

QueerArch

curated by **Kang Seung Lee and Jin Kwon**

October 6 - November 2, 2019

Venue:

Hapjungjigu

40 World Cup-ro, Mapo-gu,

Seoul, South Korea

Open Tuesday - Sunday, 13:00 - 20:00

Opening Reception:

Sunday, October 6, 16:00-19:00

Featuring Work By:

Haneyl Choi

Kyung-min Lee

Moon Sang Hoon and Azangman

Ruin (in collaboration with Kang Seung Lee)

Sehyung Kim (AJO)



Photographer unknown, 1970s, Seoul, South Korea

QueerArch is an exhibition consisting of newly commissioned works by artists based in Seoul, South Korea, created after their months-long research at QueerArch, also known as Korea Queer Archive. The exhibition challenges the narrow perspectives propagated by biased (art) historical canons and academic institutions, resisting the discursive and academic violence that has resulted in the historical erasure of queer people in Korea.

The artists featured in *QueerArch*--a new generation of Korean queer artists in their 20s and 30s--take on the role of (re)writing a history by paying homage to the legacy of activism in their community, and open up conversations on profound political and artistic change.

Works in the exhibition take inspiration from historical images and texts from queer publications, artifacts, and films that were made and collected in Korea, creating a unique timeline that manifests in the forms of graphic design, sculptural installation, video, fashion, and more. Through a re-emphasis and re-imagining of the archive, this exhibition makes an important step in underscoring the lineage of queer history in Korea.

Established in 2002, *QueerArch* started as a personal archive of Chae-yoon Hahn, a prominent activist who was the editor-in-chief of *BUDDY* (1998-2003), one of the first queer-themed magazines in South Korea. Today, the collection includes not only Hahn's personal archive, but also over 700 films that were donated from the Seoul Queer Film Festival in 2006. As part of the group exhibition, *QueerArch* will move part of their archive to the storefront space of Hapjungjigu, where it will be easily accessible to the public for the first time.

QueerArch was selected through apexart's Open Call. For more information and images visit apexart.org/exhibitions/lee-kwon.php.

Kang Seung Lee is a multidisciplinary artist born in South Korea and now lives and works in Los Angeles. Lee is the recipient of the CCF Fellowship for Visual Artists (2019), the Rema Hort Mann Foundation grant (2018), and Artpace San Antonio International Artist-in-Residence program (2017). He received an MFA from the California Institute of the Arts.

Jin Kwon studied in London and started a contemporary art practice in Seoul by expanding her interest to forms of exhibition and writing. Kwon's interest has always been in addressing art and cultural practices relating to the history of modern and contemporary art in non-western regions, and their morphology as a way of access into the public. Kwon is currently a curator at Seoul Museum of Art, a public art institution supported by City Government of Seoul.

apexart's program supporters past and present include The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The Buhl Foundation, Bloomberg Philanthropies, The Greenwich Collection Ltd., William Talbott Hillman Foundation/Affirmation Arts Fund, the Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation, the Fifth Floor Foundation, the Consulate General of Israel in New York, the Kenneth A. Cowin Foundation, the Trust for Mutual Understanding, and public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

#QueerArch

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