(mean)while

Four Korean artists at St Marylebone Art Space
26 November 2026 to 25 January 2027 · Private view (by invitation) Thursday 26 November, 6 to 8pm, early access from 5pm

Ink belongs to the brush, repetition to meditation, soy sauce to the table, a sheet mask to the face. Four Korean artists each begin with one of these means, already shaped by use, and the exhibition asks what each becomes.

The title holds the question. Inside the word for the meantime sit two others: the mean, the means by which a work is made, and the while, the time it is given. Fourteen works in ground ink, collage, soy sauce and cosmetics hang in St Marylebone Art Space, St Marylebone Parish Church, free to visit for nine weeks across Advent, Christmas and the New Year.

(mean)while is the first exhibition of KVAA (Korean Visual Arts Association UK), founded in London in 2026 to support Korean visual artists in the UK through exhibitions, research and exchange. It is curated by Woori Ko and supported by the Overseas Koreans Agency, Republic of Korea.

THE ARTISTS

Park Kyoung Mug grinds his own ink and lays it on hanji in thin layers. In his paintings one ink divides in two: dense black gives form to a stone, a jar or a bowl, while a paler grey hangs back beside it, as if already fading. His works travel to London from Seoul.

Soon Yul Kang cuts paper painted in red and blue and sets it down piece by piece, ring by ring, until a circle appears. In her work time accumulates; in *Nostalgia*, pale squares of hanji step down, shadow by shadow, towards an amber centre.

Dohyun Baek stains hanji with soy sauce and seals it in wax. His *Residue* panels preserve the paper from his 2025 performance *Fold*: the stain is darkest where the paper folded over itself, held in place long after the body that made it has left.

Dina Jin Bae worked in cosmetics product development before turning to painting. Sheet masks made for a few minutes on the face are laid into oil and wax that will not be hurried, and what was meant to be thrown away is kept, layer by layer.

Side by side, the works do not give the same answer. In London, a visitor may recognise one of these means at once and meet another for the first time.

> *"What happens when a means is given time? Each of these four artists begins with a material that already has a purpose, and through their practice gives it another. They have come to this exhibition by separate paths, each working through time on their own terms. For KVAA, bringing these differences into conversation is a way of beginning."*
>
> Woori Ko, Curator and Chair, KVAA

A programme of talks will be announced.

LISTINGS INFORMATION

Exhibition	(mean)while
Venue	St Marylebone Art Space, St Marylebone Parish Church, Marylebone Road, London NW1 5LT
Dates	26 November 2026 to 25 January 2027
Private view	Thursday 26 November, 6 to 8pm, by invitation (early access from 5pm)
Open to the public	From Friday 27 November
Opening hours	Monday to Thursday 9am to 5pm · Friday 12 to 5pm · Saturday 10am to 4pm · Sunday 1 to 4pm
Closed	20, 25 and 26 December 2026; 1 and 18 January 2027
Admission	Free
Access	Step-free access via the lift at the main entrance
Website	kvaauk.org/exhibitions/meanwhile/

IMAGES FOR EDITORIAL USE

1. Park Kyoung Mug, *Black Mirror 1*, 2022. Ground ink on hanji, 61 × 41.5 cm
2. Soon Yul Kang, *Nostalgia*, 2014. Collage on canvas, lacquered hanji and jangpanji (floor paper), 90 × 90 × 3 cm
3. Dohyun Baek, *Residue*, 2026. Hanji stained with soy sauce, wax, plywood, wooden frame, 117 × 127 cm
4. Dina Jin Bae, *The Face That Is Not*, 2025–2026. Sheet masks, latex sponges, false eyelashes, pigment, oil and wax on wood board, 40 × 58 cm

All images courtesy the artists. Print-resolution files are available on request.

CREDITS

Presented by KVAA (Korean Visual Arts Association UK) · Curated by Woori Ko · Production by KOUM Partners, London · Supported by the Overseas Koreans Agency, Republic of Korea

PRESS CONTACT

Woori Ko · woori@kvaauk.org. Print-resolution images, artist biographies and visits with the curator during the run are available on request.

NOTES TO EDITORS

KVAA (Korean Visual Arts Association UK) is an independent non-profit association based in London.
The Overseas Koreans Agency is the Republic of Korea government agency supporting Korean communities abroad.