

ETHAN COHEN

MINA CHEON

Lives and works in Baltimore, Maryland
Born 1973 in Seoul, Korea

EDUCATION

2008 PhD, Philosophy of Media and Communications, European Graduate School (EGS), European University for Interdisciplinary Studies (EUFIS), Saas-Fee, Wallis, Switzerland

2005 PhD course work transferred to EGS from Maryland Institute of Technology in the Humanities (MITH)
Doctoral Fellow, Theatre History and Performance Studies, University of Maryland, College Park

2002 MFA, Imaging & Digital Arts, University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)

1999 MFA, Hoffberger School of Painting, Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA)

1996 BFA, Painting, School of Art and Design, Ewha Woman's University, Seoul, Korea

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025 Haunted Koreas: Mina Cheon Retrospective 2005-2025, KODA House, New York, NY

2022 North South Korea Koreas, Ethan Cohen KuBe, Beacon, NY
Mina Cheon & Kim II Soon: Haunted Koreas, American University Museum, Washington D.C.

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2021 Mina Cheon aka Kim Il Soon: Dreaming Unification: Protest Peace,
Ethan Cohen Gallery, New York, NY
Mina Cheon, Asia Society Museum, New York, NY

2018 Mina Cheon aka Kim Il Soon: Dreaming North Korean Painting,
Noyes Museum of Art, Stockton University, Atlantic City, NJ
Solo exhibition, Ethan Cohen KuBe, Beacon, NY

2017 UMMA: MASS GAMES – Motherly Love North Korea, Ethan Cohen
Gallery, New York, October-December 2017

2016 Inaugural artist for RE/PUBLIC, architecture firm with a gallery
invites Mina Cheon, February 4 – April 20

2014 Happy North Korean Children, The Trunk Gallery, Seoul, Korea.
June 26 – July 29
Choco·Pie Propaganda: From North Korea with Love, Ethan Cohen
New York Gallery, New York. January 23 – March 1

2013 Polipop and Paperdolls, The Trunk Gallery, Seoul, Korea

2012 Polipop and Paintings, Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, Maryland
Polipop, The Sungkok Art Museum, Seoul, Korea

2008 Addressing Dolls, C. Grimaldis Gallery, Baltimore, Maryland

2005 Dizz/placement, Insa Art Space, Arts Council, Korean Culture and
Arts Foundation (KCAF), Seoul, Korea

2002 Groundless, Lance Fung Gallery, New York, New York

2000 The Web, for Fall Solos 2000, Arlington Arts Center, Arlington,
Virginia

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SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024 Back to School Art Festival, Ethan Cohen KuBe, Beacon, NY

2023 A Fine Line: Graffiti and the Power of Dissent, Ethan Cohen KuBe, Beacon, NY

2022 Birds of a Feather, Ethan Cohen KuBe, Beacon, NY

2021 The Last Word, Ethan Cohen Gallery, New York, NY
The Doors of Perception: New Approaches to Realism, Ethan Cohen KuBe, Beacon, NY
Light House, Waterfall Gallery, New York, NY

2020 American Dreams, Ethan Cohen Gallery, New York, NY
Abstraction, Tradition, Time, and Totems, Ethan Cohen Gallery, New York, NY

2019 Double X, Ethan Cohen Gallery, New York, NY
Fears of Art, Ethan Cohen Gallery, New York, NY
Orphans of Painting, Ethan Cohen KuBe, Beacon, NY

2018 Busan Biennale 2018, Divided We Stand, theme on divided territories, Museum of Contemporary Art Busan and former Bank of Korea building, Busan, Korea
Figuration, Baltimore Museum of Art, Contemporary Wing
Modern Images of the Body from East Asia, curated by Yao Wu, Smith College Museum of Art, Smith College, Northampton, MA

2017 Art Remixed, Ethan Cohen New York, New York, NY
Red Attack, Ethan Cohen New York, New York, NY
Art Miami 2017, Ethan Cohen New York, Miami, FL
Your Hand My Heart, Simon Gallert, Seoul, Korea

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2016 Light City Baltimore, art commission from the Mayor's Office and the Baltimore Office of Promotion & the Arts, for "Diamonds Light Baltimore," in collaboration with architect Gabriel Kroiz, to install 15 diamond shaped LED light sculpture installed at Pier Five during Light City festival, Spring 2016.

2015 Face to Face, curated by Ethan Cohen, Ethan Cohen New York gallery, NY, September 10 – October 24.

2014 Double Mirror: Korean-American Artists, curated by Iris Inhee - Moon, American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center, Washington DC, April 1 – June 1. Includes Eat Choco·Pie Together installation and Kim Il Soon paintings Happy North Korean Little Boy and Happy North Korean Little Girl.

2013 "Korean-American New York Film Festival's visual arts exhibition," at Sylvia Wald and Po Kim Art Gallery, artistic director Susie Lim, curated by Hyejung Jang, New York, NY, October 15 – October 31. Includes Dokdo, video installation, piece extended with collaboration on sculptural installation with Nara Park.
Sharper Image: Part II, artSTRAND, Provincetown, Massachusetts
Turn On, Kunsthalle Beacon (KuBe), Beacon, New York
Sharper Image, Ethan Cohen New York, New York
Movement and Kinetic Art, Seoul Olympic Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea
PULSE, Ethan Cohen New York, New York, New York

2012 Art Asia Art Fair, Ethan Cohen Fine Arts, Miami, Florida
(e)merge Art Fair Group Exhibition, Ethan Cohen Fine Arts, Washington D.C.
Body as Monument, curated by Adejoke Tugbiyele, artists Mina Cheon, Steven Singer, Dominic Terlizzi, Tyrone Geter, Toym Imao, and Yerin Kim Creative Alliance, Amalie Rothschild Gallery, Baltimore, MD

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2010 Athena's Daughter, group exhibition honoring Grace Hartigan, Maryland Art Place sponsored, Ritz Carlton, Baltimore, MD
Desirable Fantasies: Between Fantasy and Reality, Korus House, The Korean Embassy in US, curator Jeon Jeong-ok, Project Andini initiative, group exhibition with Cheon, Hye Rim Lee, Gilbert Trent, Satomi Shirai, Washington DC.

2009 BWI, International Pier, Group exhibition, MICA faculty, students and alumni show
The Art in Embassy Program, group exhibition of Korean-American artists including Mina Cheon, Nam June Paik, Byron Kim, Doho Suh, and Nikki Lee, American Embassy in Seoul, Korea.

2007 New Legacies and Living Icons, curated by Leslie King-Hammond, James Backas Gallery, Maryland States Arts Council, Baltimore, Maryland

2005 media in'f' – 5th EMAP: Ewha Media Art Presentation, section "Looped in America," curated by Inhee Iris Moon, Ewha Art Center, Ewha Women's University, Seoul, Korea.
EVR(e-flux video rental), started in New York by Anton Vidokle and Julieta Aranda, Miami, Frankfurt, Berlin, Amsterdam, Vienna, and Seoul, Korea The 6th Open Studio Exhibition, SSamzie Space, Alternative Art Space, Seoul, Korea
Packed Unpacked2: Alice in My Heart, collected work at the 2nd SSamzie Collection Exhibition, SSamzie Art Warehouse / Museum, Heyri Art Valley, Paju, Korea

2004 Athena's Daughters, curated by Grace Hartigan, Maryland Art Place.

2003 From My Finger---Living in the Technological Age, curated by Elsa Chen, organized by Women's Art Association in Taiwan, First International Women's Festival in Taiwan, Kaohsiung Museum of Art, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

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2002 Self Portraiture, curated by Stefano Pasquini, Art Space Sesto Senso, Bologna, Italy

2001 Floor, Artscape, curated by Gary Kachadurion, Artscape, Decker Gallery, Station Bld., MICA
Installation Space Janine Antoni, juried by Janine Antoni, School 33 Art Center, Mayor's Advisory Committee on Art and Culture, Baltimore, MD
Video Screening, organized by Mark Rance, curated by Amie Seigel, L.A. Film Forum, Los Angeles, California
New Vision-Digital Art Network, Techno Mart, Info Art Korea, Korean Information and Cultural Center, Seoul, Korea

2000 PIX, selected by Larry Miller, curated by Lance Fung, Emily Harvey / Lance Fung Gallery New York, New York
Entropy: Arrow of Time, part of "The Flow of New Tendencies in Korean Art," curated by Kim HeyKyong, Fine Arts Center of Korean Culture and Arts Foundation, Seoul, Korea.
Video Art 2000, The Contemporary Museum, Baltimore, MD

PERFORMANCES

2018 UMMA's Cleaning Lesson II, Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, MA

2017 UMMA's Cleaning Lesson, Ethan Cohen Gallery, New York, NY

2014 Mina Cheon aka Kim Il Soon, series of performance and recitation including "55 Special Ways of Saying Dear Leader in North Korea, "Choco-Pie Propaganda, Ethan Cohen Gallery, New York, NY

2013 Mina Cheon aka Kim Il Soon, DPRK Polipop campaigns "Squirt Water Not Bullets" and "Make Art Not Weapons" at Ethan Cohen New York at Pulse NY Art Fair, Metropolitan Pavilion, New York

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2012 The Post Reality Show: TALK MEDIA! Hosted by Randall Packer Broadcast via Livestream, Weeknights 10:00 pm - 11:00 pm EDT, July 16 – 27, 2012 during the 7th Annual Capital Fringe Festival, Washington DC. Includes interviews with guest artists Mina Cheon, Elahi Hasan, Jeff Gabes, Philippa Hughes, Melissa Ichiuji, Ken Jordan, Lisa Moren, Mariso Olson, Helen Thorington, and others

2012 "Polipop Switch News," for public television SWITCH, Emily Harvey Foundation, performance series includes Jessica Higgins and Gema Alava, Bibbe Hansen and Sean Carrillo, Alison Knowles, Larry Miller, Mina Cheon, Jaime Davidovich, and Joshua Selman. Switch Producer Denis~Luzuriaga Luzuriaga, Creative Director Jessica Higgins.

2009 Performance artist, participant to Danish Fluxus Artist Eric Andersen's performance piece, "This is Not This," with Fluxus artist Larry Miller, Julia Robinson. Curator of Live Action Jonas Stampe, Live Action New York, Scandinavian House, New York, New York.

1999 The Bug, interactive media video string installation performance, University of Maryland, Baltimore, County.

1999 Video Kinetix, collaboration with Source of Uncertainty, part of Unison Simultaneous Performance Workshop, 1416 Madison House, Baltimore, Maryland.
Augenmusik, collaboration with Source of Uncertainty, Corpus Christi, Baltimore, Maryland.
15 Billion Years, dance performance, Maryland Institute College of Art

1993 The Resurrection of Maciunas, The Seoul Fluxus Festival, Seoul, Korea

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AWARDS AND HONORS

2016 Light City Baltimore, art commission from the Mayor's Office and the Baltimore Office of Promotion & the Arts, for "Diamonds Light Baltimore," in collaboration with architect Gabriel Kroiz, to install 15 diamond shaped LED light sculpture installed at Pier Five during Light City festival, Spring 2016.
Maryland State Arts Council Individual Artist Grant for Painting as Kim Il Soon, on North Korean painting series.
MICA Faculty Research Grant on projects related to North Korea, research done in Seoul libraries on North Korean publications, and production of artwork done in K-Town Studios in Baltimore for next solo exhibition.

2014 Photo It artist, archival print support for "Happy North Korean Children" exhibition at Trunk Gallery, Seoul, Korea. Includes a feature published in Photo Dot cultural magazine, July issue, Seoul, Korea.

2013 18 Best Korean Artists of 2012 Sovereign Asian Art Prize Hong Kong, nominator Hyunjin Kim, exhibition and charity auction at Seoul Auction, Seoul, Korea, March 14-20.

2011 "One to Watch" selected by Leslie King-Hammond, ArtTable: The Leadership Organization for Professional Women in the Visual Arts, 30th Anniversary Gala Benefit, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY, April 15

2010 MLK Unity Week Award for diversity efforts on campus and beyond, Falvey Hall, Brown Center, MICA, Baltimore, MD, January 20.
Includes a keynote address "On Racism" dedicated to Flores McGarrell.

2009 Research Initiation Grant, MICA, cultural comparative research between Korean and Japanese popular culture, specifically

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"Kenkanryu: The Korea Hate Wave" that deals with the subject of images of hatred and racism in popular culture of Asia tied to global media.

2008 European Graduate School (EGS) awarding publication of Shamanism and Cyberspace, Atropos Press: Publisher of Thinking, Dresden and New York.

PERMANENT COLLECTIONS

Baltimore Museum of Art, MD
Kathleen Stephens Collection, Pacific Century Institute, CA
Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, MA
Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD
Sungkok Art Museum, Seoul, Korea
SSamzie Art Collection, Heyri Art Valley, Paju, Korea
Museum of Modern Art, Ljubljana, Slovenia
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden Library Video Collection, Smithsonian, Washington, DC

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