

Sujin Lim: The Land, Dark and Muddy

An exhibition offering a poetic tribute to what has been lost and what still remains

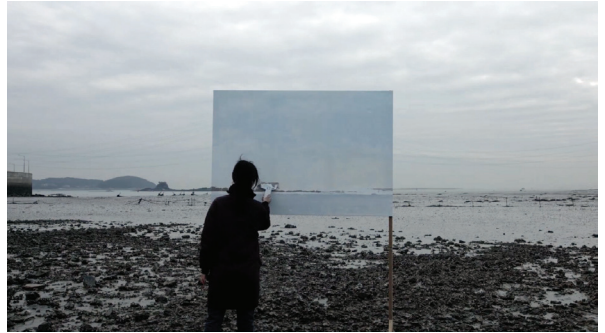
October 22, 2024–February 7, 2025

Opening Reception:
October 22, 2024
6–8pm

Gallery Hours:
Monday–Friday
10:30am–5:30pm

The International Studio & Curatorial Program (ISCP) presents an immersive installation by Sujin Lim that memorializes a place transformed by industrial and commercial development.

Anchored by two large-scale wall murals, *The Land, Dark and Muddy* extends from the artist's ongoing research on the rapidly changing environment of the remote fishing island of Yeongheung in Incheon, South Korea, where her father grew up. For this exhibition, Lim creates a poetic tribute to a devastated landscape and community, highlighting what is lost and what remains.



Sujin Lim, *Landscape Painting*, 2019, HD single channel video, 31:34 min.
Courtesy of the artist

Over the past three decades, Yeongheung has undergone a drastic shift: the island's natural features and ecosystems have disappeared as a result of development and a surge in changing tidelines—markers of climate change that are now increasingly common in coastal locations around the world. A tide embankment, built in 1994, significantly increased the water flow and washed away most of the tidelands, destroying the habitat for marine life, while a bridge connecting the island to the mainland was erected in order to build a power plant, which ultimately polluted the sea water and further altered the surrounding scenery. Lim reimagines the vanished land through two wall paintings made using mud from Yeongheung. Alongside these paintings is a stenciled text of a conversation between the artist and her father, and a single-channel video projection of her painting performance on the island. In the video work, titled *Landscape Painting* (2019), Lim positions a large canvas in front of the site she depicts, allowing her to obscure the island's modern construction and infrastructure and superimpose the original scenery, as recollected by her father and other residents. Playfully alluding to the landscape painting tradition, Lim's compositions poignantly capture a seaside that now only exists in memory.

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As Lim has observed: “No landscape is ever neutral. Each one has multiple layers of history, interpretation, and importance. *The Land, Dark and Muddy* is about unearthing the social and political contexts embedded in the landscape and reinterpreting them by posing the following questions: Who has the authority to reshape a landscape? Who are the people affected by those changes?”

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Lim is currently an artist-in-residence in ISCP's Ground Floor Residency Program designed for New York-based artists. Through site-specific installations and sculptures, Lim transforms actual locations into surreal images and alternative realities as a means to confront social, political and environmental injustices. Sujin Lim has exhibited work at Brooklyn Museum, New York; Seoul Museum of Art, South Korea; and Museum of Moscow, Russia, among other venues.

This exhibition is curated by Melinda Lang, ISCP's Director of Programs and Exhibitions. It is supported by Alice and Lawrence Weiner; Danna and Ed Ruscha; Hartfield Foundation; Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation; Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation; New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council; Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso; New York City Council District 34; New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature; James Rosenquist Foundation; and William Talbott Hillman Foundation.

About ISCP:

Founded in 1994, ISCP is the fourth-largest visual arts residency program in the world and a global leader in the field of visual arts residency programs. ISCP supports the creative development of artists and curators, and promotes exchange through residencies and public programs. Housed in a former factory in Brooklyn, with 35 light-filled work studios and two galleries, ISCP organizes exhibitions, events and offsite projects, which are free and open to all, sustaining a vibrant community of contemporary art practitioners and diverse audiences. Over 2,000 artists and curators from more than 100 countries, including the United States have undertaken residencies at ISCP.

ISCP does not discriminate on the basis of disability in terms of admission, access, or employment. ISCP programs and activities are accessible to visitors with disabilities. Accommodations are made to the best of the institution's ability, depending on individual visitors' needs. To request accommodations, please contact info@iscp-nyc.org or call 718-387-2900.



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