



Jung Im Yang

H-flux Gallery is pleased to announce the solo exhibition “Pale Shadows,” featuring new works by Jung Im Yang. This body of work explores the repressed inner selves of individuals shaped by societal norms and expectations. The title of the exhibition, “Pale Shadows,” refers to the faint remnants of the soul, spirit, or inner self—referred to as “Eol” (얼) in Korean—that each individual possesses, and which is often stifled by the pressures of socialization and the superego imposed by society. In Korean, “Eolgul” (얼굴), meaning “face,” is composed of two elements: “Eol” (soul) and “Gul” (굴), which can mean cave, shape, or vessel. Thus, the face can be seen as a vessel that holds the soul. However, as the artist suggests, modern society has become a force of repression, limiting our freedom and suppressing authentic emotional expression.

The figures depicted in this series are both self-portraits and tragic characters, representing the artist's empathy with the struggles of contemporary individuals. The landscapes and objects in the works also symbolize a mechanized and dehumanizing world, driven by materialism and an impersonal system that further suppresses individuality. “Pale Shadows” invites viewers to contemplate the contrast between the inner and outer selves and to reflect on the impact of societal structures on personal identity and expression.