

GALLERY KICHE

Ok Hyun Ahn _ 전시길 영문

Gallery Kiche is proud to be presenting Ok Hyun Ahn's solo exhibition "LOVE HAS NO NAME" from June 20th to July 27th. This exhibition titles the first solo exhibition held at Gallery Kiche by the artist, who has been working on photography and video work for more than 10 years in Seoul and New York. The artist is mainly focused on the complex aspects of human emotion and has been steadily dealing with this topic in various ways. The video work <Love has No Name> was firstly released at the 2018 Gwangju Biennale and will be presented in this solo exhibition context for the first time alongside 8 new photograph works.

<Love has No Name> was titled after the song "Love Has No Name" from American singer Babble and is part of the Artist's <the World from the Summit of Mt. Everest> series, which started in 2013. With the focus on the incomprehensible feeling of love, this 13min long film displays various perspectives and consciousness that stand in relation to the Image of Love. In this short film the disagreement between love and its image, the main characters' desire and its directed object is repeated, while the word 'Love' wanders and slips between this nuance and that nuance all the time.

'Emotions' are simple, and yet complicated. The direct reaction to another or a situation in the moment where an individual encounters Joy, Love, Sadness, Pain, Anger, Frustration and so on, is the most immediate expression of one's self. However, despite this direct expression, the underlying process is not simple to accept or understand, even by the individual itself. The system of the physical body also adds to this indefiniteness that cannot be maintained in only one context by the individual consciousness, desire or other emotions. This, as expected, gets multiplied by the various ways the individual was taken in by and exposed to ideologies and their entangled complexity.

Therefore, the artist looks through the camera viewfinder at the process of the appearance of 'emotion' in detail, and her repeated attempt to capture it could be seen as an intentional failure. 'Emotion' is distorted according to the viewpoint and consciousness of the individual as it is constantly being exposed to and surrounded by stimuli, and this only barely shows on the facade. Nevertheless, the artist's working obsession with the 'surface' or 'facade' is perhaps the irrational 'human condition' one unexpectedly ponders over.

Ahn Okhyun's (b.1970) works are based on the complex aspects of human emotion looked upon in photographs and visual media. The artist actively intervenes and exposes the subject (person) to a specific situation planned and directed by her, thereby capturing the process of the emotion surfacing on the face of the subject with the camera. And she expands the artistic question through media of video which was chosen by her purposefully as one way to embody the narrative and the situation into the artwork.

The artist is a graduate of Hongik University, Seoul and the School of Visual Arts, New York. She had solo exhibitions at Lydmar Hotel (2015, Stockholm), Space 22 (2014, Seoul), Show Room Gallery (2013, New York), Kunst dok Gallery (2012, Seoul), Koyang Kawanishi Gallery (2018, Tokyo), Gwangju Biennale ACC (2018, Gwangju) and others. <Homo Sentimentalis>, which was held at the New York Show Room

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Gallery in 2013, was reviewed in the Frieze Magazine Exhibition. Her latest works were being exhibited at the Gwangju Biennale in 2018, and the artist is gradually expanding her activities from there on.