

M: Minjung

R: Raeyoung

M: Did you usually work at home?

R: Yeah, I try to do as much as I can at home.

M: Do you work from home often?

R: Yep, though my productivity drops.

The big advantage of working from home is that I can work late at night.

M: Here, people don't really work late at night, but in Korea, we often pull all-nighters.

R: Yeah. Last year around this time, I got stuck at school. There's a big gate and buildings inside, and the security closes the gate at night.

They closed it early that day, and I got trapped. The weasels' cries in the open area sounded like ghost noises, which scared the hell out of me. I couldn't get back into the building. That experience gave me a learned fear, so I never work at school late anymore.

M: Maybe this feels like an entrance interview... 'Why?...

R: 'Why did you come to Germany?'

M: Right.

R: Originally, I just enjoyed working. And I was also thinking about going to grad school.

One of my professors had studied in Germany and suggested me that considering studying abroad in Germany instead of going to grad school.

Back then, the professor would gather students and even non-students in his office every other week for work and presentations. That was fun. So while preparing for my graduation exhibition, I thought about coming to Germany.

M: Did you come here right after graduation?
 R: Yeah, no special story there.

M: I think a lot of people don't come with some special story. Also in my case, I just wanted to study more, and Germany is cheaper in terms of tuition and living expenses.
 Do you plan to keep (art)working if you go back to Korea?
 R: I want to do it, but I want to make money first.

M: So, you'll be doing it on the side?
 R: Yes.

M: You're planning to hand over the house to me in August and then return to Korea. How do you feel about going back?
 When talking to people who are returning to Korea, they often say they don't feel much at first, but as the day gets closer, they start having mixed feelings.
 R: When I had about six months left, I thought, 'I still have plenty of time.' But now that it's down to three months, I'm like, 'Why did time fly so fast?'

M: It really feels like there's not much time left. There were three months left when I was moving into this house too.
 R: Yeah, it feels like my seemingly endless life in Germany is finally coming to an end.
 To be honest, thinking about leaving makes me feel relieved, like I'm free from the stress of relationships and stuff here.
 I feel at ease.

M: Rather than feeling sad?
 R: Yeah, but when the time gets really close, I'll probably feel a mix of emotions.
 Summer is almost over, and summers in Germany are so beautiful and long compared to Korea.

M: You'll be leaving when the weather is at its best.
 R: True. I'll miss Federweisser and the summer nights in Germany.
 I'll also miss lying in the parks.
 In Korea, it's harder to lie in parks, and the bike paths aren't as good as here.

M: I get that. I haven't visited Korea since coming to Germany, and living in this quiet place, I can't imagine riding the crowded Seoul subway.
 So, you've lived in this house for about three years?
 R: Yeah, since around 2022.

M: When did you enter school?
 R: I started in 2018 and took a break because of COVID.

M: What does this house mean to you?
 R: I'll miss it a lot.

M: Yeah, I've heard many people visited your place.
 R: Yep, a lot of people came over.
 After I started living alone here, I hated eating by myself, so I often invited people over for meals.
 This house gets so much sunlight. Around this time, it looks its best. I love the view when I wake up. It's a bit noisy because it's on a main road, though.

M: I felt the same way. When I first visited, the sunlight streaming in made me decide I wanted to move here.
 Was it hard to find this place?
 R: Yeah, I had to leave my previous place suddenly, so I was really lucky to find this one.
 I sent over 200 emails and went to about 30 viewings.

M: Did you start working with the theme of 'life and death' from the beginning?
 R: No, it wasn't 'life and death'... actually, no.
 I didn't start with that theme from the beginning. My work tends to be more self-reflective.

M: Did you have that interest for theme from your first year in art school, whether in Korea or here?
 R: No. I was more focused on observing others and groups separate from myself.
 Here, I felt that the easiest thing to look at without many layers was 'me.'
 After coming to Germany, I spent more time exploring myself. That's why my work shifted. The reason I started working on the theme of 'life and death' is because, after suffering from panic disorder, I became scared of sleeping alone.
 Falling asleep itself became terrifying, and it felt like I was on the brink of death.

a



A Korean dish made by frying thin layers of egg and rolling them up.

b



A still life artwork which includes various symbolic objects designed to remind the viewer of their mortality and of the worthlessness of worldly goods and pleasures.

c



In Chinese mythology, the Peaches of Immortality are believed to grant longevity to those who eat them. They are a common symbol in Chinese art, often depicted alongside deities, immortals, and other symbols of longevity like deer and cranes.

d



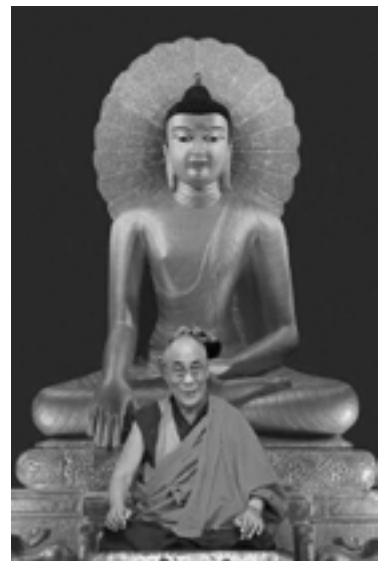
A famous Buddhist text in Mahāyāna Buddhism, and its title means "The Heart of the Perfection of Wisdom" in Sanskrit

e



Reincarnation, or "Samsara" in Sanskrit, is the concept that after death, a soul is reborn into a new body. This cycle of birth, death, and rebirth continues until the soul achieves enlightenment and is freed from the cycle.

f



The spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhism and the former political leader of Tibet. He is believed to be the reincarnation of a line of enlightened beings who choose to be reborn to help humanity.



I'mmortal

Raeyoung Kim

02 l'kki
08 The things that made me...
14 Untitled(Eggs)
18 Untitled
20 I am so confused...
22 Red Light
25 Confession
26 Room 030
28 Untitled(Booooong)
32 Untitled
35 Untitled
37 Red Flavor





l'kki ceramic, moss, epoxy, pipes, dimensions variable (2023)

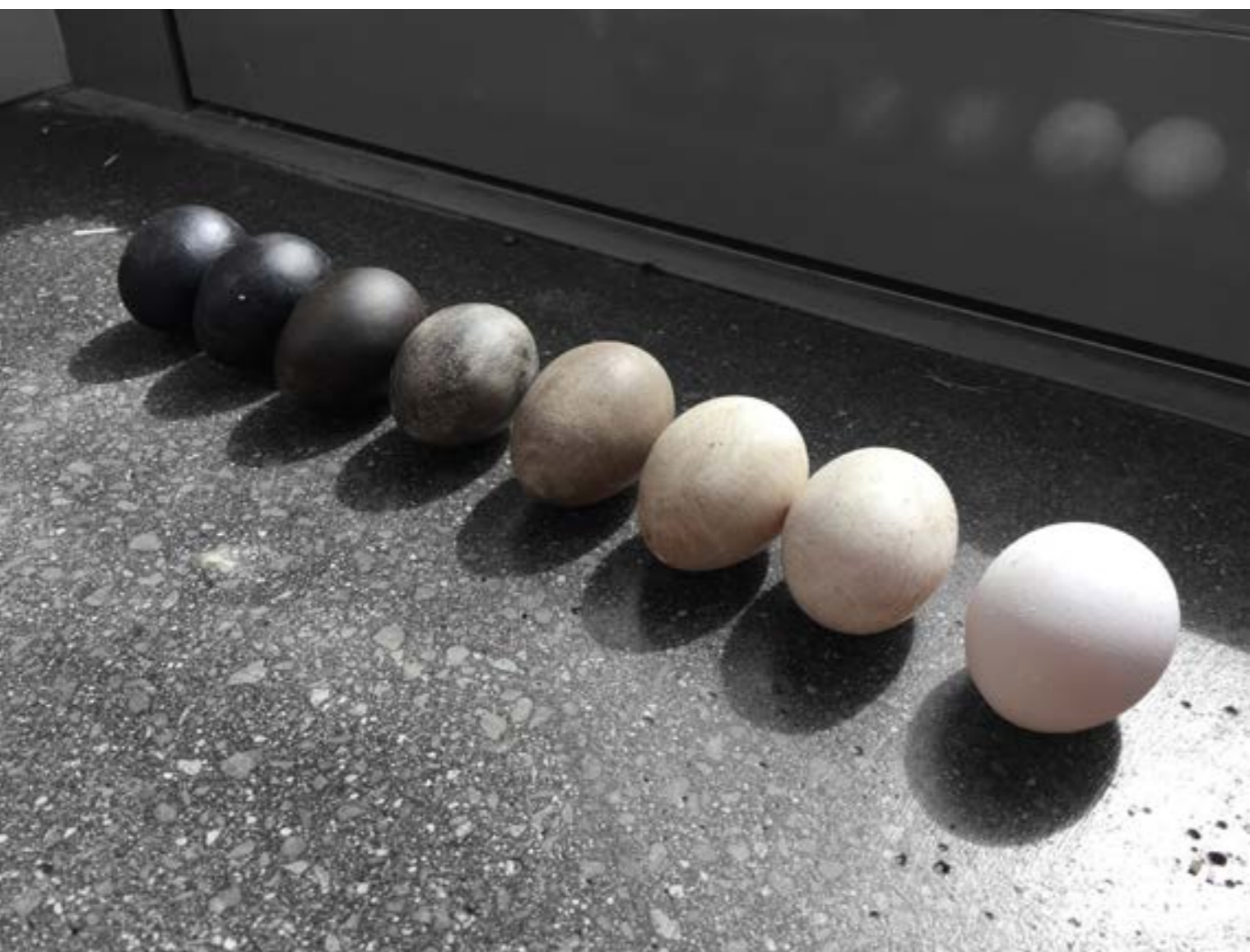




The things that made me... eggs, tufting rugs, light bulb, dimensions variable (2022)







Untitled(Eggs) colored eggs (2020)



