



Exhibition Title: *Cabinet of Aspiration: A Modern Chaekgeori*

Artist Name: Stephanie S. Lee

Exhibition Date: 12/1-12/29/2024

Location: Freeport Memorial Library
144W. Merrick Road, Freeport, NY 11520

<https://www.freeportlibrary.info>

Artist Website: <https://www.stephanieslee.com>

Artist Contact: artiststephanieslee@gmail.com

Beginning December 1st, the Freeport Memorial Library will present the solo exhibition '*Cabinet of Aspiration: A Modern Chaekgeori*' by artist Stephanie S. Lee.

In this exhibition, the artist reinterprets the traditional Korean folk art genre of *Chaekgeori* through a contemporary lens. Lee's works place cherished personal objects within the framework of traditional Korean bookshelves, exploring the universal and timeless human pursuit of happiness that transcends cultural boundaries.

By bridging the past and present, and crossing cultural divides, this exhibition illuminates how glimpses of joy can be found in the everyday. Lee's captivating fusion of tradition and modernity not only showcases the richness of Korean cultural heritage, but also enthralls viewers with its visual beauty.

In addition to the six bookshelf-themed paintings, the exhibition will also feature five of the artist's *Everyday Series* works. This harmonious encounter between the old and the new invites visitors to reflect on our shared aspirations and the simple pleasures that connect us across generations and cultures.

The exhibition is free and open to the public during the library's regular operating hours. There will be no separate opening reception.

Library Hours

Monday - Friday: 9am - 9pm (Wednesday 10am - 9pm)

Saturday: 9am - 5pm

Sunday: 1pm - 5pm

(Closed Wednesday, December 25th and December 24th 9am - 1pm)

Library website: <https://www.freeportlibrary.info/about-the-library/hours-a-directions>

Artist website: <https://www.stephanieslee.com>

About the Artist

Stephanie S. Lee is an artist, curator, and graphic designer whose work is deeply inspired by *Minhwa*, the traditional Korean folk art painting style. Her paintings and designs have been showcased in numerous group exhibitions at museums and galleries across Asia, Europe, and the United States. Notable venues include the Korean Cultural Centers in Paris, Madrid, and Washington, D.C.; the National Museum of Korea in Seoul; Indang Museum in Daegu, South Korea; Islip Art Museum in Islip, NY; Edward Hopper House Museum & Study Center in Nyack, NY; as well as various locations in New York such as the Charles B. Wang Center, Queens College Art Center, Flushing Town Hall, and Belskie Museum of Art in Closter, NJ. Her work has also been shown at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, KY, and in 2015, it was selected for *Call for Chelsea* at Galleria Ca' d'Oro in New York.

Lee has presented solo exhibitions in public libraries, including the Piermont Library in Piermont, NY, as well as the Ridgewood and Closter libraries in NJ. Her work has also been featured in major art fairs such as Spectrum Miami Art Show in Miami, FL; Scope Art and Fountain Art Fair in New York; and the Affordable Art Fair in New York and Hong Kong.

Her accomplishments have been recognized through grants, including the City Artists Corps Grant from the New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA) and a New Work Grant from the Queens Council on the Arts (QCA). She was named Artist of the Month by the Edward Hopper House Museum & Study Center in Nyack, NY. Her work has been highlighted by various media outlets, including WNBC News, CBS News, NY1 News, TKC TV, *Hyperallergic*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *Asia Week*, *The Korea Times*, *Art Minhwa* magazine, and many others.

Lee holds both a BFA and an MS from Pratt Institute and studied Korean folk art painting at Busan National University in South Korea. She resides in Queens, New York.

Beyond her artistic practice, Lee is a founding director of The Garage Art Center (www.garageartcenter.org) and KoreanFolkArt.org. She also works at the Godwin-Ternbach Museum at Queens College and serves as a teaching artist with the Flushing Council on Culture and the Arts.



Cabinet of Desire V by Stephanie S. Lee
24" H x 48" H x 2" D each
Color pigment & ink on *Hanji*



Cabinet of Desire V by Stephanie S. Lee
24" H x 48" H x 2" D each
Color pigment & ink on *Hanji*



Cabinet of Desire III by Stephanie S. Lee
 30" H x 24" H x 2" D each
 Color pigment & ink on *Hanji*



Cabinet of Desire I by Stephanie S. Lee
 37" H x 25" W x 2" D each
 Color pigment & ink on *Hanji*