

## 책거리 Chaekgeori

### Our shelves Our selves

21 April to 1 November 2022

On the occasion of the 130th anniversary of Austrian-Korean diplomatic relations, Weltmuseum Wien, in collaboration with outstanding Korean artists who created these works in recent years, is showing the exhibition 책거리 Chaekgeori - Our shelves Our selves in three gallery rooms.

In Korea, chaekgeori (Korean: 책거리, translation "books and things") designates a painted arrangement of books, shelves, various objects, and small treasures. This kind of painting has its origins in the Chinese tradition of collecting things such as the writings of Confucius, scrolls adorned with calligraphy or paintings, ancient ritual vessels, and decorative objects – and in the high esteem accorded them. Also beloved among Chinese collectors were depictions of flowers and animals, such as butterflies, mandarin ducks, carp, cranes, deer, as well as lotus blossoms, peonies, chrysanthemums, peaches, pomegranates, melons, and the citron, *Citrus medicus*, also known as 'Buddha's hand'. These motifs express positive wishes for health, happiness, wealth, and freedom from want. But their depictions are also often playful, inviting their viewers to seek and identify them in the paintings.

The early emperors of the Qing dynasty (1644–1911) were famous for their bookcases and the depictions thereof, in which the shelves were laden with classic writings and precious objects. At the end of the eighteenth century, the genre of painting bookshelves made its way to the Korean royal court of the Joseon dynasty (1392 – 1897) and to the members of Korea's scholar-gentry, who shared a strongly Confucianist



ethos. At the end of the nineteenth century, chaekgori gained popularity among ordinary people and became part of Korean folk painting.

The twenty-first-century Korean artists represented in this exhibition, some of whom belong to the school of minhwa (folk painting), work under the inspiration of traditional models. But they place their personal treasures next to books in personal and individual ways. Each painting expresses the artist's taste, his or her hobby, or a wish – and is tinged with a touch of sentimentality. The depiction of the scholarly ethos of earlier times find new expression in images of computers, digital devices, tablets, and smartphones. The paintings feature towers of books reminiscent of skyscrapers and other architectural elements. Typical of the genre now is the use of strong, cheerful colours, emphasizing an optimistic and positive way of looking at the world.

## PRESS PHOTOGRAPHS

Press photographs are available in the press section of our website free of charge,  
for your topical reporting: <https://www.weltmuseumwien.at/en/press>

### Lost in books 첩첩산중

CHUNG Jae Eun 정재은, 2019

© CHUNG Jae Eun 정재은



### Colorpia 2 컬러피아 2

MOON Sun Young 문선영, 2021

© MOON Sun Young 문선영



### Colorpia 1 컬러피아 1

MOON Sun Young 문선영, 2021

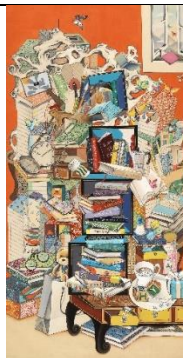
© MOON Sun Young 문선영



### Book on Book 책속의 책

LEE Hwa Young 이화영, 2021

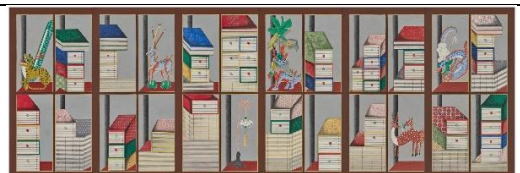
© LEE Hwa Young 이화영



### Chaekgeori 책거리

KIM Young Shik 김영식, 2017

© KIM Young Shik 김영식





## TALKS AND GUIDED TOURS

<https://www.weltmuseumwien.at/ausstellungen/chaekgeori/#rahmenprogramm>

## OPENING HOURS

Daily except Wednesday  
10 am to 6 pm

Tuesday  
10 am to 9 pm

## TICKETS

For more information about tickets, please visit <https://www.weltmuseumwien.at/en/information/>  
Entry to the Galleries of Marvel is free of charge!

The **Annual Family Ticket** for two adults and up to three children or teens under the age of 19 for only € 79! For more information, please visit <https://www.khm.at/en/family/>

## CONTACTS FOR YOUR VISIT

Information, questions & suggestions  
+43 1 534 30-5052, [info@weltmuseumwien.at](mailto:info@weltmuseumwien.at)

Cultural education & outreach programme, guided tours, and programme registration  
+43 1 534 30-5150, [kulturvermittlung@weltmuseumwien.at](mailto:kulturvermittlung@weltmuseumwien.at)

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).  
#DustAndSilk  
#WeltmuseumWien

## MEDIA ACCREDITATION

Journalists visiting the KHM-Museumsverband for professional purposes are entitled to free admission to its exhibitions and locations. For this purpose, you need to register via [info.pr@weltmuseumwien.at](mailto:info.pr@weltmuseumwien.at) at least two working days in advance.

We request that, in addition to mentioning your medium, you also specify the date of your visit and attach a scan of your valid press pass.

Many thanks for your understanding!



**PRESS CONTACT**

Nina Auinger-Sutterlüty, MAS (Head of Department)

Mag. Sarah Aistleitner

KHM-Museumsverband

T +43 1 525 24 -4021 / -4025

[info.pr@weltmuseumwien.at](mailto:info.pr@weltmuseumwien.at)