

# 2020 KOREAN STUDIES GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEE PRESENTATIONS

## "Contemporary Korean Art: Lee Bul's Feminist Art before the Cyborg"

*Amy Kahng, Ph.D. student in Art History*

This paper seeks to uncover the ways in which the 1990s art practice of globally renowned artist, Lee Bul, critically parody the traumatic visual cultural legacies and collective memories of post-Korean war rapid development, authoritarian dictatorship, and nation building. Using nontraditional and tactile mediums such as fabric, beads, sequins, plastic, paper, and mass-produced objects in her sculptures and installations, these artworks bombard audiences with sensorial and tactile visual imagery, kinesthetic participation, and sonic and olfactory affective responses. This paper analyzes the artist's work prior to her internationally recognized Cyborgs series including the handcrafted sculptural installation Sunday Seoul (1990), mixed media print Technicolor Life: Part 1 (1994), and monumental sculpture I Need You (Monument) (1996) from the artist's Monuments series. Lee exaggerates historical references to the magazine Sunday Seoul, the buchaechum fan dance, and monuments to ancient war heroes, all objects of visual culture that were heavily promoted under the post-Korean War authoritarian government.

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## "Consonant insertion in Korean: Why [s]?"

*Ji Yea Kim, Ph.D. student in linguistics*

Languages insert different segments to repair ungrammatical structures, for example, glottal stop may be inserted in English before initial vowels, as in uh oh [ʔʌ ʔo]. I show that non-standard Korean's use of [s]-epenthesis, an understudied type of epenthesis (/pap-i/ [pap-si] 'rice-subject') is supported partly by the writing system (as in sai-siot 'linking-s') where some cases of written 's' do not have the [s] sound in actual pronunciation (e.g., i-s-mom 'tooth + s + body (= gums)' pronounced [in.mom]). Another piece of evidence for the default status of [s] is h-to-s alternation whereby the perceptually weak consonant /h/ is replaced with the perceptually stronger consonant [s] (/him/ → [sim] 'power'). Korean speakers may extend knowledge of [s] by analogy to new contexts providing evidence for Korean speakers' strong preference for 's' as an epenthetic consonant in both spoken and written forms.



Friday,  
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