

Cecilia Hillstrom
Gallery: *Young In Hong*
A Fire That Never Dies
14/I-20/2 2016



“

We are almost certain that fire is precisely the first object, the first phenomenon, on which the human mind reflected; among all phenomena, fire alone is sufficiently prized by prehistoric man to wake in him the desire for knowledge, and this is mainly because it accompanies the desire for love.”

Gaston Bachelard
The Psychology of Fire

”

Young In Hong
A Fire That Never Dies

The ancient rites whisper about lights within, equating bonfire to inner thrive, subjecting people to nature. The forces of fire are transformative, emanating warmth and energy so that the fire that you warm up with, qualify into the food you consume, heat the water you bathe in. Beyond its alterations, fire like all other three elements, is ascribed with a symbolic meaning. It signifies emotional pain and suffering; strength and will power; enjoyment and exhilaration; desire and passion; revolution and change. Fire unites matter and spirit, vice and virtue; it is a principle of contraction and a principle of expansion: it disperses and it coheres. It can guide to form communities, bring masses together under a singular frame, alongside an unequalled belief, with a distinct position. It can aid to light up the streets, pronounce moments of excitement, celebration, highlight moments of mourning, sorrow and pain, punctuate societal significance.

Young In Hong's solo exhibition at Cecilia Hillström Gallery draws its influences from the substantial richness and permanence of fire, portraying the immediate meaning that fire gives to vital intensity and to intensity of being. **A Fire That Never Dies** brings together a recent body of work that concentrate on lost moments, mostly where a social unrest is at stake. Focusing on the recent history of Modern Korea and furthering her quest in capturing the immaterial, transitional nature of collective experience, Hong produces portraits of politically and emotionally pronounced instances. Employing a combination of different media ranging between photography, painting and embroidery alongside insertions of garment making techniques, Hong's series emerge as durational portraits that crystallise encounters charged with pathos and grievance. She brings forward moments from the last decade,

amplifying societal tangents that stroke upon the killing of two teenage girls by a tank operated by American Soldiers (The Square Saddened, 2016); the uprising against the licensing of diseased meat by the Korean Government (Burning Love, 2014); a recent candle protest (Shadow of Us, 2016). Merging the moments of political consciousness with rituals of celebration, Young In Hong mediates on fire as metonym for movement and transformation. The moments she chooses to re-produce expand in time and solidify as matter; fixed on threads and textiles, they gain texture and form. They reverberate as narratives, fixed on surfaces. Hong commissions value and resonance to the moments she depicts to work with, engaging herself in a meditative process of production. She forms associations between sewing and painting, not only through combining them in a singular frame, but also provoking their labour intensive qualities. Each image is formed of threads, that exceed the frame. Each thread provides a definition to the moment Hong depicted; each bead magnifies its spectacularity.

Fatoş Üstek

Burning Love (2014)

Viscose rayon threads, cotton.

290 x 360 cm

Photo: Courtesy of Plateau



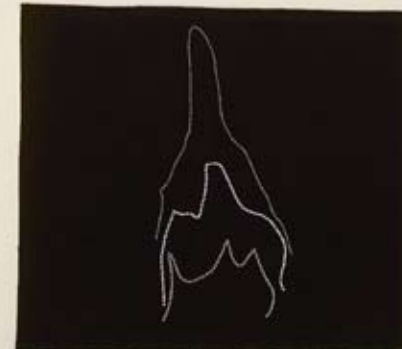
Shadow of Us (2016)

Viscose rayon threads,
acrylic, flat gems (aluminum),
mesh fabric, cotton
73 x 100 cm



**Burning with Triadic
Harmony** (2016)

Viscose rayon threads,
flat gems (glass, imitation
crystal), cotton
207.5 x 148 cm



A Deep Prayer (2016)
Viscose rayon threads,
cotton, polyester fabric
168 x 163 x 10 cm



Rhythmic Flowers (2016)
Viscose rayon threads, mesh fabric,
cotton, flat gems (imitation crystal)
152 x 113 cm





Partition (2016)

Viscose rayon threads, cotton
60 x 160 cm

Silhouette of Fire (2016)
Flat gems (imitation crystal),
cashmere wool
65 x 65 cm (when installed)



Late Summer Night (2016)
Viscose rayon threads,
acrylic, flat gems (imitation
crystal), spray paint
110 x 85 cm



The Square Saddened (2016)
Viscose rayon threads, cotton
65 x 97.5 cm



Young In Hong
Lives in London, Seoul

Solo Exhibitions, Site-Specific Projects

- 2015** *Young In Hong*, 6/50 fig-2, ICA Studio & Theatre, London, UK
- 2014** *Image Unidentified*, Artsonje Centre, Seoul, Korea
- 2013** *Floral Deception*, Sindoh Art Space, Seoul, Korea
This is Not Graffiti, Cecilia Hillström Gallery, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2012** *City Rituals: Gestures*, Artclub 1563, Seoul, Korea
- 2009** *Double Encounter*, I-Myu Projects, London, UK
Where is Plin?, Various places in London, UK
- 2008** *The Anonymous Show*, St. Catherine's Church Hatcham and various places in London, UK
- 2007** *On Air*, Private Member's Club Shêd, London, UK
- 2005** *The Performing City*, In collaboration with + Gallery, HOTEI DAIBUTSU and + Gallery, Hotei-Cho, Konan, Aichi, Japan
- 2004** *Open Theatre*, In collaboration with Gallery Factory, post office and police station at Samchung-dong, Seoul, Korea
- 2003** *Forgetting*, Suknam Art Prize, Moran Gallery, Seoul, Korea
- 2002** *The Pillars*, Loop Gallery, Seoul, Korea

Tracespace, Installation & performance, Taipei Artist Village, Taiwan

- 2001** *The Curtain*, Proof Gallery, London, UK

Performances

- 2015** *In Her Dream*, ICA Theatre, London
- 2014** *5100: Pentagon*, Gwangju Biennale
Let Us Dance, PLATEAU, Seoul
Water Comes Together with Other Water, Spaces, Chennai, India
- 2013** *Gwanghwamun Quartet*, Kukje Gallery, Seoul, Korea
- 2012** *The Fifth Secret Song*, Culture Station Seoul 284, Seoul, Korea

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2015** *[ana] Please keep your eyes closed*, Maraya Art Centre, Sharjah, UAE
- 2014** *A Room of His Own*, Art Sonje Centre, Seoul, Korea
Burning Down the House, Gwangju Biennale, Gwangju, Korea
Spectrum-Spectrum, PLATEAU, Seoul
Open Studio: The Public Domain, Delfina Foundation, London
WaterBodies, Spaces, Chennai, India
- 2013** *Making & Being*, Korean Cultural Centre, Brussels, Belgium
Tell Me Her Story, Coreana Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea
Nora Noh, Presseum, Ilmin Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea

	<i>The Song of Slant Rhymes</i> , Kukje Gallery, Seoul, Korea <i>Notre Histoire, Espace Cosmoplos</i> , Nantes, France <i>The Hidden Cost of Prosperity</i> , KCC, UK				
2012	<i>Global Archive</i> , Hanmi Gallery, London, UK <i>Playtime</i> , Culture Station Seoul 284, Seoul, Korea <i>The Shade of Prosperity</i> , Film Screening, Rivington Place, London, UK <i>Plastic Nature</i> , Galerie Vanessa Quang, Paris, France <i>Maximum City</i> , Two Person Show with Suhasini Kejriwal, James Freeman Gallery, London, UK	2008	<i>Fantasy Studio</i> , A Foundation, Liverpool, UK <i>Another Masterpiece</i> , New Acquisitions Gyeonggi MOMA, Korea <i>Good Morning, Mr. Nam June Paik</i> , Korean Cultural Centre, London, UK	2003	<i>Moving Mind</i> , Young-Eun Museum, Seoul, Korea <i>Asia-Pacific Art Festival</i> , Taipei National University of Art, Taiwan <i>The Importance of Living in Seoul</i> , Ssamzie Space & Loop gallery, Seoul, Korea <i>Wedding</i> , Sung-kok Museum, Seoul, Korea <i>Open Your Eyes</i> , Marronnier (present Arco) Museum, Seoul, Korea <i>Dreamy Hive</i> , Project Space Zip, Seoul, Korea
2011	<i>Korean Eye: Energy and Matter</i> , The national Assembly, Seoul / Museum of Art and Design, New York, US	2007	<i>International Incheon Women Artist's Biennale</i> , Incheon Culture & Arts Centre, Korea <i>Particules Libres</i> , Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris, France <i>Scent from the Eastern Sea</i> , No More Grey Gallery, London, UK	2002	<i>Tangible Dreams</i> , Salvatore Ferragamo Korea, Chungdam-dong, Seoul, Korea <i>New Field Art Festival</i> , Sly Art Space, Taipei, Taiwan <i>London Underground</i> , Taipei Fine Art Museum, Taiwan <i>The Show</i> , Insa Art Centre, Seoul, Korea
2010	<i>Korean Eye: Fantastic Ordinary</i> , Saatchi Gallery, London, UK / The Arts House, Singapore <i>Korean Eye: Fantastic Ordinary</i> , The Seoul Museum of Art, Gyeonghuigung, Seoul / The Korean Foundation Cultural Centre, Seoul, Korea	2006	<i>The International Wax Making</i> , Ubon Ratchathani Candle Festival, Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand	2001	<i>Detached House</i> , British Ambassador's residence, Seoul, Korea
2009	<i>Gam Dong Public Art Project</i> , Gohan-Sabuk, Korea <i>Breathing In & Out</i> , Gallery Factory, Seoul, Korea <i>Lost & Found</i> , Rokeby Gallery, London, UK	2005	<i>Between Man & Place</i> , Ssamzie Space, Seoul, Korea <i>Blue-Opening Show of Seongnam Arts Center</i> , Seongnam Arts Center, Korea <i>Pocheon Asia Art Festival</i> , Korea <i>Anyang Public Art Project</i> , Korea <i>Publicly Speaking</i> , Ssamzie Space, Seoul, Korea <i>Publicly Speaking</i> , Wondersite, Tokyo, Japan	2000	<i>Assembly</i> , Stepney City, London, UK
		2004	<i>Place & Temptation</i> , Hyundai Department Store, Samsung-dong, Seoul, Korea <i>Korea Express</i> , Gwang-ju Biennale, Gwang-ju, Korea <i>Secrets – The Spectacle Within</i> , Queen's Gallery, British Council, New Delhi, India	Publications as Author (Artist's Books)	
				2013	<i>Nowhere I Can Be</i> , ISBN: 978-0-9558967-3-6
				2009	<i>Where Is Plin?</i> , ISBN: 978-0-9558967-2-9
				2008	<i>Image Unidentified</i> , ISBN: 978-0-9558967-1-2
				2008	<i>The Words</i> , ISBN: 978-0-9558967-0-5
				Artist Residencies, Programmes	
				2015	<i>Performance as Process</i> , Delfina Foundation, London
				2014	<i>The Public Domain</i> , Delfina Foundation, London
				2013	ARKO Nomadic Artist in Residence, Chennai, India
				2009	Art In Village, Sabuk-Gohan, Korea
				2005	A-I-T Residency Program, Tokyo, Japan
				2004	Ssamzie Space, Seoul, Korea
				2002	Taipei Artist Village, Taipei, Taiwan
				Awards	
				2012	SINAP (Sindoh Artist Support Program), Korea
				2011	Kimsechoong Art Prize, Korea
				2003	Suk-Nam Art Prize, Suk-Nam Art Foundation, Korea
				Education	
				2012	PhD Fine Art, Goldsmiths College, London, UK
				1999-	MA Fine Art, Goldsmiths College, London, UK
				2000	MA/BA Sculpture, Seoul National University, Korea

Fatoş Ustek

Fatoş Ustek is an independent curator and writer based in London. She is currently Art Fund Curator at fig-2, responsible for curating 50 projects in 50 weeks throughout 2015. Ustek acted as associate curator for the 10th Gwangju Biennale in South Korea, is a member of AICA Tr and a regular contributor to international art magazines and exhibition catalogues. She has curated an opera in five acts at DRAF, London; an exhibition trilogy entitled Now Expanded that took place at Kunstfabrik, Berlin; Tent, Rotterdam and DRAF, London, among various group shows in Europe and Turkey.

Cover photo

Detail from **Burning Love** (2014)

Viscose rayon threads, cotton

290 x 360 cm

Photo: Courtesy of Plateau

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www.chgallery.se

Cecilia Hillstrom Gallery:

Gallery address
Hälsingegatan 43
113 31 Stockholm
Sweden

info@chgallery.se
www.chgallery.se

Opening hours
Tue-Fri 12–18
Sat 12–16

(closed Sundays)
or by appointment

