

Press release
Berlin, 18 June 2024

Ju Young Kim
AEROPLASTICS
27 June – 27 July 2024

Ju Young Kim's first presentation at max goelitz in Berlin addresses transitional states and transit zones by transforming industrial transport modules from airplanes into symbolically encoded works. For her expansive installation, Kim expands her diploma project *AEROPLASTICS* with newly created works and places them in a new exhibition context.

In *AEROPLASTICS* Ju Young Kim merges robust high-tech aircraft components with Art Nouveau elements made of glass, ceramics and metal, creating novel, symbolically recoded objects. Beyond the diversity of the materials used, the works are characterized by a precise understanding of formal language, an interplay of different colors and the integration of surreal details.

The objects of the series *AEROPLASTICS* raise questions about the relativity of time and space in the context of transnational and transcontinental travel. As a means of transportation, the airplane functions as a link or interface between time zones and geographical borders. On its journey from one place to another, it crosses land and sea, leaving behind political, economic and cultural systems. The airplane thus becomes the embodiment of constant moments of transition and undefinable intermediate spaces – ambivalent spheres of nowhere and everywhere.

For humans, this experience accumulates in a feeling of parallel existence and instability, forcing them to explore their own concepts of identity, belonging and home. Just as the material composition of an aircraft is designed to withstand extreme environmental influences such as heat, cold, wind and rain, travellers must also be able to cope with all the changes, challenges and adversities that they encounter during their journey and at their respective destinations.

Excerpt from Alexandra Baringer's text on the diploma exhibition. Ju Young Kim's diploma was awarded the Debutant Grant at the Academy of Fine Arts Munich in 2024.

The presentation *AEROPLASTICS* is accompanied by an exhibition text by curator Linda Franken (KW Berlin).

Ju Young Kim (*1991, Seoul, KR) explores transitional states and transit zones in her sculptures and installations by combining industrial transportation modules from airplanes and cars into symbolically encoded works. She blends these with stained glass, cast metal, ceramics and plastic, thus bringing together high-tech objects with hand crafts techniques. The works are characterized by surreal elements that have been extracted from their original context and open up a new perspective on the phenomena of the globalized world. In her conceptual explorations, she examines the relativity of space and time from the perspective of a transcontinental traveler. Landscape motifs and traditional symbolism meet industrial products and transportation systems to paint a picture of an accelerated society in which different cultural and temporal components collide.

Ju Young Kim studied at the Academy of Fine Arts Munich as a Meisterschülerin of Olaf Nicolai and was awarded the 2024 Debutant Grant for her diploma project *AEROPLASTICS*. Her works

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have recently been exhibited in group exhibitions at Print Gallery in Tokyo, Kunsthalle Recklinghausen and Lothringer Halle 13 in Munich.

Opening

Thursday 27 June 2024

6 – 9 pm

For further information please contact:

Alexandra Chizhevskaya | max goelitz | alexandra@maxgoelitz.com | +49 (0) 89 89063944

max goelitz

rudi-dutschke-strasse 26

10969 berlin

maxgoelitz.com

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