

KOOK PROJECTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KOOKY CUTTERS: REDEFINED REALITIES

October 24 - November 21, 2014

Jinyoung Koh

Jungho Lee

D. Dominick Lombardi

Jin-kang Park

Negin Sharifzadeh

Saba Riazi*

Curated by **Soojung Hyun**

Kook Projects is pleased to present *Kooky Cutters: Redefined Realities*, its inaugural group exhibition curated by Soojung Hyun.

The works included in this exhibition focus on the uniquely contagious aspects of an imagined existence, both lyrical and abstruse. They represent everyday life, but in a cunningly different way. In doing so, the artists apply their innovative realities in relation to errant formal strategies. Each artist rejects facile ideas, strict perceptions, unstable trends, and predictable forms. A phonetic play on the Korean surname, Kook, the English term “kooky” is a type of vernacular slang used to identify unusual or offbeat behavior. On a formal level, it might also refer to the paradoxical manifestations of the creative self.

In *Kooky Cutters: Redefined Realities*, six artists: Jinyoung Koh, Jungho Lee, D. Dominick Lombardi, Jin-kang Park, Negin Sharifzadeh, and Saba Riazi, investigate intimate experiences, unique processes, and a fresh vitality at once shocking and absurd. Their works shift the appearance of reality in everyday life toward a sublime experience. This exhibition intends to deliver a social commentary that involves the use of conflicted subject matter to stimulate the mind by eliminating standard procedures in favor of strange and unusual narratives.

KOOK PROJECTS

214 E 51ST ST GRD

NEW YORK NY 10022

+1 212 390 1859

team@kookprojects.com

Opening reception Friday, October 24, 2014 6-8pm

(Film screening of Saba Riazi’s “The Wind is Blowing on My Street” at 6:30pm & 7:30pm)

*Saba Riazi is the first artist in the *Project Series*, which will feature artists working within time-based mediums. Riazi’s film “The Wind is Blowing on My Street” will be screened at the exhibition opening, as well as periodically through the exhibition at special events and timed screenings. (Organized by WooJae Chung)

KOOKY CUTTERS: REDEFINED REALITIES

October 24 - November 21, 2014

FEATURED ARTISTS

Jinyoung Koh



Still from *The Birds*. 2014. Two-channel video installation (color, sound). Five-minute loop.

Jinyoung Koh is a doctoral student at Columbia University in New York. He received his Photo & Media MFA at the California Institute of the Arts and a BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Koh's works extend the viewer's thoughts infinitely through the structural deconstruction of unfixed concepts of nature, artificiality, death, life, myths, daily life, illusion, migration, conversion, facticity, manipulation, and more. His work has been recognized with awards including the 2012 Myers Art Prize of Columbia University, the 2010 Philadelphia Museum of Art Portfolio, and the PX3 Grand Prix Award 2010.

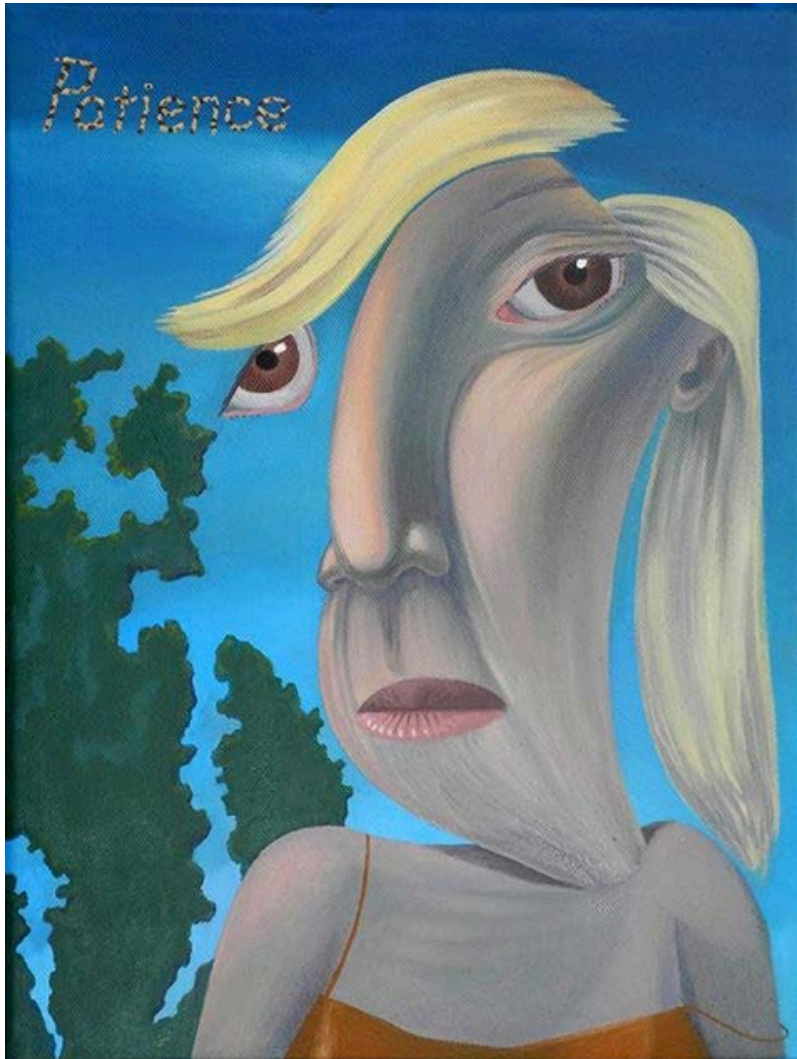
Jungho Lee



Untitled. 2013. Mixed media and found objects. 35 x 35 x 12 inches.

Jungho Lee's work sprouts from his daily experience; he collects objects that interest him from the streets and makes his work through his imagination. As he generates his work one by one, he slowly transforms the studio space into his own world. Lee participated as an artist-in-residence at the Cité Internationale des Arts program in Paris (2013), arranged by Gana Gallery in Korea. His work has been exhibited in the U.S., Hong Kong, and Korea. He received his BFA from School of Art Institute of Chicago and is currently pursuing his MFA at the Pratt Institute in New York.

D. Dominick Lombardi



Patience. 2014. Acrylic and oil on canvas. 12 x 9 inches.

D. Dominick Lombardi is an artist, writer, and curator. He is represented by Kim Foster Gallery, New York. His recent *Shift Paintings* are informed by a constant stream of unprompted thoughts and images that are adjusted and utilized by want and appeal. Some of the paintings have indirect or contorted links to the themes of past masterworks. Feature articles and reviews of his art have appeared in The New York Times, nyartbeat, NYARTS magazine, ARTES magazine, ARTnews, artnet, Sculpture, WHITEHOT (Canada), O2 magazine (China), Poetry and Thought (Japan), BLURRED VISION (cover art issue #1 and interior pages issues #1-3), and more.

Jin-kang Park



Holding On. 2014. Interactive installation. Mixed media (yarn, furniture, soil). 4 x 4 x 8 feet.

Jin-kang Park is an installation artist and sculptor, and currently an artist-in-residence of the Chashama Studio Program. She received her MFA at Stony Brook University, and her BFA from Korea National University of Arts. She focuses on installations and performances that often explore interaction with the audience. Her latest projects are based on her interest in abandoned urban spaces. Her work has been exhibited in the U.S. and Korea, including the Whitman Birthplace in Huntington, NY, the Korean Cultural Center in New York and Washington D.C., and various international art fairs such as Art Palm Beach (Florida) and SCOPE (New York).

Negin Sharifzadeh



Still from *Even Gray Feels Blue*. 2012. Stop-motion short animated film (16:9). 8' 18"

Negin Sharifzadeh, born in Tehran, Iran, is a multi-disciplinary artist, performer and filmmaker based in New York. She received her BFA in Performing Arts from School of the Art Institute of Chicago and her BFA in Sculpture from Faculty of Fine Arts, Tehran University. She is fascinated by the mechanisms and interplay of different natural, emotional, and political systems. She has explored these themes through multiple mediums including sculpture, performance, installations, and stop-motion animation. *Even Gray Feels Blue* received notable awards in New York in 2013 and 2012, including Best Video Art Production at 3rd-i Film Awards at Alwan Center for the Arts, New York, 2013; Best Experimental Film at Williamsburg International Film Festival, 2012; and Best Animated Film at Crown Heights Film Festival, 2012.

Saba Riazi



Still from *The Wind is Blowing on My Street*. 2010. Live action short film (16:9). 15' 37"

Born and raised in Tehran, Iran, Saba Riazi received her MFA for Film and Television Production at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and her BFA in Theater Directing from Tehran University of the Arts. Prior to moving to New York, she worked for several years in the film industry in Iran as an assistant editor for feature-length films. Through her films, Saba illustrates and brings into question the reality of everyday life under theocratic rule in Iran. Since 2011, *The Wind is Blowing on My Street* has screened at over 50 film festivals worldwide including Sundance Film Festival, Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival, LA Film Festival, and BFI Film Festival, and has been awarded for its excellence from over 20 venues.