

# HASHIMOTO CONTEMPORARY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## *A Soft Day*

A solo exhibition by Danyim Kwon

January 06 - 27, 2024

SAN FRANCISCO—Like a poet finds the world in a grain of sand, painter Danyim Kwon sees the world in a bowl, a vase, or a pile of laundry. Her first solo exhibition with Hashimoto Contemporary, *A Soft Day*, brings together a series of new paintings by the Seoul-based artist that embody warmth and comfort, inspiring gratitude for everyday life and optimism for the future. Using a pastel palette to illustrate her serene scenes of leisure and respite, Kwon's artwork inspires us to find gratitude, rest, and happiness inside seemingly mundane or repetitive moments.



Though the artist has perfected the depiction of pleasant tranquility, Kwon's artwork was not always so optimistic. The artist began painting in her native South Korea to highlight societal issues, depicting scenes from the news or inside people's homes. After a long hiatus from painting, she returned to the canvas with a transformed perspective on how her art could help her navigate adversity and inspire others to persevere. About her work, she writes, "As I passed through unforeseen hardships in life, I discovered gratitude and joy for my surroundings. To cherish and appreciate these moments in life, I want to see them from a new perspective by staging them in still life scenes, such as flower vases and piles of laundry."

Influenced by MTV motion graphics from the 1990s and Korean "Chaekgado" still life paintings from the 18th and 19th centuries, Kwon's tranquil scenes are surreal, happening in no particular time or place. Inside their nebulous surroundings, the miniature figures ride bikes in the spring, canoe in the summer, take long walks in the fall, and climb mountains in the winter. Wrapping these figures in warm shades of yellow and peach, deep blues and greens, the works are precious, like delicate vases and bowls, or cozy, like folded sweaters and blankets. Through careful, clean brush strokes, the paintings offer a moment to envision peace and tranquility; to hope; to "convey a message of love" from the world around us.

*A Soft Day* opens on January 6th, 2024, with a reception from 5 to 7 pm. The artist will be in attendance. The exhibition will be on view from January 6th to 27th. For more information on the exhibition or exclusive content and images, contact [SF@hashimotocontemporary.com](mailto:SF@hashimotocontemporary.com).

# HASHIMOTO CONTEMPORARY

## WHAT:

*A Soft Day*

A solo exhibition by Danyim Kwon

## WHERE:

Hashimoto Contemporary

1275 Minnesota St.

San Francisco, CA 94107

## WHEN:

Opening Night Reception: January 6th, 2024

On view through Saturday, January 27th, 2024

## RELEVANT LINKS:

Hashimoto Contemporary: <https://www.hashimotocontemporary.com/>

Minnesota Street Project: <https://minnesotastreetproject.com/>

Danyim Kwon: <https://www.danyimkwon.com/>

## ABOUT THE ARTIST:

Danyim Kwon (b. 1982) is Korean-American artist with roots in the San Francisco Bay Area. Finding inspiration in everyday life, Kwon uses scenes around her to create images that embody warmth, comfort, and an optimistic perspective. As the artist passes through unforeseen hardships in life, she discovers gratitude and joy for her surroundings. To cherish and appreciate these moments in life even more, the artist wants to see them from a new perspective by staging them in still lifes, such as flower vases and piles of laundry, in a surreal manner. The artist invites viewers to find moments of happiness and rest inside everyday moments, as well as through her soft colors on the canvas.

Kwon received both her BFA and MFA from Ewha Women's University in Seoul, Korea. She has shown at Ilmin Museum in Seoul, with Hashimoto Contemporary in New York and San Francisco, and at the Palo Alto Art Center.

## ABOUT THE GALLERY:

Hashimoto Contemporary is a contemporary art gallery originally founded in 2013 by Ken Harman Hashimoto. In 2023 the gallery announced two new partners, Dasha Matsuura and Jennifer Rizzo. Our roster consists of an eclectic blend of emerging and mid-career contemporary artists working primarily within our respective local communities. Hashimoto Contemporary provides a platform for artists whose identities and subjects have been historically relegated to the margins, as well as artists whose practices fit neatly into the canon of art history. You can find us at the Minnesota Street Project (San Francisco), the Lower East Side (New York City) and Culver City (Los Angeles) where our three spaces organize new exhibitions monthly.