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Moka Lee

Born in 1996 in South Korea. Lives and works in Seoul, South Korea

Solo Exhibitions

2026 *Persona Works*, David Kordansky Gallery, Los Angeles, USA

2025 *FACE ID*, Carlos/Ishikawa, London, UK

2023 *Innuendo*, Jason Haam, Seoul, South Korea
Art Basel Hong Kong, Jason Haam, Hong Kong

2021 *Is There Any Place For Us? (two-person exhibition with Jiwon Choi),* This Weekend Room, Seoul, South Korea

2020 *Flame in a Small Room*, Gallery ANOV, Seoul, South Korea
Glowing Afterimage, Yugiche, Busan, South Korea

Selected Group Exhibitions

2025 *Nude, Flesh, and Love*, Jason Haam, Seoul, South Korea
MOSS : The Damp and Shaded Green Mass, Seoul Museum, Seoul, South Korea
Second Body, David Kordansky Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
Layered Medium We Are in Open Circuits (Co-Directed by Seoul Museum of Art and Abu Dhabi Music&Arts Foundations), Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, Saudi Arabia
Karma II, Jason Haam, Frieze No.9 Cork Street, London, UK

J A S O N H A A M

2024 ***Fairy Tale,*** Galería Fermay, Palma de Mallorca, Spain

SeMA Omnibus: At the End of the World Split Endlessly, Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, South Korea

Deaf Republic, Jason Haam, Seoul, South Korea

Masterful Attention Seekers, Museum of Contemporary Art, Busan, South Korea

Artificial Tears, Museum Head, Seoul, South Korea

2023 ***Karma***, Jason Haam, Frieze No.9 Cork Street, London, UK

2022 ***Jason Haam: five years, part one,*** Jason Haam, Seoul, South Korea

2020 ***Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night,*** Chapter II, Seoul, South Korea

2019 ***4th New Drawing Project,*** Chang Ucchin Museum of Art, Yangju, South Korea

Public Collections

Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, South Korea

Kistefos Museum, Jevnaker, Norway

Longlati Foundation, Shanghai, China

Press

2026 Byun, Hee-won. (Nov 13), The Chosun Daily

"인스타그램 셀카가 내 초상화의 주인공들…佛 아트페어 문 열기도 전에 완판"

(Lee Mok-ha: "The Protagonists of My Portraits Are People's Instagram Selfies" — Sold Out Before the French Art Fair Even Opened)

Kim, Min-chae. (May 27), CNB Journal

"[서울옥션 스페셜리스트의 눈] 넥스트 블루칩, 김환기와 이우환을 넘어서" (In the Eyes of a Seoul Auction Specialist: The Next Blue Chip, Beyond Kim Whanki and Lee Ufan)

(2026, Mar), Forbes Korea

"[2026 포브스코리아 30 세 미만 30 인] ART&STYLE | 이목하(29) 미술가"

([2026 Forbes Korea 30 Under 30] ART&STYLE | Moka Lee (29), Artist)

2025 Kang, Tae-seong. (Nov), Kia Design Magazine

"초상화의 오래된 언어로, 동시대의 새로운 언어를 그려내다 - 이목하 작가"

(Using the Old Language of Portraiture to Create a New Contemporary Language – Artist Moka Lee)

Gunia, Amy. (Jun 16), CNN

"This South Korean artist is turning strangers' Instagram posts into portraits"

Dawson, Aimee. (Feb 21), The Art Newspaper

"Strangers' things: why Moka Lee is a social media scavenger"

Snow, Emily. (Feb 3), The Collector

"Top 5 Painters to Watch in 2025"

Carrigan, Margaret. (Jan 25), The Artnet News

"The Sharing Economy: Partnerships Proliferate, as Galleries Try Out New Models"

Mitchell, Rory. (Jan 23), Ocula

"Advisory Notes: London Buddies up to Beat the January Blues"

Odejinmi, Koye. (Jan 17), AnOther

"Condo London 2025: The Best Art Shows to See This January"

Kang, Ye-sol. (Sep 3), Marie Claire

"Edge of Now | 영 아티스트 이목하" (Edge of Now | Young Artist Moka Lee)

Oh, Jeong-eun. (Jul), Montly Art

"동시대 미술의 생존 경향: 무너지는 회화의 역설과 유령을 좇는 비평" (Survival Trends in Contemporary Art: The Paradox of Collapsing Painting and Criticism Chasing Ghosts)

Kwon, Eun-kyung. (Jun 23), W Korea

"Journey of Writing 두 번째 이야기 오마주 투 피에르-오귀스트 르누아르 with 이목하 작가" (Journey of Writing, Part Two: Homage to Pierre-Auguste Renoir with Artist Moka Lee)

Kim, Kyung-mi. (Feb 21), Seoul Economic Daily

"SNS 시대의 초상화가 이목하…"사진 속 숨은 이야기, 캔버스에 담죠" [작가의 아틀리에]" (Moka Lee, a Portrait Artist of the Social Media Era: 'I Put the Hidden Stories in Photographs onto Canvas' [Artist's Atelier])

2024 Kwon, Mee-Yoo. (Nov 27), The Korea Times

"Lee Moka's debut at Hong Kong auction shatters expectations"

Rabb, Maxwell. (Nov 26), Artsy

"$5.8 million Yoshitomo Nara painting leads Phillips Hong Kong's modern and contemporary sale."

Chung, Hayoung. (Oct 21), Artsy

"The Artsy Vanguard 2025: Moka Lee"

(Oct 7), Ocula

"Eight Works to Fawn over at Frieze London 2024"

Shepherd, Harriet. (Sep 13), W Magazine

"At Frieze Seoul, an Artful Marriage of the Digital & Physical Realms"

Won, Ji-eun. (Dec 18), Masion Korea

"New Art Wave"

Kim, Byung-gyu. (Dec 2), The Economist

"필립스옥션, 11 월 홍콩 경매 한국작가 이목하 작품 약 3 억 원 낙찰" (Phillips Auction: Moke Lee's Work by a Korean Artist Sold for Approximately KRM 300 Million at the November Hong Kong Auction)

Kim, Soon-eung. (Nov 27), Newspim

"[기고] 세계 미술계가 알아본 28 세작가 이목하, 개성 있는 작품 결국 주목받아" (Moka Lee, the 28-Year-Old Artist Recognized by the Global Art World, Finally Draws Attention for Her Distinctive Work)

Sung, Soo-young. (Nov 25), The Korea Economic Daily

"그림 한점에 3 억원…28 세 이목하 돌풍" (A Painting Sells for KRW 300 Million: The Rise of 28-Year-Old Moka Lee)

Yoo, Soo-hyun. (May 9), Art Insight

"[Opinion] 회복, 아픔이 추억이 되기까지 필요한 시간 [미술/전시]" ([Opinion] Recovery: The Time It Takes for Pain to Become a Memory [Art/Exhibition])

Jo, Jae-yeon. (Apr 22), Art In Culture

"[New Look] 이목하 - 청춘의 페르소나, 떨림의 순간" ([New Look] Moka Lee – Persona of Youth, Moments of Trembling)

Seo, Ji-hye. (Mar 18), Seoul Economic Daily

"회화 넘어 로봇·다큐까지…고상함 깨고 MZ 유혹" (Beyond Painting, to Robots and Documentaries: Breaking with Sophistication to Attract Gen MZ)

2023 Loos, Ted. (Aug 31), The New York Times

"Frieze Seoul Settles in for Its Sophomore Edition"

Ashby, Chloë. (Jan 20), Art Basel

"Moka Lee's portraits capture the likeness of social media strangers"

Ahn, Seo-kyung. (Oct 15), Harper's Bazaar

"떠오르는 여성 아티스트 4" (Four Emerging Female Artists)

Yoon, Da-ham. (Sep 27), Art Chosun

"아릿한 불협화음의 하모니, 마치 '이목하'의 그림처럼" (The Harmony of Bittersweet Dissonance, Like a Painting by 'Moka Lee')

Sung, Soo-young. (Mar 23), The Korea Economic Daily

"덧칠하며 그린 SNS 속 '청춘의 얼굴'…아트바젤이 콕 찍은 20 대 작가" (Painting Over the 'Faces of Youth' on Social Media: A Twenty-Something Artist Singled Out by Art Basel)

2022 W. (Apr 28), W Korea

"찰나의 감정을 담는 여성 작가 5 인" (Five Female Artists Capturing Fleeting Emotions)

2021 Ra, Hyo-jin. (Aug 20), ELLE

"동갑내기 MZ 세대 여성 화가 2 인이 말하는 '요즘 여자 아이들'_인싸 전시 #33" (Two Female Painters of the Same Age from Gen MZ Talk About 'Girls Today')

2019 Jung, Sang-hyuk. (Aug 15), The Chosun Daily

"매일 100 개씩 그린 肖名畵… 창작에 큰 힘 얻었죠" (I Painted 100 Small Portraits Every Day… They Became a Great Source of Strength for My Creative Work)

Publication

2026 (2026, Apr), Jason Haam

Moka Lee Innuendo

Residencies and Awards

2025 Artsy Vanguard 2025, New York, NY

2019 DDP Prize, Asian Students and Young Artists Art Festival, Seoul, South Korea

Education

2022 MFA, Korea National University of Arts, Seoul, South Korea (withdrawal)

2021 BFA, Sejong University, Seoul, South Korea