

Galerie XII **Los Angeles**

HUR Kyung-Hae

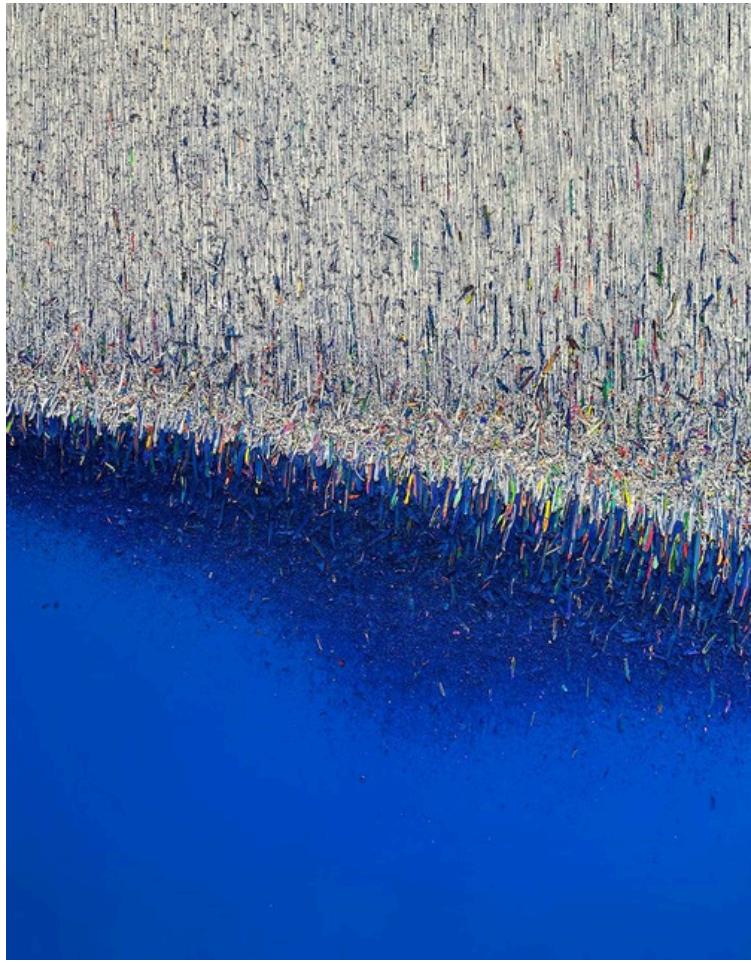
The Moment Color Breathes



**February 21 – April 25,
2026**

2525 Michigan Avenue
Suite B2, Santa Monica
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galeriexii.com

Galerie XII is proud to present the work of Hur Kyung-Ae, a Korean-born, France-based artist whose meditative and tactile paintings have captivated audiences across Europe and Asia.



Untitled, 2023
Acrylic on canvas, 78.7 x 59 in

The act of cutting into the canvas introduces a subtle violence, but it's balanced by the care with which she reassembles the fragments. This duality creates emotional tension—between destruction and regeneration, chaos and order.

Untitled, 2018
Acrylic on canvas
19 x 19 in

Kur Kyung-Ae's process is both archaeological and regenerative. Each canvas is built up with some 50 layers of acrylic paint, only to be meticulously carved, sliced, and reassembled. Using scalpels and blades, she excavates hidden textures and colors, revealing a visual terrain that is at once chaotic and serene. This excavation-like process evokes the painful remembrance and cultural reclamation that the events of May 18, 1980 inspired in Gwangju's artistic communities, albeit through an abstract, personal lexicon rather than figurative or documentary means.

The atmosphere of Hur Kyung-Ae's paintings is contemplative, tactile, and emotionally resonant. Her works don't just invite observation—they demand a kind of quiet participation, as if the viewer is being asked to listen to the canvas rather than simply look at it.



. Born in Gwangju, South Korea in 1977, Hur's practice is rooted in the philosophy of Dansaekhwa, the Korean monochrome movement, yet she reinterprets it through a deeply personal and sculptural lens. A graduate of Chonnam National University and Shun-Shin Women's University in South Korea, she later pursued advanced studies in France, earning degrees from the École Nationale Supérieure d'Art Paris-Cergy and the University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne. Her background in printmaking informs her sensitivity to surface and repetition, while her relocation to France in 2003 introduced her to Western abstraction and philosophical inquiry..



Hur's work has been exhibited internationally, with solo shows in Paris, Seoul, Hong Kong, Budapest, and beyond. She has also participated in major international art fairs such as Art Paris, BRAFA (Brussels), SWAB Barcelona and Asia Now.

The Musée Cernuschi in Paris recently acquired a work by Hur Kyung-Ae, marking a significant milestone in the artist's career and recognition within the French institutional art scene.

"I awaken the canvas, as if uncovering a forgotten memory."

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This exhibition is organized in conjunction with
Galerie Françoise Livinec, Paris

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Galerie XII, founded by Valerie-Anne Giscard d'Estaing in 2007, focuses on contemporary photography and strives to promote artists with a strong narrative sensibility, often working with a multidisciplinary approach at the intersection of photography, painting, sculpture and collage. The gallery has recently opened its program to international contemporary artists whose work engage in material experimentation and cross-disciplinary approaches

Through exhibitions and participation in international art fairs, Galerie XII highlights the evolving landscape of contemporary visual art, emphasizing its fluid boundaries and the dialogue between traditional techniques and digital innovation.

Galerie XII Los Angeles opened in 2018 and is located at Bergamot Arts Center, Santa Monica. Since its opening, the gallery has received critical acclaim and consistently showcases four to five solo exhibitions a year both at its Los Angeles and Paris locations, as well as group shows. It participates to several Art Fairs such as Art Paris, Paris Photo, The AIPAD Photography Show at the Armory in New York, Photo Basel, Photo London, etc. The Gallery is a member of AIPAD (Association of International Photography Art Dealers) and CPGA (Comité Professionnel des Galeries d'Art).