

MJ Kim

Whispers of an Echo Collection

SELECTED WORKS 2025–2026

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Artist Statement

My painting collection, Whispers of an Echo, begins with Korean imagery and memories of the natural world. Through layered acrylic color and texture, I revisit familiar forms and the feelings they hold.

In Between Two Lights, I rework an inherited landscape in a contemporary palette. Magpie and Tiger draws on Korean folk imagery. The Mindful Horizon and Vapor Silence turn toward imagined spaces where movement, stillness, and care take shape.

My design background gives me a sense of structure. Painting allows that structure to meet intuition. Across these works, I explore how memory can remain present while taking a new form.

Art 1.1 / 2025

Between Two Lights

Inspired by Ilwolobongdo, I place the sun and moon above a landscape of layered peaks and flowing water. Dark blue, white, and gold create a space between two lights, where inherited imagery becomes a personal reflection on memory and balance.

Acrylic on canvas

54" W × 54" H



Art 1.4 / 2026

Between Two Lights

White, gray, and gold bring a quiet light to this variation inspired by Ilwolobongdo. Between sun and moon, repeated peaks and flowing forms suggest a landscape held in memory. Texture carries the familiar imagery into the present.

Acrylic on canvas

54" W × 54" H



Between Two Lights

Pale tones and gold contours soften the landscape beneath the sun and moon. Peaks, trees, and flowing water form a quiet rhythm, carrying the imagery of Ilwolobongdo into an intimate reflection on continuity.

Acrylic on canvas

20" W × 16" H



Between Two Lights

Gold contours emerge from a dark landscape beneath the sun and moon. The familiar peaks and water of Ilwolobongdo take on a deeper atmosphere, exploring the warmth that remains within shadow.

Acrylic on canvas

20" W × 16" H



Magpie and Tiger

Kkachi and Holang-i

I return to the magpie and tiger of Korean folk imagery through expressive color and texture. The familiar figures become a personal connection to the stories and images of my heritage.

Acrylic paint and acrylic pens on canvas

28" W × 22" H



The Mindful Horizon

Soft greens and flowering forms flow through layers of acrylic, evoking the quiet movement of nature. I imagine this landscape as an inward horizon, where thoughts settle and a sense of peace emerges. Gentle transitions in color invite the viewer to pause and find stillness within the unfolding forms.

Acrylic on canvas

54" W × 54" H



Vapor Silence

Clouds drift through layered blues, softening the boundary between sky and ocean. A larger cloud shelters a smaller one, a gesture of care. Beneath the partly hidden moon, gentle movement invites contemplation and a sense of stillness.

Acrylic on canvas

54" W × 54" H



Recognition



Honorable Mention

TERAVARNA
15th Abstract
2025 International Juried Art
Competition



About MJ Kim

MJ Kim was born in Seoul and is based in California's Bay Area. She studied Environmental and Product Design at ArtCenter College of Design and worked in furniture, interior, and lighting design. Her attention to structure and materials continues to inform her painting.

Her acrylic works revisit Korean imagery and imagined natural landscapes through layered color and texture. In her Hanji reliefs, paper becomes a connection to family memory. Across both practices, she considers how the past can take shape in the present.

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For exhibition inquiries and artwork availability

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