

PRESS RELEASE

Koo Jeong A | [*YONG DONG*]

14 July – 20 August 2022

Pilar Corrias, Savile Row

Preview: Thursday 14 July, 6–8pm



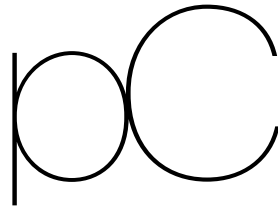
Koo Jeong A, [*EF Gravissimousss*], 2022. Courtesy the artist and Pilar Corrias, London

Pilar Corrias is pleased to present a solo exhibition of artist Koo Jeong A. Meaning 'face of the east' in Korean, [*YONG DONG*] features a new series of paintings of a red, three-headed eagle – Koo Jeong A's play on a familiar South Korean amulet (a red emblem on a yellow background) that is worn to ward off evil spirits. During the Coronavirus pandemic Koo kept finding themselves drawn to the motif of the eagle – a migratory bird with no restrictions, unimpeded by borders, a symbol of freedom, lightness and strength.

The artist's compositions of the monstrous bird perched on a rocky crag are based on the landscape of Hakdong Park and Dosan Daero in Seoul, where golden eagles could often be seen feasting on animal carcasses. After years of increasing urban development, the natural environment has subsequently diminished. These paintings are contrasted with small-scale paintings of rocks, from which Koo's creature is absent. Taking inspiration from a fifteenth-century wrought iron pedestal in the Metropolitan Museum of Art's collection that may have served as tabernacle, the rock is imbued with an almost holy, altar-like significance.

The exhibition also features new works in their *Seven Stars* series, where hand-drawn, red, linear stars converge and collide. A continuation of their interest in the innate connectivity between earthly and universal matter, for Koo Jeong A these works exemplify the ways in which the energies of our bodies and those of the stars are not only aligned but intricately woven together.

The new works continue the investigations of Koo Jeong A's manifesto 'Living and Working Everywhere. Citizen of Everywhere. Innovation'.



Since the early 1990s, Koo Jeong A's work reflects on the invention of space, the senses and the body; incorporating objects, still and moving image, elements of audio and scents. Many of the artist's works, conceived within site-specific environments, question the limits of fact and fiction, the imaginary and actuality of our world.

Koo Jeong A lives and works everywhere. Selected solo exhibitions and commissions of their work include: Luma, Arles (2021); La Triennale di Milano, Milan (2019); Museo Riso, Palermo (2018); *ajeongkoo*, Art Sonje Center, Seoul (2017); *Enigma of Beginnings*, Yuz Project Room at Yuz Museum, Shanghai (2016); *Koo Jeong A: Evertro*, Everton Park, Liverpool Biennial (2015); *Annual Journey*, Oussser, Fondazione La Raia, Novi Ligure (2014); *Koo Jeong A: 16:07*, Kunsthalle, Düsseldorf (2012). Their work is held in the collections of Astrup Fearley Museet, Oslo; Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris; Guggenheim, New York; Tate, London, amongst many others.

For all press enquiries, please contact:

Haniya Bhatti | haniya@pilarcorrias.com | +44 (0) 7769 775 651

Pilar Corrias
2 Savile Row
London W1S 3PA

t +44 [0]20.7343.700

www pilarcorrias.com
e info@pilarcorrias.com