using my body or my voice as a vehicle within the sculpture, but not as a subject matter. The viewers participate in my works as a witness and share the experience within their own creative individual interpretations and contemplation.

Publications



현대미술 에포크
EDG
1 · 2 · 3 · 4 · 5 · 6
May 2011 · ₩9,000



Sunsook Roh
Story of her Art
Landscape of the Psychology of the Mind

Sunsook Roh.
Story of her Art
Landscape of the Psychology of the Mind
Epoque Magazine
May 2011, Vol. 12



The Living Room
Radio Interview
938 Live, Media Corp, Singapore,
2010



In Transition
Korean Artists in Singapore,
C Arts, Asian Contemporary Art
and Culture, Vol.18, 2010

Publications II



KOREA
FESTIVAL 2009
IN SINGAPORE, AUG - DEC

A FRESH START: ART EXHIBITION
 28 August - 4 October
 11am - 6pm, Mon - Sun
 d-Bodhi, 2 Kung Chong Road
 (off Leng Kee Road)

An Interpretation of Singapore
 by Five Local Korean Artists
 • Hwang Kyong • Jungeun Kim
 • Helen Lee • Shin-young Park
 • Sunsook Roh

An exhibition of original artworks by Korean artists who, having relocated to Singapore, have found inspiration in their new home country to evolve. The works on display both explore traditional Korean artistic values and embrace Singaporean influences. Presented by the Korean Art Professionals and the AndrewShire Gallery, Singapore.

Let The Rivers Clap Their Hands
 Artist: Sunsook Roh
 Installation view at Soukhun Square, Singapore 2009

Tone Poem
 Artist: Helen Lee
 2007, Acrylic on paper, 64x45cm

Korea Festival 2009
Brochure
 Aug-/Dec 2009

Korean World
 Issue 61. Nov. 2010

코리아 월드 Korean World
 앞서가는 교민 잡지 MICA(P) 019/12/2009

ISSUE 61
NOV. 2010
 Culture · Information
 Singapore News
 Education · Health
 Shopping · Tour
 Dining

LOOK!

싱가포르 거주, 한인 현대 미술가(KAP) 6인전
Displacement : 6

싱가포르에 거주하는 한국인 예술가 6인은 KAP(Korean Art Professionals)로 각각의 분야에 걸쳐서 2002년 KAP가 창간된 이래로 활동하고 있다. 싱가포르에 입주하면서 활동 속에서 느끼는 고국의 삶과 노년, 몸과 정신의 이산, Displacement 6인은 전통과 현대의 미학적 형태를 표현한 6명의 작품으로 전시했다. 2009년 4월 28일부터 10월 4일까지 일련의 전시회를 개최한 UASALLE College of Arts에서 UAS Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore에 개최되고 있는 Pines Space Gallery의 Weekly Gallery에서 가을 6인전 전시회를 열었다.

KAP 회원들은 서로 다른 나라에서 미술을 전공하였고 그런 경험을 통해 다양한 디스placement로 인한 예술적 표현 가운데 "KAP"의 눈과 마음으로 감성적 표현을 시작하게 되었다. 6명의 KAP은 신진과 노년, 이산, 이념, 문화의 차이, 현대미술의 흐름, 사회적 이슈, 전통과 현대의 미학적 형태를 표현한 6명의 작품으로 전시했다. 2009년에는 "싱가포르 아트 스푼"에 포함되어 "6인 전시회"로 "A Fresh Start"의 주제로 한 전시회를 가졌다.

전시회에서는 디스placement 6인전의 대표작인 Dr. Charles Merrett의 "Let The Rivers Clap Their Hands"와 Helen Lee의 "Tone Poem"을 소개할 예정이다. "Displacement"의 주제와 관련된 전시회는 2010년 8월 28일부터 10월 4일까지 일련의 전시회를 개최한 UASALLE College of Arts에서 UAS Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore에 개최되고 있는 Pines Space Gallery의 Weekly Gallery에서 가을 6인전 전시회를 열었다.

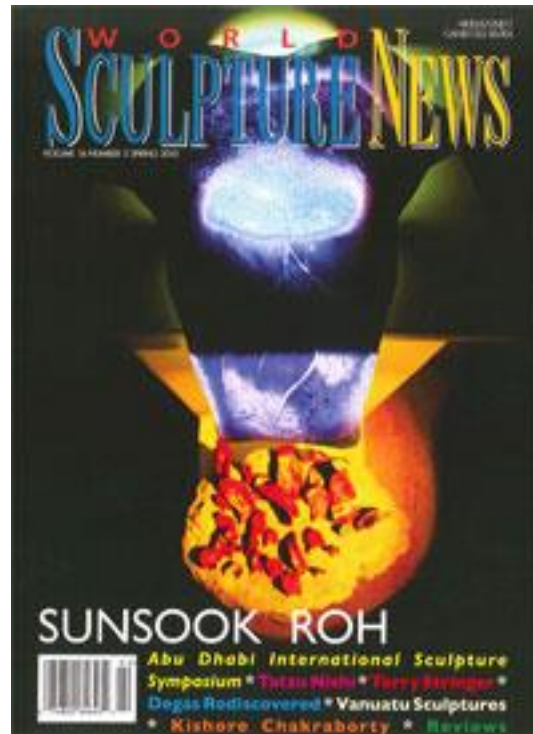
조선족 My Tongue Will Speak

34 NOV. 2010 | KOREAN WORLD
 www.koreanworld.com
Tel. (65) 6227 2740
 E: mail: gw@koreanworld.com

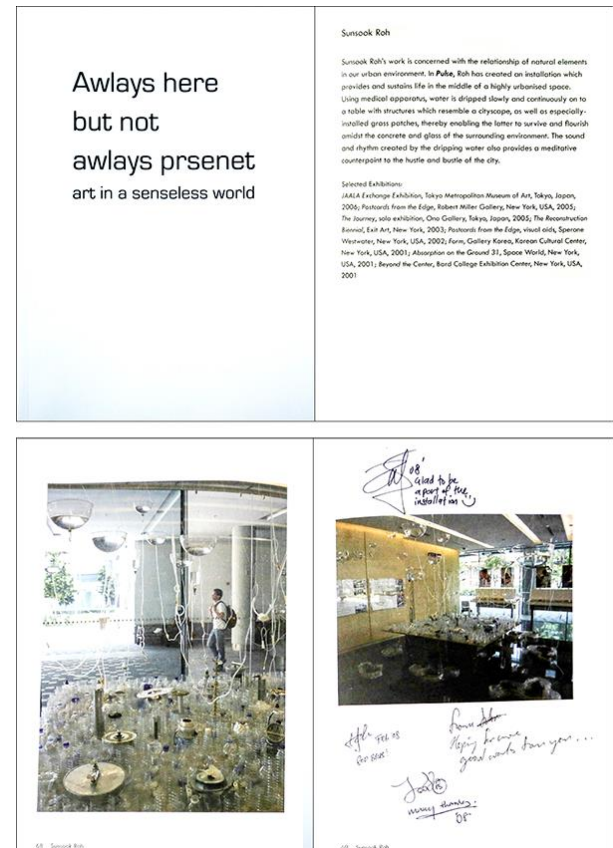
Publications III



Dis/placement
 Institute of Contemporary Art,
 LaSalle College of the Arts |
 Book
 Asian Arts News. Vol. 21,
 number 1, Jan/Feb 2011



**Of Tongue, Tree, and the
 Transience of Life**
 World Sculpture News, Volume
 16, Number 2,
 Spring 2010



Awlays here
 but not
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 art in a senseless world

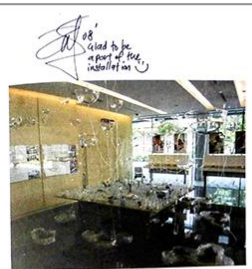
Sunsook Roh

Sunsook Roh's work is concerned with the relationship of natural elements in our urban environment. In *Pulse*, Roh has created an installation which provides and sustains life in the middle of a highly urbanised space. Using medical apparatus, water is dripped slowly and continuously on to a table with structures which resemble a cityscape, as well as especially: scallard grass patches, thereby enabling the latter to survive and flourish amidst the concrete and glass of the surrounding environment. The sound and rhythm created by the dripping water also provides a meditative counterpoint to the hustle and bustle of the city.

Selected Exhibitions:
 JAALA Exchange Exhibition, Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Art, Tokyo, Japan, 2006; *Pathways from the Edge*, Robert Miller Gallery, New York, USA, 2005; *The Journey*, solo exhibition, One Gallery, Tokyo, Japan, 2005; *The Reconnection*, *Revised*, East Art, New York, 2003; *Pathways from the Edge*, visual aids, Spence Westmore, New York, USA, 2002; *Form*, Gallery Korea, Korean Cultural Center, New York, USA, 2001; *Allegory on the Ground 31*, Space Works, New York, USA, 2001; *Beyond the Center*, Bard College Exhibition Center, New York, USA, 2001.



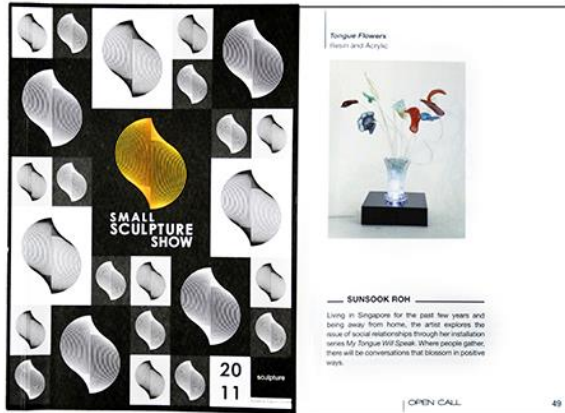
08 Sunsook Roh



Handwritten notes:
 "used to be a part of the installation"
 "from before trying to make good work from you..."
 "Sunsook Roh"
 "many drawings: 08"

09 Sunsook Roh

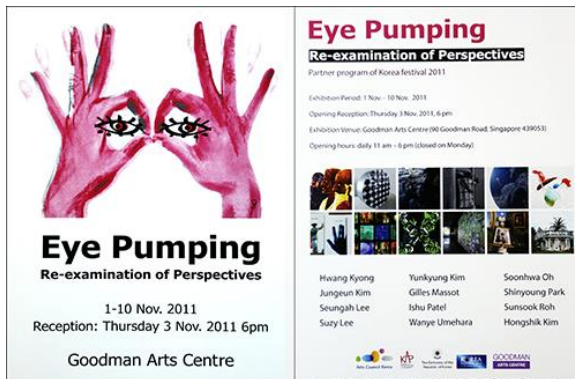
Publications IV



Sculpture Show 2011



Now and Next
Contemporary Asian Art.
Gwangju National Museum, South-Korea.
Catalog, 2010.



Eye-Pumping Exhibition invite cards



- Artist's Statement**
 This work is a marble sculpture for a larger proposed installation for a site specific installation to be approximately 12 feet tall by 3 feet wide. The tongues are made of ceramic, and are embedded but protruding from a mound of sand and cement. I am conscious of a timeline in human experience, of the words being spoken and built consciously and subconsciously upon words that were spoken in the past. This work raises a question about the exchanges between our individual voice and those of our collective voices, as they play out time and again throughout the changing events of history. The words we speak can inspire, save, support or even hurt a person. I am trying to explore a social aspect of different people and languages and races as well as their cultures, religions, and political stance.
- Artist's Bio**
 Born in Korea, but having spent most of her adult life in New York City, Sunsook is an installation sculptor and performance artist currently based in Singapore. She has exhibited installation sculpture in Singapore, Tokyo and New York, and also did performance works in New York and Seoul. She obtained a BFA in Sculpture and a MFA in Art History from Parsons School of Design in New York in 1987 to 2003, she obtained a MFA in Sculpture from Bard College, Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts, New York.

Publications V



UPCOMING ICAS



Manifesto of the New Aesthetic: Seven Artists from Indonesia
 Artists: Agung Kurniawan, Agusron Janggi, Kuswardana, Almar Sulito, Mella Irawati, Purnomo, Tetta Wulita and MS 56
 Guest Curator: Alia Swastika

The exhibition focuses on the works of seven artists from Indonesia whose practice is based on close observation and research as to the current situation in Indonesia today. Developed over a long period of time, their work represents a belief in their work as a cultural project rather than a cultural product. The exhibition therefore constitutes a manifesto of a new (artistic) movement that works outside mainstream practice committed to address issues around the history and identity of the everyday life of people.

Venue: ICA Gallery 1
 Date: 21 October – 17 November 2010



Traces 2: Art Incubator Group Exhibition
 Artists: Ang Song Ming, Ang Song Nian and Hazel Lim

Traces are the things you leave behind, but also the works you make. It encompasses both process and outcome, journey and destination.

Traces 2 shows the works of the three artists who took part in the second cycle of the Art Incubator two week residency programme – from Ang Song Ming's cross-cultural investigation into phonetic jokes, Ang Song Nian's hidden korean juri (rog-on) board games and Hazel Lim's series of ontological paintings.

The Art Incubator Residency Programme is a professional development opportunity for Singapore artists under 35 years of age. As a community-based project the programme emphasises interaction amongst artists, curators and writers.

Venue: 27 October – 31 November 2010
 Date: Brother Joseph McNally Gallery

Dis/placement:6
 Artists: Jungwon Kim, Hwang Kyung, Qin Mao Ai, Shin Young Park, Sunsook Roh and Jung Eun Shin
 Guest Curator: Korean Art Professionals (KAP)



Dis/placement:6, a showcase of new art works by six Singapore-based Korean artists, is a kind of exhibition that reveals a unique amalgamation by which Korean cultural sensibilities have been subverted in the context of being in Singapore. Curated by the Korean Art Professionals in Singapore (KAP), which consists of Korean artists, art writers and art administrators, the exhibition embarks on an exploration of creative practices and seeks to bridge the visual cultures of the Korean and Singapore art communities.

Venue: Praxis Space & Brother Joseph McNally Gallery
 Date: 18 November – 16 December 2010


Pleasure Spectrum
 Artists: Li Cassidy-Pear


Exploring the notion of pleasure, desire and obsession, *Pleasure Spectrum* by Li Cassidy-Pear explores the gratification of popular culture and celebrity idolisation. In between sensationalist articles, Li creates a visceral alternate that anyone can relate to: its an attempt to escape identity and distance oneself from his/her personal environment. Using an odd mix of paraphernalia, from discarded guitar boxes to drawn cigarette packs, to glitch newsgirls and shards of broken mirrors, the installation addresses murky dreams and the psyche of fanatical behaviour.

Venue: Earl Le Gallery
 Date: 26 November – 14 December 2010



TriSpace*





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 6.00pm

SMU Festival 2008 Invite cards

Speaker | Hearing Guest



Similar to the word sculpture, it already includes culture;
her heartfelt approach includes interactive performances, speaking activities at college
level and more communication interactions around the globe.

“sCULpTURE at heART” summarizes Sunsook Roh’s artwork and philosophy.

Solo Exhibitions



2013	"Of Synapses and Memories," Gainey Gallery, Van Singel Fine Arts Center, Grand Rapids, Michigan
2010	"Tree of Life V: Landscape of the Psychology of the Mind," solo show, Sculpture Square, Singapore Artist Residency Program, Sculpture Square, Singapore
2009	"Let the Rivers Clap Their Hands," Solo Show, Sculpture Square, Singapore
2005	"The Journey," (solo show) Ono Gallery, Tokyo, Japan

Group Exhibitions



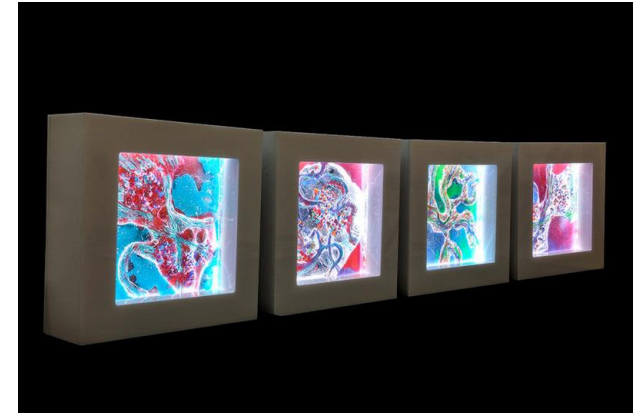
2014	"BAMA 2014 Blue," Busan Art Fair, Busan, South Korea
	"Crossing Boundaries," Lee Seoul Gallery, Seoul, South Korea
2013	"Artprize," International Juried Competition, Grand Rapids, MI, USA
	"Castleton Summer Show," Castleton-on-Hudson, NY, USA
	Mutual/ization," Pera Art Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey
2011	"Eye Pumping: Re-examination of Perspectives," Goodman Arts Centre, Singapore
	"Small Sculpture Show 2011," Sculpture Square, Singapore
2010	"In Transition," Ion Gallery, Singapore
	"DIS/PLACEMENT: 6," Institute of Contemporary Art Singapore
	"2010 Asia Contemporary Art / Now & Next," Guangju National Museum, Republic of Korea
	"2010 Asia Contemporary Art / Space & Imagination," Chonnam Provincial Okgwa Museum, Republic of Korea
	"Cabinet of Curiosities," Artspace@Helutrans, Singapore
2009	"Singapore International Art Fair" EXPO Singapore
	"Small Sculpture Show 09" Sculpture Square, Singapore
	"A Fresh Start," Andrewshire Gallery, Singapore Art Show 09
2008	"Art in a Senseless World," SMU Arts Festival 2008, Singapore
2006	"JAALA Exchange Exhibition," Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Art, Tokyo, Japan
2005	"Eternal Asia," Chuwa Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
2005	"Postcards From the Edge," Robert Miller Gallery, New York
	"Art for Peace Kawasaki 2005," Kawasaki, Japan
	"Art Scene of Ginza," Gallery Ginza 2chome, Tokyo, Japan
2003	"The Reconstruction Biennial," (installation / performance) Exit Art, New York
	"100 Years 100 Dreams" (exhibit celebrating centennial anniversary of Korean immigration to the U.S.), Space World, New York
2002	"Postcards From the Edge," Visual Aids, Sperone Westwater, New York
	"Universal Builders Supply Masters," UBS, Redhook, New York
2001	"Form," Gallery Korea, Korean Cultural Center, New York
	"Fall Group Show," Clifton Center for the Arts, Clifton, New Jersey
	"Absorption on the Ground 31," Space World, New York
	"Millennium Saloon Exhibit," ArtLab, Passaic, New Jersey
	"Beyond the Center," Bard College Exhibition Center, Redhook, New York
1999	Pushing, ArtLab, Passaic, New Jersey
1998	"Vision & Fusion" ArtLab, Passaic, New Jersey

2013 Exhibitions

Sunsook Roh

“Of Synapses and memories”

For Art Prize, Grand Rapids, 2013



As a part of new body of work as an extension of 'Tree of Life V, Landscape of the Psychology of the Mind' that I made in 2010, I am offering viewers an experience of looking through windows of my sculpture from both sides, one 'into own mindscape' and the other 'out onto societal reality'.

To explore the interior space of mind and memories, I examine the world of visible and invisible, through which, I created something new in 3D-form. Having borrowed from the external forms of human brain cells, I abstracted them for a new visual experience. My concerns over time, transience and mortality have been expressed in layers of depth, which was first shaped in clay, cast in silicon rubber mould, and finally into resin cast.

“Tongue Islands”

Sunsook Roh



“Tongue Islands” is an installation that metaphorically explores the interrelationships between peoples, languages and places. It is presented with three organically shaped wooden platforms placed low to the floor showing scattered resin cast tongues in clusters, groups of clusters, while individual tongues are placed in isolation, and seem disconnected from the other tongues. Some tongues reach over to the other island by vine-looking clear acrylic rods, which are lit up from the bottom of the platforms.

The platforms representing the islands also stand for countries or lands. Vines spring from each platform, with twisting branches, some of which are spreading their shoots onto other platforms. The vines represent the people or society of each land, and the paths that they take as they populate their land, and then migrate to other lands; bringing with them their customs, languages and a re-rooting of their history. Replacing leaves on the vines are tongues that represent individual voices and expression conveying their messages or perspectives.

Tree Of Life V

Landscape of the Psychology of the Mind

Sunsook Roh



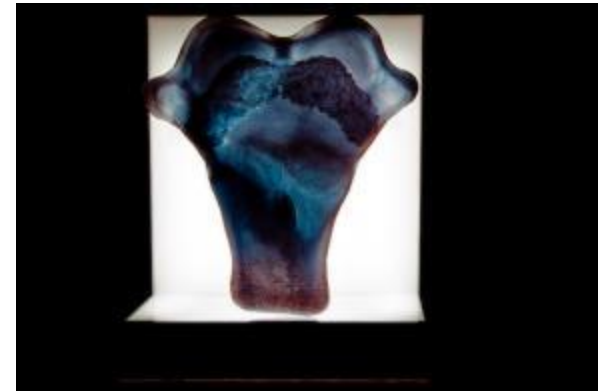
Tree of Life V: Landscape of the Psychology of the Mind

This sculptural installation, “Tree of Life V,” is a continuation of my exploration about the transience of life that I have been pursuing in my “Tree of Life” series, which delves into concerns over time, origin and memories. “Tree of Life III” refers to the physical domain and how the body defends and heals. “Tree of Life IV” refers to the external environment as an inspiration for the nurturing processes of life. In “Tree of Life V,” I take the journey inward, into the psychological landscape of the mind, referring to the way that we cope, code and recollect our experiences.

The architecture of the installation has been made inspired by how billions of nerve cells inside our brain transmit messages by receptors and make possible memory and other functions of the human mind, our source of humanity. At a macro level, I made the trunk of a tree with branches (of fiberglass, polymer and wire mesh) to suggest the blood vessels that nourish the brain. At the micro level, to suggest the myriad web of neurons, I built fiberglass/resin shells of domes and half-domes interconnected by vines made of polymer and wire. The interior or exterior of the dome shells harbor surprises of some mysterious growth, a metaphor for neuron receptacles that code, store and retrieve information.

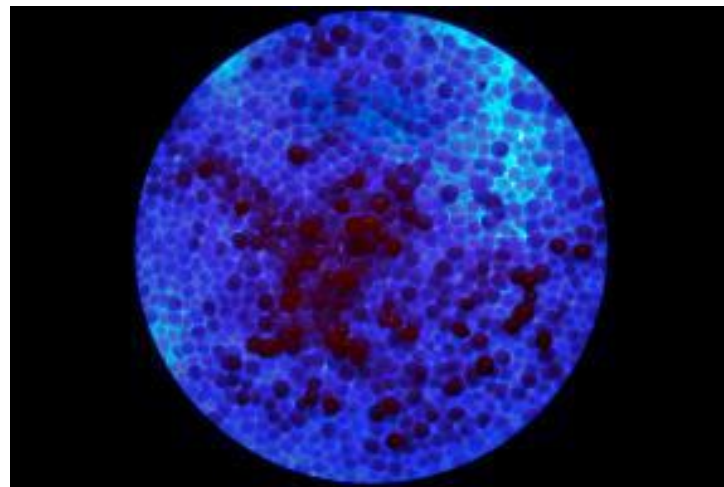
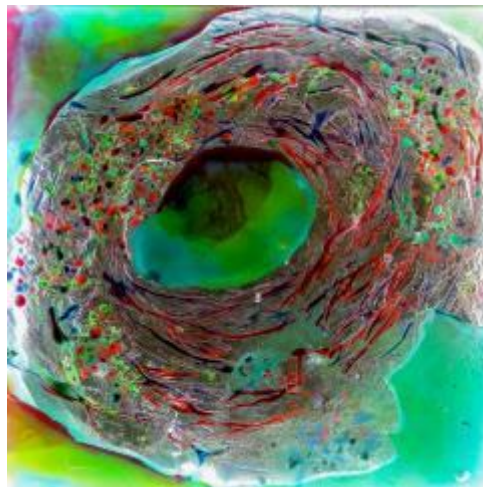
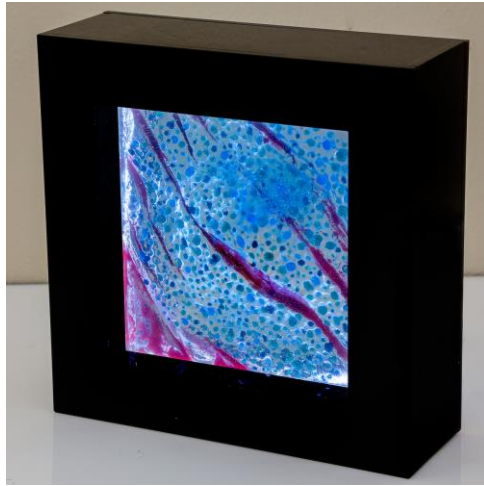
Style Guide – “My Tongue will Speak”

Sunsook Roh



Style Guide – “Of Synapses and Memories”

Sunsook Roh



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