# Visual Culture 2020

CICA Museum March 4 - 22, 2020 2020. 3. 4 - 3. 22

# Featured Artists 참여작가: William A. Brown, Minyoung Kang /강민영, Agatha Park, Sigal Ben-David & Les St. Leon, Jennifer Sova & Jeanne Donegan

# 1. William A. Brown

# "Paintings for a Robot" (2020)

All of my experimental work is about art and the photographic image. My videos try to be a hybrid form using conventions from still photography and motion pictures. My proposals for paintings, Paintings for a Robot, are "pre-paintings" designed to be rendered by painting robotic devices when they are perfected. The photo-sculpture proposals are virtual constructions of public art works made from video and photographic sources. I've been making still photographs and experimental videos since the 1970s and have always managed to have my work shown at festivals and art exhibits, receive grants, had work installed in a permanent installation, keep my teaching position, and consistently put out new works. Starting in the 1990s I became interested is exploring slow motion studies of street scenes. I describe these as somewhere between the still photography and motion pictures. These videos were designed to be played on a flat wall screen in an architectural setting. I believe I was one of the first artists to show a flat screen experimental video, certainly one of the first in the South. Informed by both street photography and avant-garde cinema, these works reveal unseen details of the quotidian world of people in public places and events.

# 2. Minyoung Kang /강민영

#### "A conversation with A.I." (2019)

What is the era of the 'Posthuman'? The Posthuman era tells us that high technology is deeply connected to the external daily life and conversation with a person. I think that 'Others' are no longer limited to humanity. In other words, the appearance of beings after human beings is like saying that we must ask again the fundamental question of 'humanity' in a changed society.

This video is a daily conversation with the speaker Clova A.I. Humans ask some artificial questions to A.I. speakers. Clova's answer seems to be as philosophical and deep as human response. And at this moment A.I. is no longer a simple information provider. It does more than that. It affects and invades the human inner realm of emotion. What is this A.I. that affects human emotions? In other words, we are now seeking to find and establish another relationship with human beings beyond the search for relationships with human beings.

**Minyoung Kang** studied Printmaking, Art history and currently works on printmaking, photography, video and theory. In particular, she records psychological insights into human life through combining visual images and text.

#### 3. Agatha Park

#### "Gangnam Makeover (Preview)" (2019)

Gangnam Makeover is a year-long participatory augmented reality art intervention at two subway stations in South Korea's hub of cosmetic surgery. The project aims to literally makeover a space that propagates a restrictive standard of beauty into a space of imagination and solidarity for women. Womens' thoughts about beauty are collected through an online website and subsequently shown over the advertisements in the subway stations through a mobile AR application. Messages are updated throughout the year. Learn more at <u>www.gnmo.net</u>.

**Agatha Park** is an XR artist/technologist from South Korea working in the United States. She trained as a 3D artist at the School of Visual Arts and recently earned a Masters in Design Studies studying art in the public domain and immersive technologies at Harvard's Graduate School of Design. Growing up as a Third-Culture Kid, she often creates narratives that connect divides between physical places or between physical and digital cultures. She is currently experimenting with expanding AR experiences through online participation. www.agathapark.com

#### 4. Sigal Ben-David & Les St. Leon

# "White Wedding | My Playground of Others' Memories" (2014-2017) "Cube | My Playground of Others' Memories" (2014-2017) "A Night at The Opéra | My Playground of Others' Memories" (2014-2017) "Gathering | My Playground of Others' Memories" (2014-2017) "Figurines | My Playground of Others' Memories" (2014-2017) "Field | My Playground of Others' Memories" (2014-2017) "Tool Box | My Playground of Others' Memories" (2014-2017)

Sigal Ben-David | Photographer Les St. Leon | Artist

A collaboration between Photographer Sigal Ben-David and Artist Les St. Leon. This new body of work entitled 'My Playground of Others' Memories' comprises seven color photographs shot in medium format. In this new series, created in 2014-2017, we continue to explore the use of narratives for the construction of past events and attribution of meaning, the role of memory in the interpretation and reconstruction of history, and their effect on personal identity, and the political landscape. An investigation of the intersections between memories, narrative, and forms, through a closer look at our habit of accumulating 'things'. Seeking to articulate the nuances of relations embedded in the relationship between the inanimate objects that surround us, that we collect and use in our daily lives and their role in forming our memories, while experimenting with texture, pattern, substance, and arrangements, through which we generate a dialogue between photography and FineArt, conceptual rigor and playfulness, representation and abstraction. A reminder that what we look at is not reality per se, but a reality the artist created. By composite, and manipulated images of trivial objects De-familiarized of their functional properties and removed from their larger schemes of meaning, we explore objects as containing a profusion of meanings, while confronting with the abstract aesthetic structures that underlie the natural and artificial environments. Rather than creating a traditional storyline or narrative, this work reveals intricate and enigmatic mise-en-scène that prompt personal reflections on memories, and invite the viewers to construct their own narrative.

**Sigal Ben-David** is a graduate of Camera Obscura School of Art in Tel-Aviv, Israel, where she majored in Photography, and was a Digital Media student at the Kibbutzim College of Education, Technology, and the Arts. Ben-David's work attempts to visually articulate the role of objects in constructing and deconstructing the narratives around which we organize our lives, questioning the ways in which we form our social and political identity, while experimenting with forms, textures, patterns, and substance.

Les St. Leon received a B.A in Fine Art from Ringling School of Art and Design, Sarasota, FL. He continued his studies in Computer Animation in San Francisco Computer Art Institute, San Francisco, CA. St. Leon's visual language explores the very nature of perception, while aiming to convey movement and continuity. Whether his compositions start out as familiar settings, soon morph into abstraction, or the subject matter stays somewhat true to life - the narrative context remains rather obscure.

# 5. Jennifer Sova & Jeanne Donegan

#### "Thrill of the Chase" (2016)

Thrill of the Chase is a collaborative short film by artists Jeanne Donegan and Jennifer Sova that appropriates clips from over fifty notable American romantic comedy and horror films. This work interrogates the danger of mainstream American cinema's reinforcement of a white, heteronormative desire that consistently places men in the position of power. Working with imagery that is highly accessible to viewers, from The Notebook to The Shining, it allows the normally passive act of movie watching to become active. Splicing together the forever romantic scene from Jerry Maguire where Tom Cruise is running to get his girl in the airport next to Jamie Lee Curtis running from Michael Myers in Halloween, nudges the viewer to question the universal narratives of love, lust, power and thrill.

**Jennifer Sova** is an artist, organizer, and arts advocate. Her interdisciplinary art practice is an exploration of masculinity, loss, and identity through photography, video, and performance. Sova is the founder and director of The Overlook, a mission-driven nomadic arts project. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Photography from Columbia College Chicago with concentrations in gender studies and business. She currently splits her time between Chicago and Bloomington, Indiana. www.jennifersova.com

Jeanne Donegan is an image based artist and educator working in Chicago. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Connecticut, her home state, and her Masters of Fine Arts in Photography from Columbia College Chicago. Donegan works in both still and moving image to focus on issues of femininity, desire, and intimate relationships. She is interested in the potential of women's desire to elicit questions of power, autonomy, and pleasure. She is currently the Director of the Photography Department at Lillstreet Art Center in Chicago, IL. www.jeannedonegan.com