

RAN HWANG

RAN HWANG
'ALL THAT CASCADES'



All That Cascades

Hwang's Korean heritage as well as her experience living and working in the United States influence her art-making. Instead of painting on canvas, she adheres buttons, beads, crystals, pins, and threads to Plexiglas and wooden panels. Ran's work is both conceptual and practical, as she engages with Zen Buddhist ideology of repetition through the execution of her artistic process. For the most part, Hwang's choice of materials allows her audience to become engaged in both viewing and sensorially exploring these assemblages at the same time.

Made of thousands of tiny buttons, crystals, beads, and threads on pins, rising just above the magnificent surfaces from which they protrude to cast shadows and paint pictures with pointillistic mastery; Ran Hwang's work cascades. As they cascade, they charm, educate and surprise the onlookers. Her creations can be characterized as a series of isolated actions, often on walls, that combine to form larger works. Single particles join hands to meditatively create greater cascading movements or motion, waves of substance, fully present and somehow alive. Each piece is carefully placed to depict something like motion, with one layer positioned over another as intricate sub-events endlessly combine for an overall effect that is euphoric, transcendent and whole.

Hwang has transcended the meaning of "everyday use," as she employs materials such as paper buttons to create intricate yet powerful depictions of natural beauty. Moved by the tragedies of 11/9 and more recently the Pandemic, Ran Hwang constructs imagery out of microcosms just as magically. She literally hammers together beaded visions driven by a personal mythology manifesting her own vision out of her own ideas, the Buddhist teachings and calligraphic skills that she observed in her father as a youngster merge with her need, in the wake of tragedy, to release emotion and potentially healing forces—an artistic balm for herself and for her audience—for what ails us all in the complex 21st century.



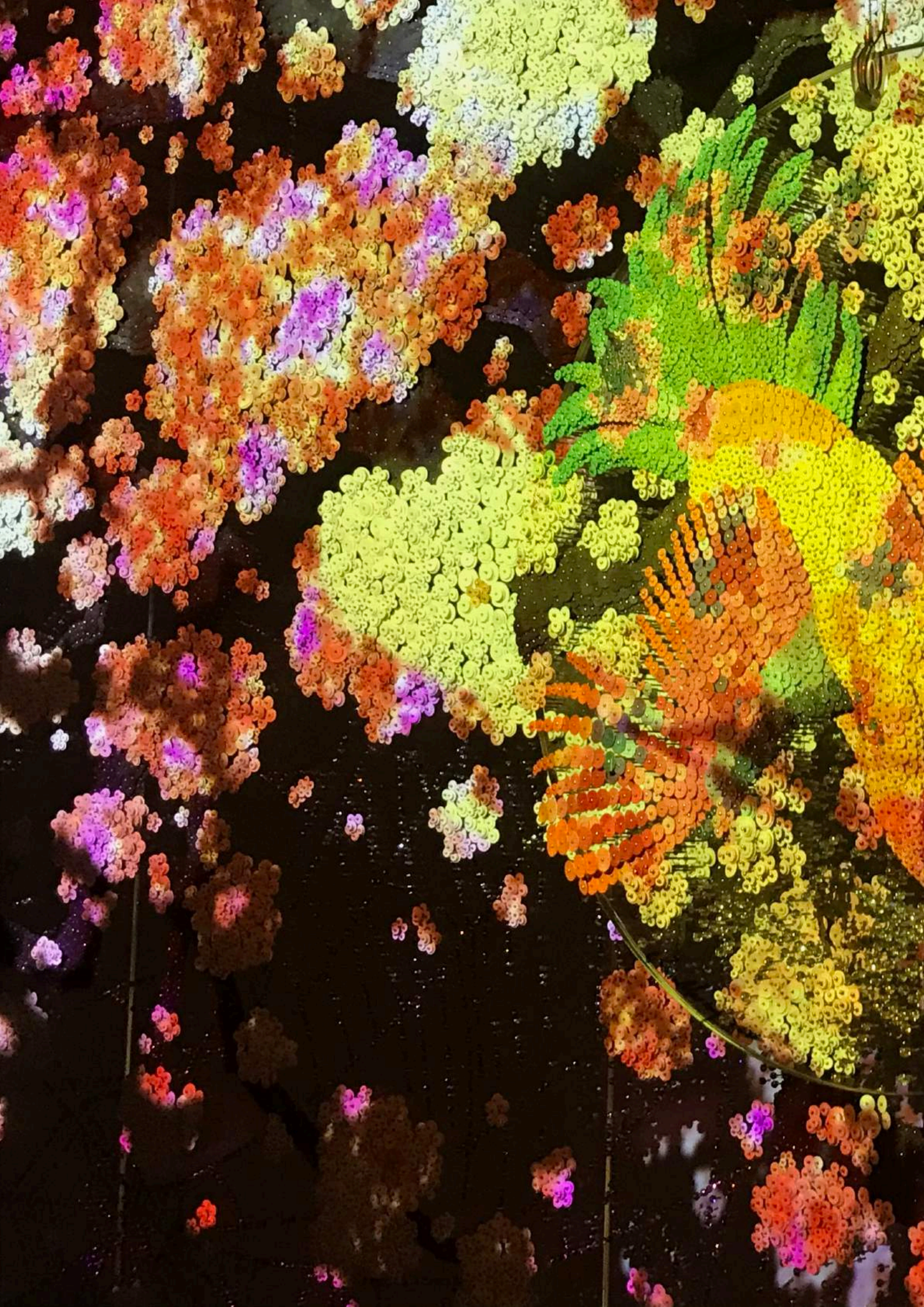
Healing oblivious aqua
2023
Paper Buttons, Beads, Pins on Plexiglas
173 x 300 cm (5P)

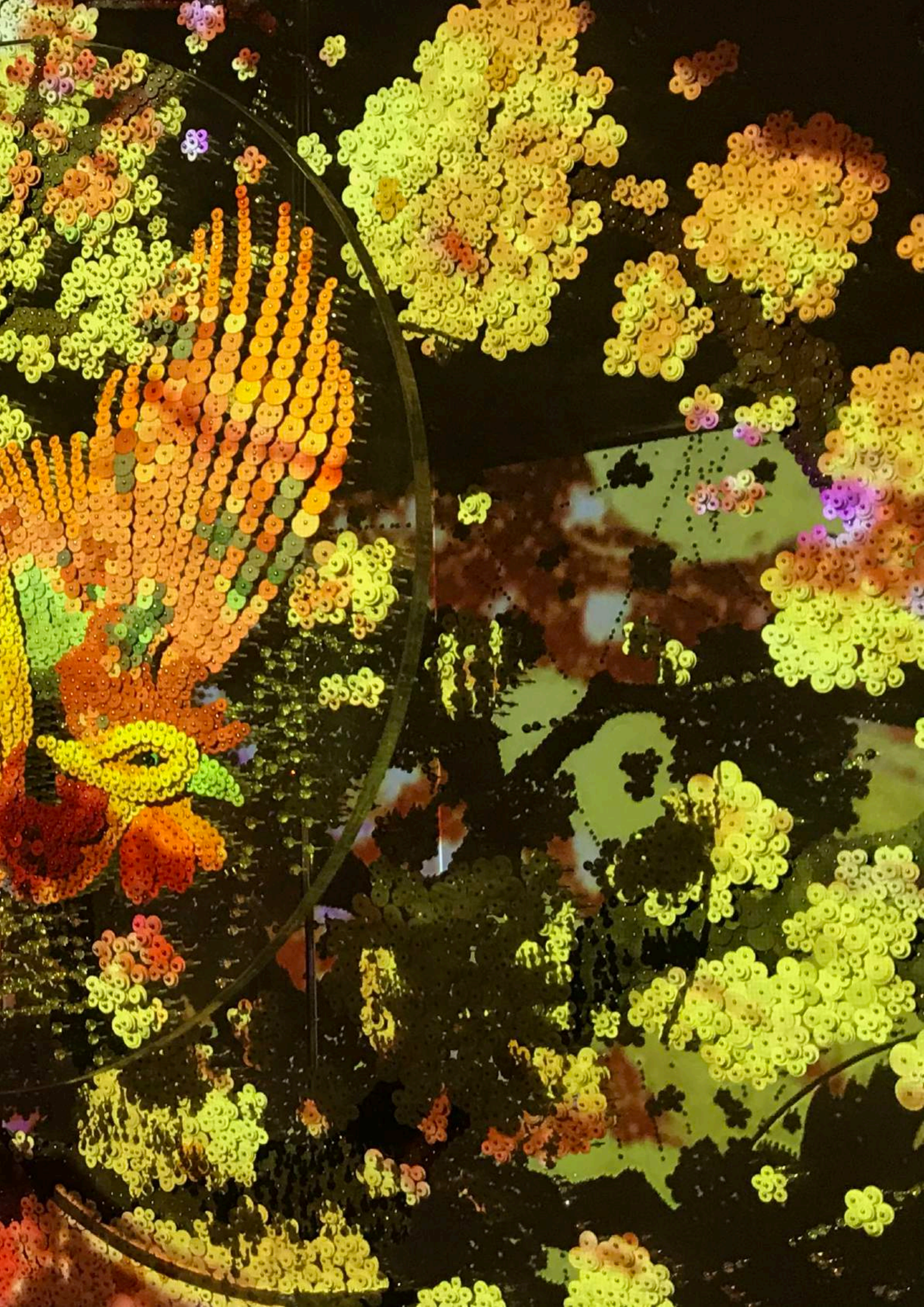


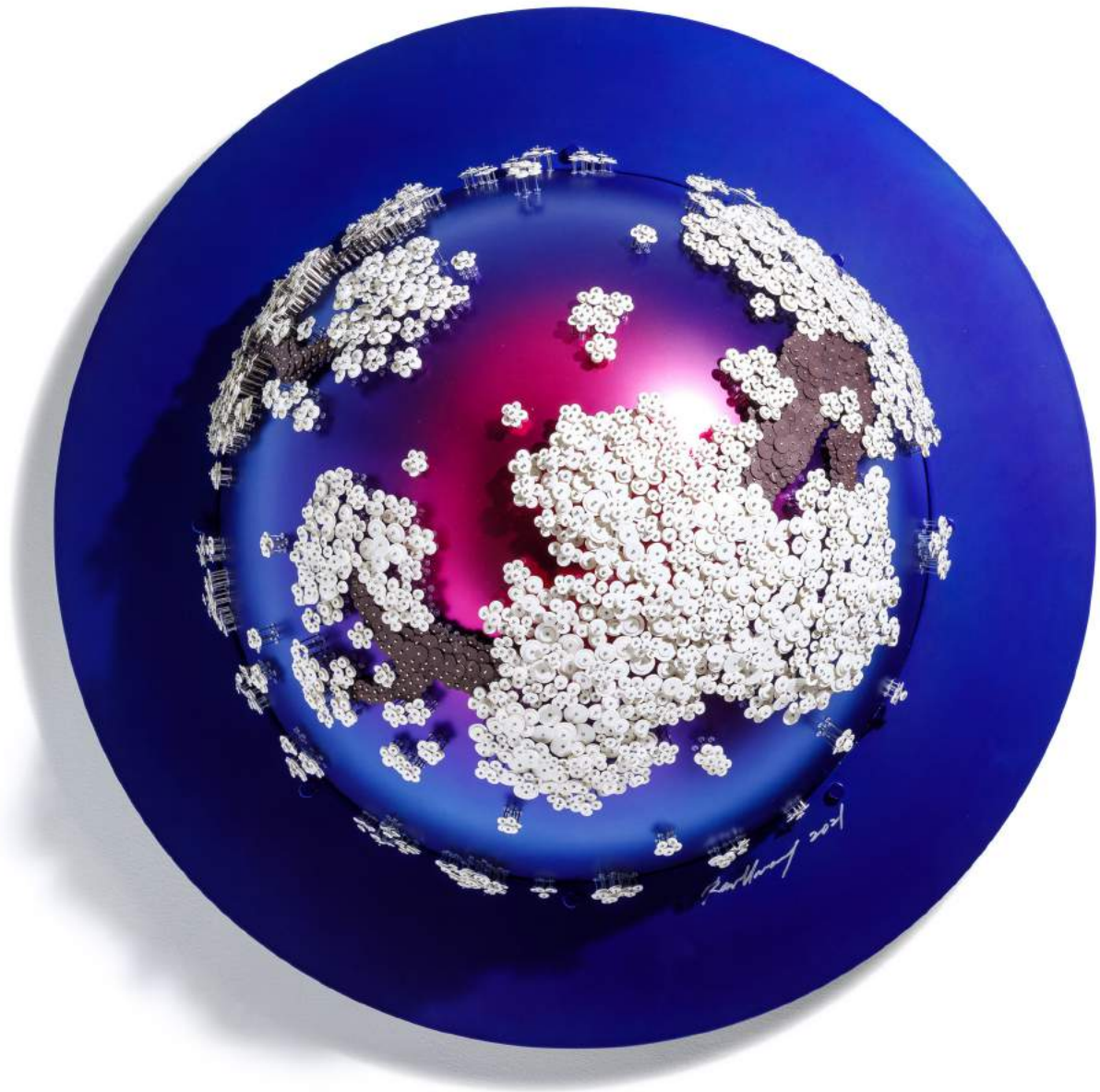


Soaring Again_P1
2022
Paper buttons,
beads, crystals,
pins on plexiglass
60 x 60 cm









Nothing forever_PB

2021

Paper buttons, beads, pins on acrylic dome

80cm x 80cm x 30 cm

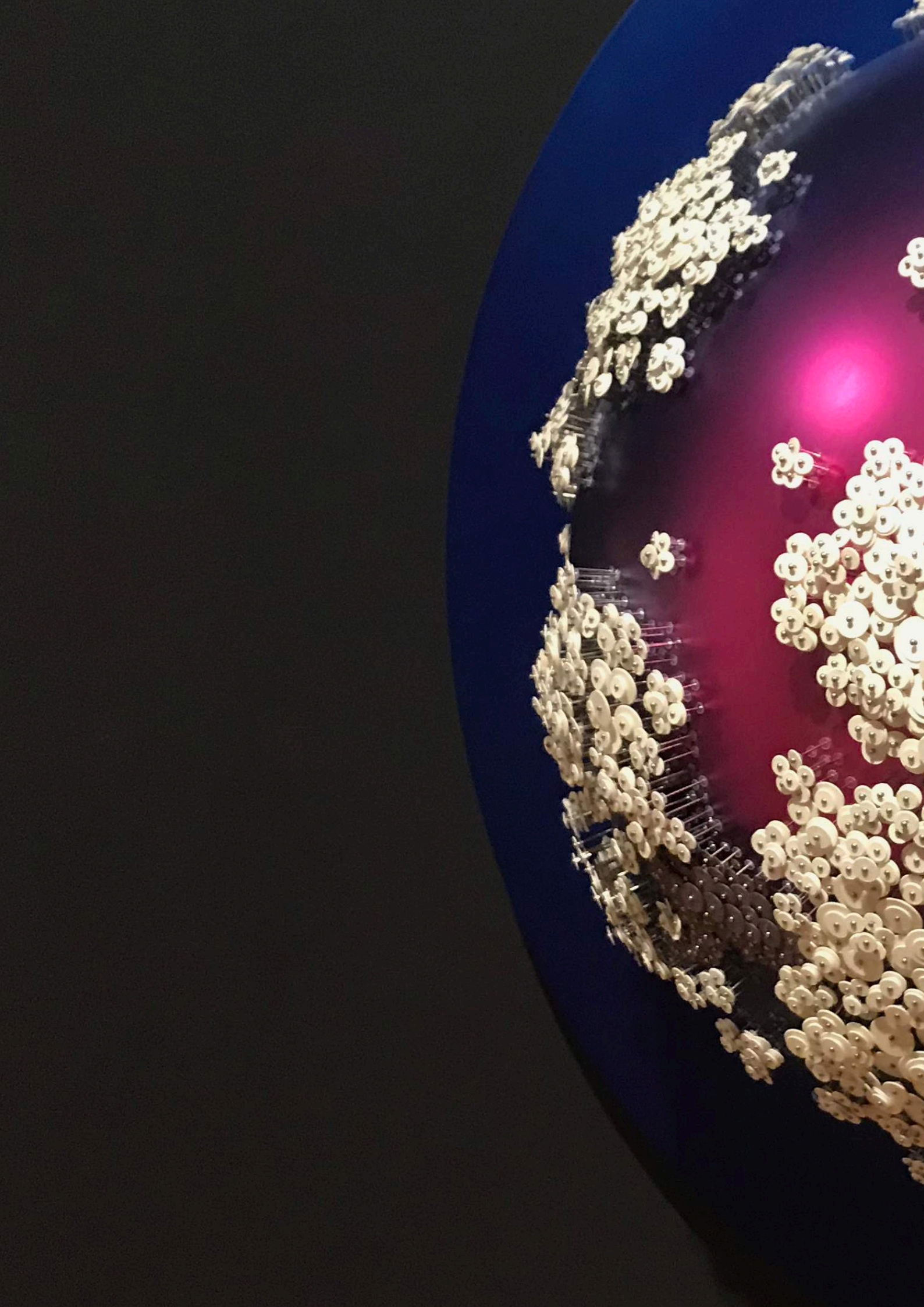


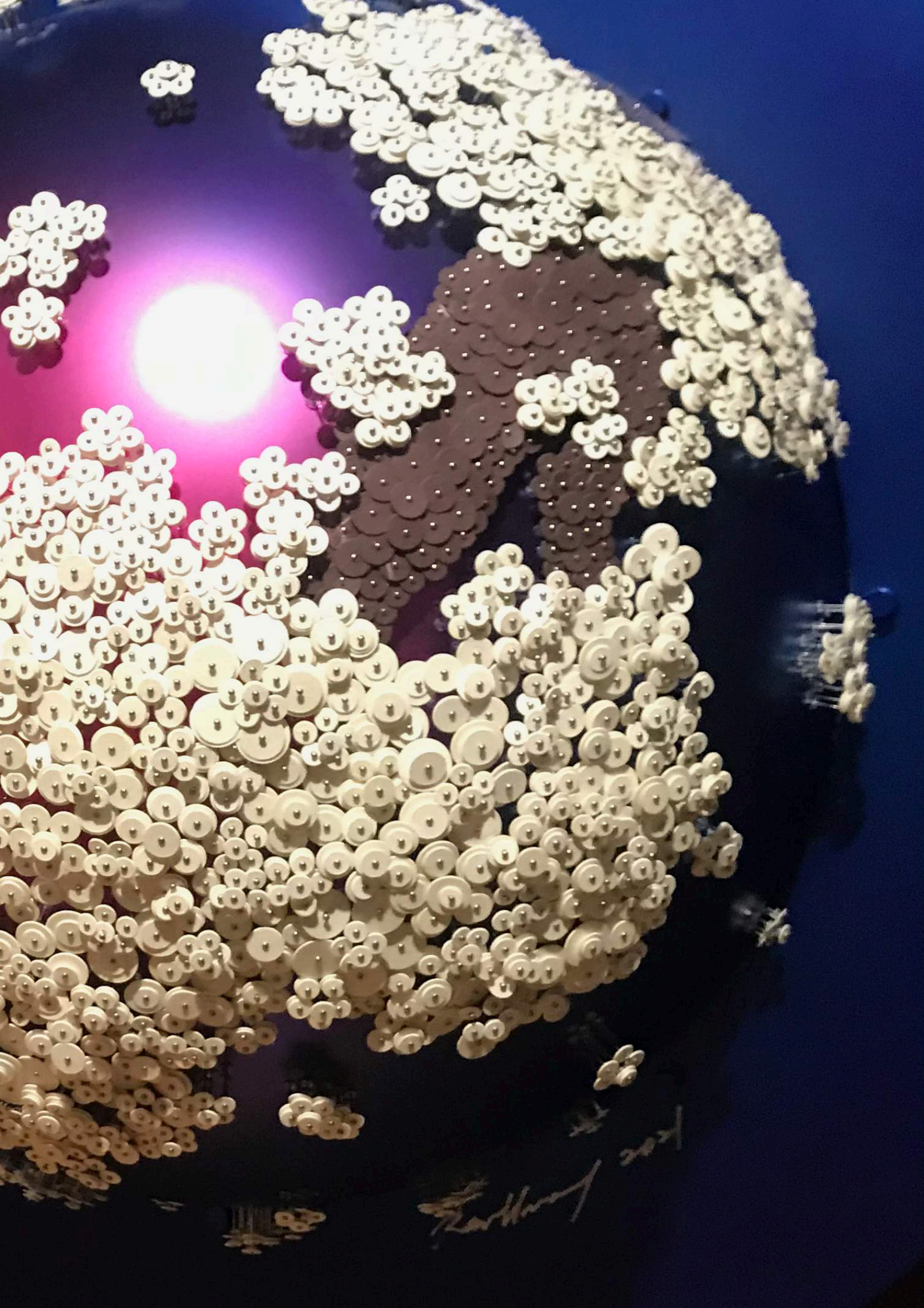
Nothing forever_RG

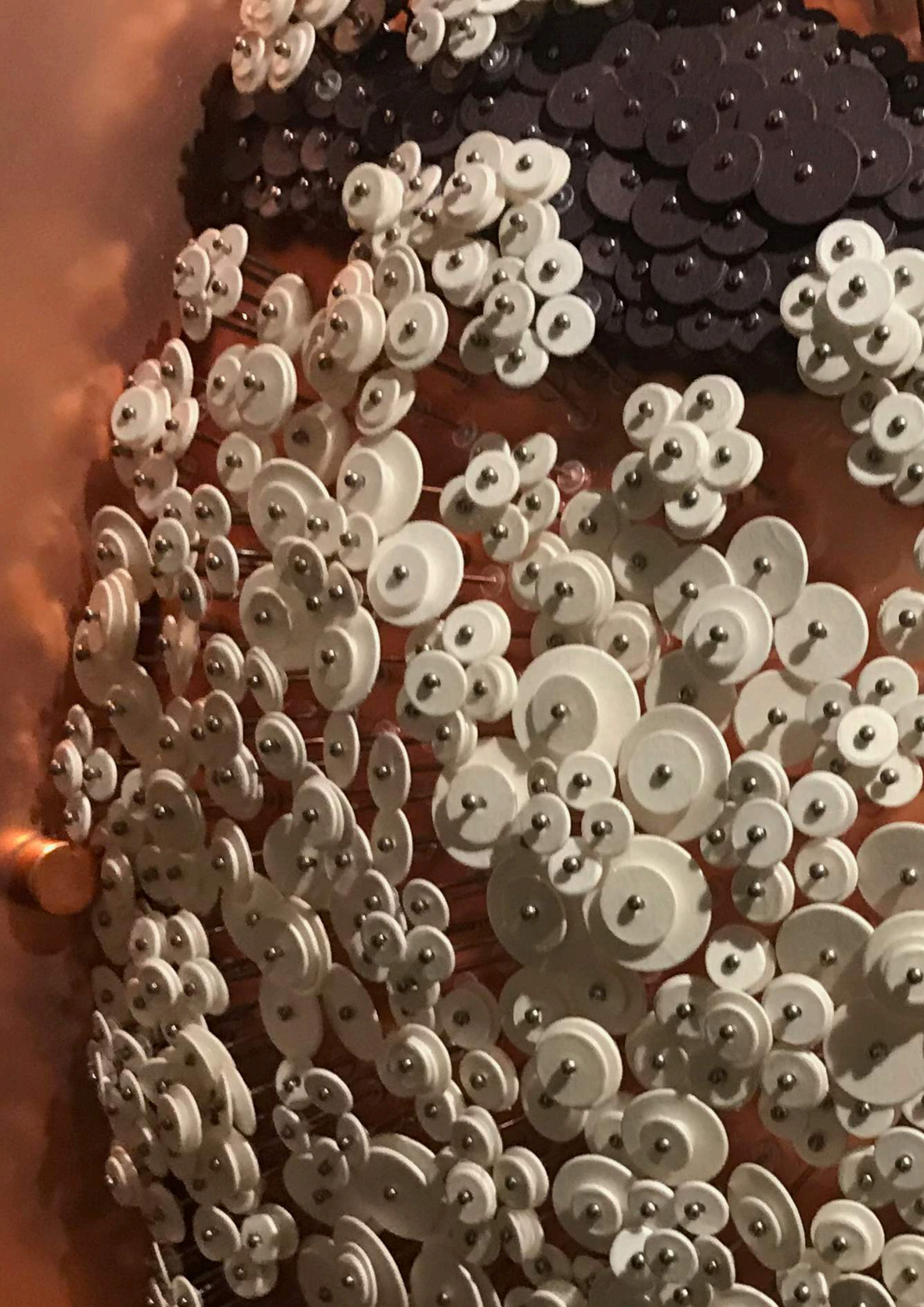
2021

Paper Buttons, Beads, Pins on Acrylic Dome

80cm x 80cm x 30cm











The Beginning of The Bright
2015

Hangul buttons made with Korean
paper, pins, beads on plexiglass
220 x 270 x 26 cm









Contemplation Time

2014

Paper buttons, beads, crystals, pins on plexiglass

237 x 115 cm





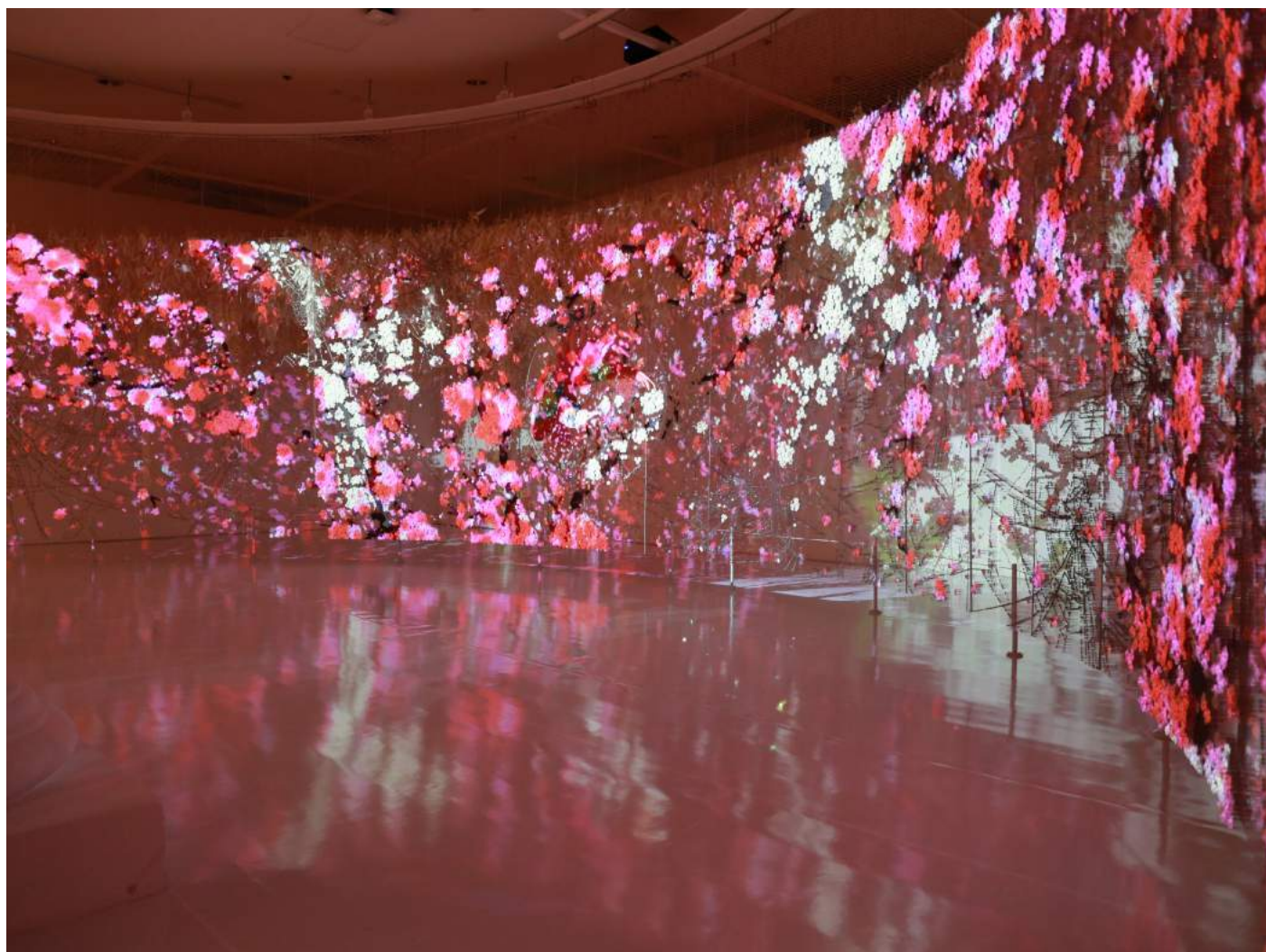
Rest II
2009
Metal buttons, pins
on wooden panel
275 x 153 cm





Becoming Again; Coming Together,
2017

Paper Buttons, Beads, Crystals, Pins on
Plexiglas + Plastic form chilies + Threads
curtain (Bride +Groom video) + Video
240cm x 1260 cm (21P)





Becoming Again_B4
 2021
 Paper Buttons, Beads,
 Crystals, Pins on Plexiglas + Plexiglas Frame
 242 x 63 x 12 cm



Becoming Again_BY3
 2021
 Paper Buttons, Beads,
 Crystals, Pins on Plexiglas + Plexiglas Frame
 242 x 63 x 12 cm



Becoming Again_B5
 2021
 Paper Buttons,Beads,
 Crystals, Pins on Plexiglas +Plexiglas Frame
 242 x 63 x 12 cm



Becoming Again_BY2
 2021
 Paper Buttons,Beads,
 Crystals, Pins on Plexiglas + Plexiglas Frame
 242 x 63 x 12 cm







Becoming Again R7
2021

Paper Buttons, Beads, Crystals,
Pins on Plexiglas + Plexiglas Frame
251 x 70 x 17 cm





Healing Forest_GWJS

2021

Buttons, Beads, Pins on Wooden Panels

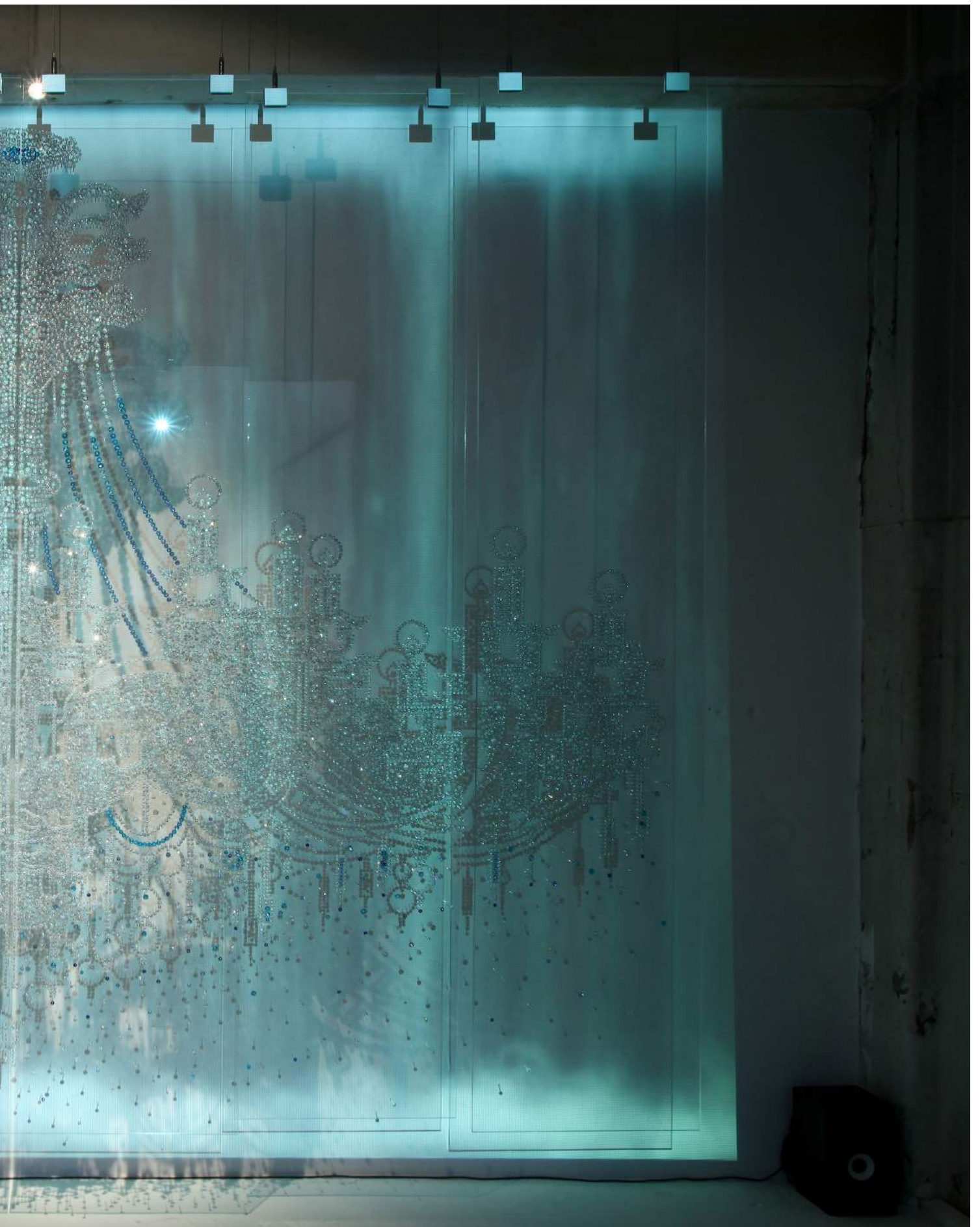
120 x 360 cm



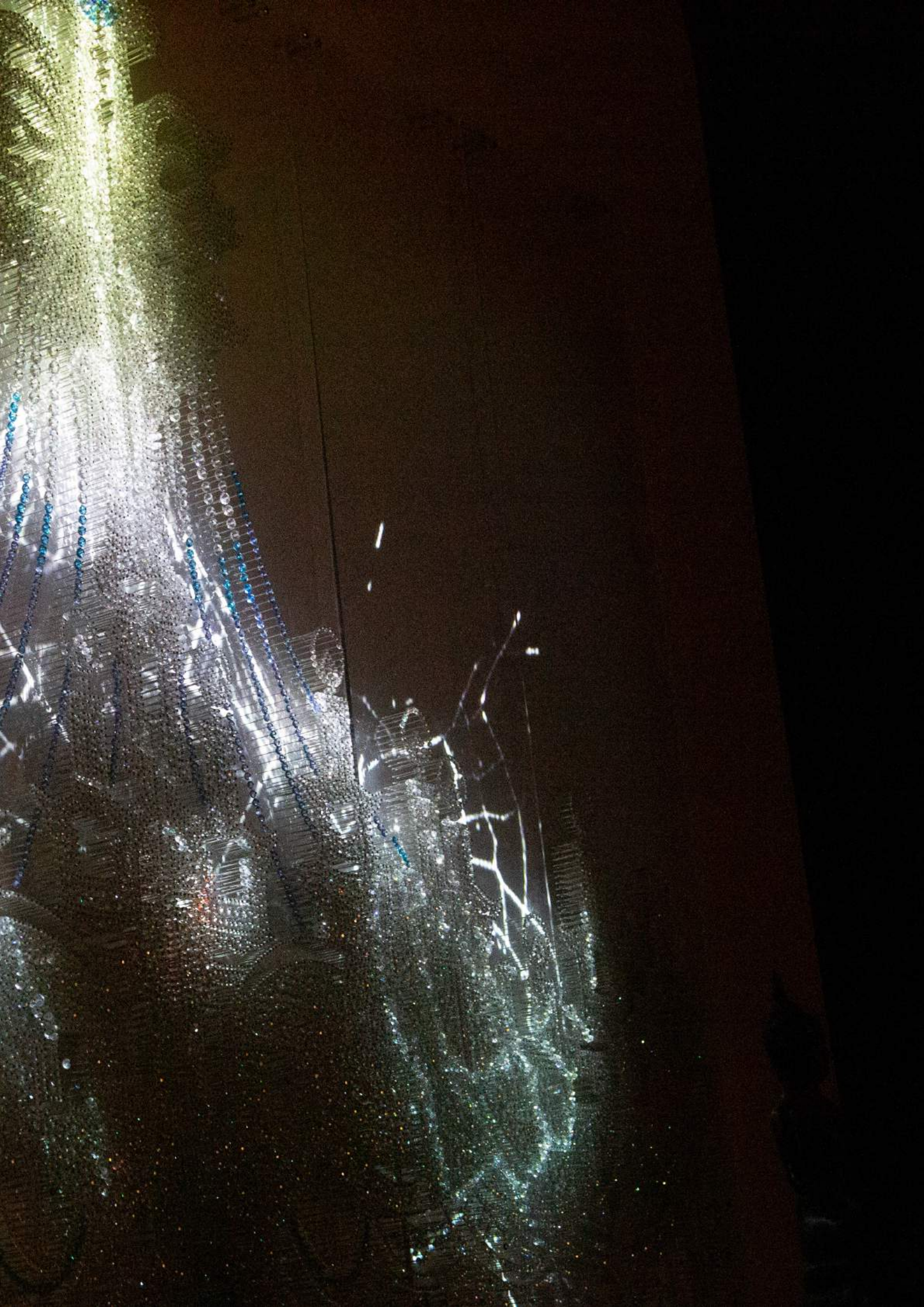


Light of Cheonggye-cheon
2009

Beads, Crystal, Pins, Video on Plexiglass
230 x 300 cm



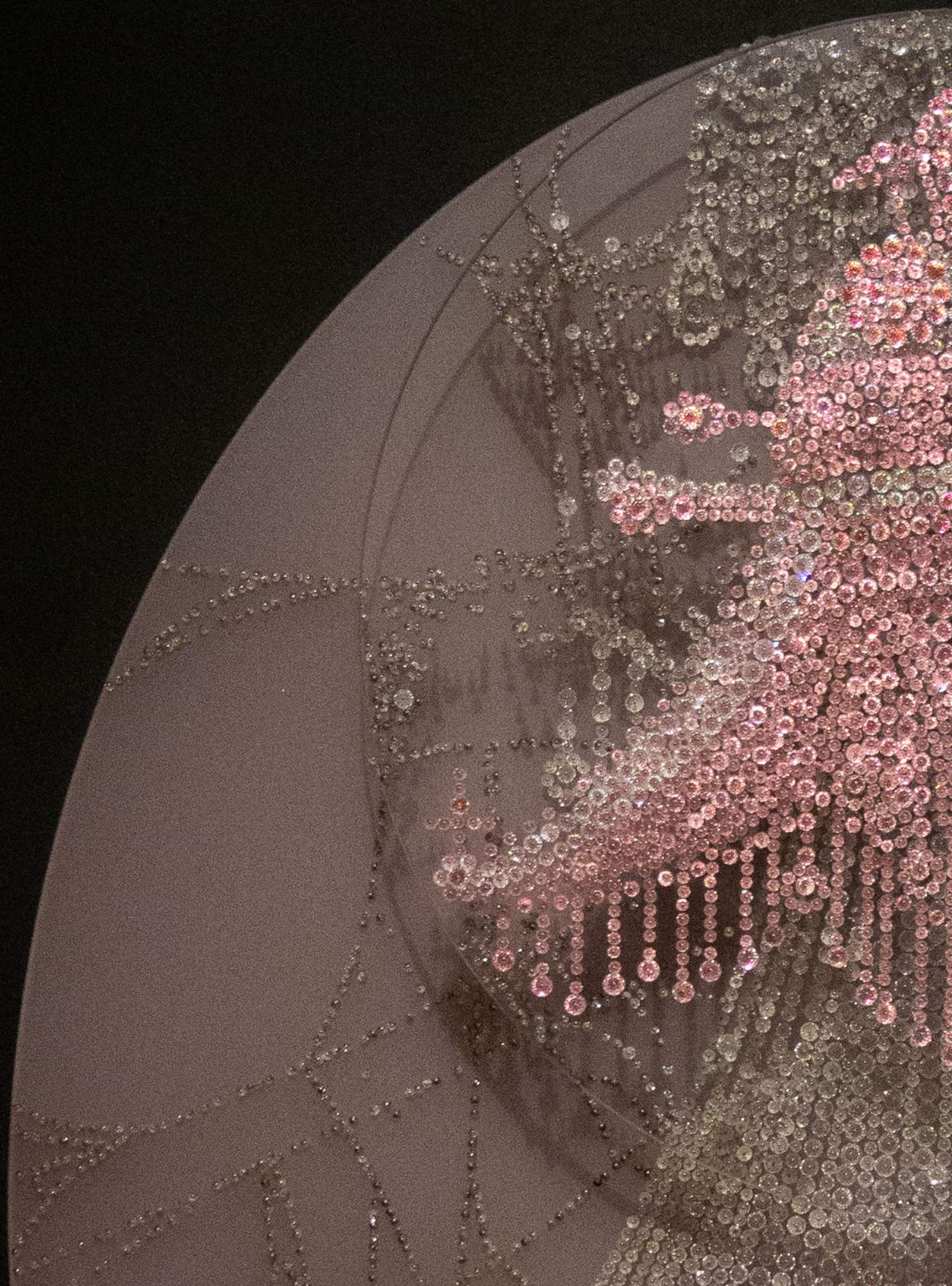


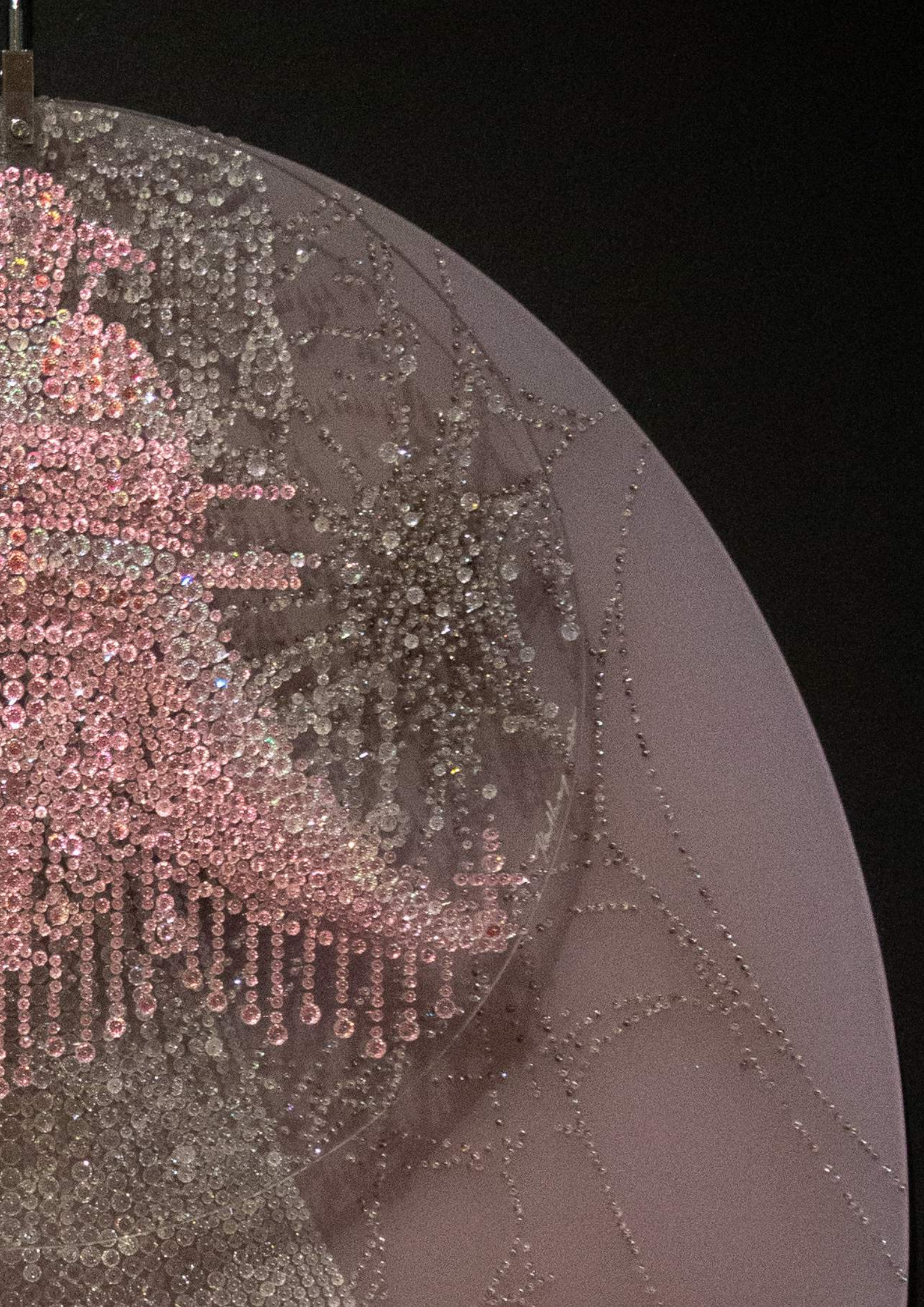




The Secret Sublime_BG
2022
Crystals, beads, pins on plexiglass
75 x 75 cm







Exhibition History



Becoming Again; Coming Together, 2017

2017 Joseon Korea: Court Treasures and City Life, Asian Civilizations Museum, Singapore



Light of Cheonggye-cheon, 2009

2009 Beginning of New Era, National Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul, Korea



The Beginning of The Bright, 2015

2015 Beginning of the Bright, UNESCO Paris Headquarters, Paris
2016 Re:visioning HANJl, Korean Cultural Service, New York, USA
2016 Context Art Miami 2016, Miami, USA
2019 Conversations: Contemporary Asian Art, Hermitage Museum & Gardens, Virginia, USA
2022 Becoming Again, The Baker Museum, Artis-Naples, Florida, USA



Contemplation time, 2014

2014 Ran Hwang: The Snowfall of Spiders, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA
2014 Intervals, Asian Art Works, Beijing, China
2015 Art Busan 2015, Busan, Korea
2016 Re:visioning HANJl, Korean Cultural Service, New York, USA
2017 Ran Hwang: Sacred Space, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA
2022 Becoming Again, The Baker Museum, Artis-Naples, Florida, USA
2023 All That Cascades, Leila Heller Gallery, Dubai, United Arab Emirates



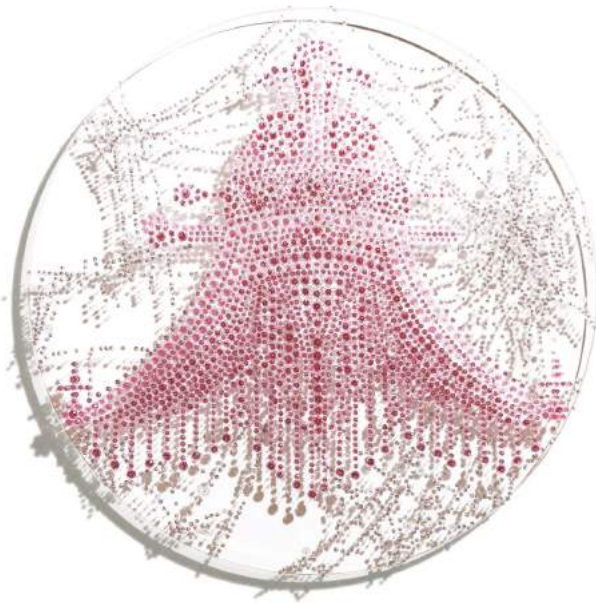
Rest II, 2009

2010 Illusion & Reality, Hakgojae Gallery, Seoul, Korea
 2012 Art Southampton 2012, Leila Heller Gallery, NY, USA
 2017 Ran Hwang: Sacred Space, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA
 2022 Becoming Again, The Baker Museum, Artis-Naples, Florida, USA
 2023 All That Cascades, Leila Heller Gallery, Dubai, United Arab Emirates



Nothing forever_RG, 2021

2021 Hope Springs Eternal, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA
 2022 Becoming Again, The Baker Museum, Artis-Naples, Florida, USA
 2023 All That Cascades, Leila Heller Gallery, Dubai, United Arab Emirates



The Secret Sublime_BG, 2022

2022 KIAF 2022 (Korean International Art Fair), Seoul, Korea
 2022 Becoming Again, The Baker Museum, Artis-Naples, Florida, USA
 2023 All That Cascades, Leila Heller Gallery, Dubai, United Arab Emirates



Nothing forever_PB, 2021

2021 Hope Springs Eternal, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA
 2022 Becoming Again, The Baker Museum, Artis-Naples, Florida, USA
 2023 All That Cascades, Leila Heller Gallery, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

BIOGRAPHY

Born in the Republic of Korea in 1960, Ran Hwang currently lives and works in both Seoul and New York City. She studied at the School of Visual Arts in New York City and attended the Graduate School of Fine Arts at Chung-Ang University in Seoul.



Hwang's motifs of intricate blossoms and Buddha's – which appear across a variety of media – stem from her fascination with Zen Buddhism. Buddhism is integral to Hwang's creative process and labor-intensive execution. To construct much of her work, Hwang creates paper buttons by hand, hammering each one approximately twenty-five times until it is secure. Her process requires the utmost concentration and discipline, recalling the meditative state practiced by Zen masters.

Ran Hwang has exhibited at several international institutions including the Queens Museum of Art, New York; The Hudson Valley Center for the Arts, New York; the Chelsea Art Museum, New York; The Seoul Arts Center Museum; and The Jeju Museum of Art, Jeju Island. Hwang's work is also a part of numerous private and public collections including The Brooklyn Museum, New York; The Des Moines Center for the Arts, Iowa; The National Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul; and The Hammond Museum, North Salem, NY.

CV

EDUCATION

MPS Studied in Art Practice, School of Visual Arts, New York, USA
BFA Fine Art, School of Visual Arts, New York, USA

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2023 All That Cascades, Leila Heller Gallery, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
2022 Becoming Again, The Baker Museum, Artis-Naples, Florida, USA
2021 Becoming Again, Leila Heller Gallery, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Hope Springs Eternal, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA
2019 The Flight of Time, Leila Heller Gallery, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
2017 Joseon Korea: Court Treasures and City Life, Asian Civilizations Museum, Singapore
Ran Hwang: Sacred Space, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA
2016 Visual Symphony, Asian Art Works, Busan, Korea
2015 Beginning of the Bright, UNESCO Paris Headquarters, Paris
Ran Hwang: Untethered, MASS MoCA, Massachusetts, USA
Game of Artifice, International Museum of Art and Science (IMAS), Cardenas Gallery, Texas, USA
2014 Becoming Again, Aloft at Hermès(former Third Floor-Hermès), Singapore
Ran Hwang: The Snowfall of Spiders, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA
Intervals, Asian Art Works, Beijing, China
2012 Ran Hwang: Transition, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA
2010 Illusion & Reality, Hakgojae Gallery, Seoul, Korea
2009 Dreaming of Joy, Kashya Hildebrand Gallery, Zurich, Switzerland
2007 Present Absence, 2X13 Gallery, Seoul, Korea
2006 Haas Gallery, Bloomsburg University, PA, USA
2005 Open Studio, Vermont Studio Art Center, Jonson Vermont, USA
2004 Hutchins Gallery, Long Island University, New York, USA
2002 Hudson River Gallery, New York, USA
Yeemock Gallery, Seoul, Korea
2001 Hudson River Gallery, New York, USA
2000 Artsnal Gallery, Paris, France
1999 Hudson River Gallery, New York, USA

TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2019 Zen Grace, Easel Gallery, Shenzhen, China
2016 Re:visioning HANJI, Korean Cultural Service, New York, USA
2015 Reincarnation, Asian Art Works, Busan, South Korea
2005 Refresh! (Curated by Lilly Wei), 2x13 Gallery, New York, USA
When Art Encounters Fashion, Space Shin Choi, New York, USA

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2023 Ran Hwang & Artists form New York, Asian Art Works, Busan, South Korea
2022 Immersive, Des Moines Art Center, Des Moines, USA
OMNI VERSE, Museum SAN, Wonju, South Korea
2021 No Strings, National Glass Centre, Sunderland, United Kingdom
2020 Pinned, Stitched, and Glitized: Challenging the Gender Stereotype, Art Appel Gallery, Athens, Greece
2019 DIFC Sculpture Walk, Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC), Dubai, UAE
Matter 2, SA+ Gallery, Hong Kong
DOUBLE VISION (Curated by Jane "Baby Jane" Holzer), Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA
Conversations: Contemporary Asian Art, Hermitage Museum & Gardens, Virginia, USA
KOREAN CONTEMPORARY PAINTINGS & DECORATIVE TRADITIONAL ARTS,

COLLECTION

- Kang Collection
Korean Art, Asia Week NY, New York, USA
- 2018 Infinite Blue, Brooklyn Museum, New York, USA
Connected: The AHL Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Awards Exhibition, AHL Foundation,
Yonsei University Dental Hospital, Seoul, Korea
POSTMODERNISM AND AESTHETICS: COLLIDE OR STEER?, Korea Cultural Center, New York, USA
Paper Moon, Museum of Contemporary Art of Crete, Rethymno, Greece
PASSION. CONTINUED: A Wave of Peace from Korea to the World, Asia Week New York, USA
Special Exhibition, Korean Cultural Center of New York, USA
PASSION. CONTINUED. 100X100, PyeongChang 2018 Olympic & Paralympic Winter Games Special
Exhibition, Korean Cultural Center NY, New York, USA
The Art of Matter- New Arts of Asia, Opera Gallery, Monaco
- 2017 Infinite Blue, Brooklyn Museum, New York, USA
Light & Shadows - A Curated Exhibition Of Korean Artists, Opera Gallery Beirut, Lebanon
Trans Allegoria, Mykonos Biennale, Mykonos, Greece
Material Girls, Dunlop Art Gallery, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada
- 2016 Art & Life, Art Space Ben, Seoul, Korea
Material Girls, Contemporary Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Pinned Stitched and Glitized, Asian Art Works, Beijing, China
Poeticizing Nature, The Surrey, New York, USA
Viewing The Past Thru Modern Eyes, Kang Collection, New York, USA
Lady Dior As Seen By(World Tour exhibition), House of Dior, Seoul, Korea
Material Girls, Doris McCarthy Gallery, Ontario, Canada
Water, KANEKO, Nebraska, USA
- 2015 Regeneration, Opera Gallery Paris, Paris, France
Art & Life, Art Space Ben, Seoul, Korea
Pinned Stitched and Glitized, Anya and Andrew Shiva Art Gallery, New York, USA
Summer Show, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA
Accidental Encounter, Buk Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea
Diverse Works: Director's Choice, 1997-2015, Brooklyn Museum, New York, USA
Arts in Spring, Guangzhou Library, Guangzhou, China
Material Girls, Dunlop Art Gallery, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada
- 2014 Asian Collection, Asian Art Works, Beijing, China
The Lineage of Vision, Korean Cultural Service, New York, USA
Mix & Match, Artspace Ben, Seoul, Korea
Annual Watermill Summer Benefit Auction, The Watermill Center, Water Mill, New York
Shades of Time: The Archives of Korean-American Artists, Queens Museum of Art, New York, USA
The Fabergè Big Egg Hunt, Fabergè, New York, USA
- 2013 Paths to Peace, Guild Hall Gallery at Hammond Museum and Japanese Stroll Garden, North Salem, New York, USA
Secret Obsession, Asian Art Works, Busan, Korea
Living Room, Asian Art Works, Busan, Korea
Summer Selects: Ran Hwang, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA
Freedom: Just another word for..., Kidspace at Mass Moca, Massachusetts, USA
Transparencies: Contemporary Art and A History of Glass, Des Moines Art Center, Iowa, USA
- 2012 Media Variegations, Asian Art Works, 798 Beijing, China
L'Asie en Vogue, Pagoda Paris Gallery, Paris, France
Peekskill Project V, Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, New York, USA
CYNTHIA-REEVES Projects: Conference of Birds, Mana Contemporary, New Jersey, USA
- 2011 Aha Moment!, Hangaram Art Museum, Seoul Arts Center, Seoul, Korea
Sofia Paper Art Fest 2011, Amateras Foundation, Sofia, Bulgaria
Finding Flow, Jeju Museum of Contemporary Art, Jeju Island, Korea

2010 B.I.E.N.N.A.L.E + ONE, Gwang-ju, Korea
 Fokus Lodz Biennale 2010, Lodz, Poland
 2009 Kaleidoscope, Kashya Hildebrand Gallery, Zurich, Switzerland
 Beginning of New Era, National Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul, Korea
 Triple of Light, Museo Nacional de Artes Visuales, Montevideo, Uruguay
 2008 Facial of Art, 20 Years Anniversary exhibition, Seoul Art Center Museum, Seoul, Korea
 2007 Incarnation, Hammond Museum and Japanese Stroll Garden, New York, USA
 Drawing the Line - Against Domestic Violence-Auction, The Metropolitan Pavilion, New York, USA
 2005 Woman in Love, Tenri Gallery, New York
 2004 Green Light: Twenty Young Korean Artists in New York, Gallery Korea of the Korean Cultural Center New York (former Korean Cultural Service New York), New York, USA
 2000 Abstraction, School of Visual Arts Westside Gallery, New York, USA
 ART FAIRS
 2023 LA Art Show 2023, Los Angeles, USA
 2022 Art Miami 2022, Miami, USA
 KIAF 2022 (Korean International Art Fair), Seoul, Korea
 Diaf 2022(Daegu International Art Fair), Daegu, Korea
 2021 The Amory Show, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA
 Jeju Art Design Festa 2021, Jeju, Korea
 KIAF 2021 (Korean International Art Fair), Seoul, Korea
 2020 Abu Dhabi Art, Leila Heller Gallery, UAE
 2019 Art Dubai, Leila Heller Gallery, UAE
 2018 Art Central Hong Kong, Hong Kong
 Lady Dior As Seen By, Art Basel, Hong Kong
 2017 LA Art Show 2017, LA, USA
 2016 Context Art Miami 2016, Miami, USA
 KIAF 2016 (Korean International Art Fair), Seoul, Korea
 2015 Context Art Miami 2015, Miami, USA
 Art Busan 2015, Busan, Korea
 Art 15, London, UK
 Art Central Hong Kong, Hong Kong
 2014 Scope Miami, Miami, USA
 Abu Dhabi Art, Abu Dhabi, UAE
 Art International Istanbul, Leila Heller Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey
 The Armory Show, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA
 2013 Abu Dhabi Art, Kashya Hildebrand Gallery, Abu Dhabi
 Korea International Art Fair (Vip Lounge), AAW Beijing, Korea
 2012 Art Southampton 2012, Leila Heller Gallery, NY, USA
 Houston Fine Art Fair, Galerie Kashya Hildebrand, TX, USA
 2008 Korean International Art Fair(KIAF), 2x13 Gallery, COEX, Seoul, Korea
 Asian Contemporary Art Fair(ACAF), Special Exhibition, Pier 92, New York, USA
 GRANTS, AWARDS & RESIDENCIES
 2021 FB Air Program, Facebook, New York, USA
 2017 AHL-Jason J. Kim Grant 2017, AHL Foundation, New York, USA
 2015 Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant, The Pollock-Krasner Foundation New York, USA
 Artist in Residency, International Museum of Art and Science (IMAS), Texas, USA
 2014 Selected for 2014 program, Third Floor-Hermès, Hermès Foundation, Singapore
 The Studios at Mass MoCA, Residency Program, Mass MoCA, Massachusetts, USA
 AAW Artist Studio Residency, Asian Art Works, Beijing, China
 2011 PS122 STUDIO Residency Program, New York, USA
 2006 AAI-Artist Alliance, Lower East Side-Rotating & Long Term Studio Program, New York, USA
 2005 Full Fellowship, Vermont Studio Center Residency Program, Vermont, USA
 2004 Gold Prize, The 1st Contemporary Visual Arts Competition, AHL Foundation, New York, USA
 1995 Gold Prize, Korean Watercolor Association, Seoul, Korea

2021 Deji art museum, Nanjing, China
 FB Air Program, Facebook, New York, USA
 Sofitel Ambassador Seoul Hotel & Serviced Residences, Seoul, Korea
 2020 The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, USA
 2019 LG Household & Health Care (Artwork commission for LG Cosmetics, The History of Whoo), Korea
 Raffles Hotel Singapore, Singapore
 2018 Museum of Contemporary Art of Crete, Greece
 EURIA company, Tour Carpe Diem Paris La Defense, France
 2017 NYU Langone Medical Center, New York, USA
 2016 Dubai Opera House, Dubai, UAE
 Christian Dior, Paris (Artwork commission for Lady Dior As Seen By), France
 2015 Pullman Kaifeng Hotel, Zhengzhou, China
 Four Seasons Hotel, Seoul, Korea
 2014 AFT Wall Art, Anthem of the Seas, Royal Caribbean International, USA
 Third Floor-Hermès, Hermès Foundation, Singapore
 Mandarin Oriental, Paris, France
 2013 Peninsula Hotel, Paris
 King County Library in Issaquah, Washington, USA
 Des Moines Art Center, Iowa, USA
 2012 Brooklyn Museum, New York, USA
 Robert J. Hurst, Chairman of the Executive Committee at Whitney Museum, New York, USA
 2011 Ritz Carlton Hotel, Hong Kong
 Roger Federer, World Tennis Champion, Switzerland
 2010 New York Plaza Hotel, New York, USA
 2009 National Museum of Contemporary Art, Art Bank, Seoul, Korea
 2005 Hammond museum, New York, USA

ART EVENTS

2016 AHL Foundation 13th Annual Benefit Gala, New York, USA
 2015 AHL Foundation 12th Annual Benefit Gala, New York, USA
 2014 AHL Foundation 11th Annual Benefit Gala, New York, USA
 MASS MoCA 15th Anniversary Benefit, New York, USA
 Annual Watermill Summer Benefit Auction, The Watermill Center, New York, USA
 2012 The Fifth Annual Queens Art Express, Jamaica Center for Arts and Learning, New York, USA
 2011 AHL Foundation Annual Auction, Lehmann Maupin Gallery, New York, USA
 2010 AHL Foundation, Gala Auction, Arario Gallery, New York, USA

LECTURES

2022 Artist Talk, The Baker Museum, Artis-Naples, Florida, USA
 2019 Artist Talk, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas, USA
 2015 Artist Talk(in conjunction with the group show -'Diverse Work: Director's Choice 1997-2015),
 Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, New York, USA
 2014 Special Lecture, University of Texas-Pan America, Texas, USA
 Guest Artist Lecture, Fine Arts Seminar V (BFA Fine Arts class), Pratt Institute, New York, USA
 Artist Lecture, School of Visual Arts, New York, USA
 2012 Artist speech, Past Granter, AHL Foundation, New York, USA
 Artist Panel, ATOA-artist talk on Art:"Art as Ritual", Westwood Gallery, New York, USA
 2010 Special Lecture, College of Education in Kongju National University, Kongju, Korea
 2006 Guest Lecture, Queens Museum of Art, New York, NY, USA
 2005 Guest Lecture, Parsons School of Design, New York, NY, USA

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