



WAVE HILL SUNROOMPROJECTSPACE

August 31 - October 13, 2024

SOEUN BAE

Liquid Arrangement

SOEUN BAE

Born in South Korea
Lives in Brooklyn, NY

Performance still of *Provider (Breeding / Breathing)*, 2024, silicone, carpet, concrete, glass, ceramic, steel, flock, tubing, polyactide, epoxy, foam, digital print. Courtesy of the artist.

Multidisciplinary artist Soeun Bae uses sculpture, technology and performance to explore the concept of living within a body subject to dissection, mechanization and objectification. The exhibition *Liquid Arrangement* presents hypothetical sculptural tools designed for the regeneration of hybrid organisms that rely on human-made and controlled environments. The exhibition is partially inspired by the plant life in the Tropical House of the Marco Polo Stufano Conservatory at Wave Hill, originally designed and built in 1906 to house plants from warmer regions around the world. Here, plants thrive with the help of human hands which ensure adequate ventilation, watering, temperature and humidity. Bae also abstracts objects and their design from other frameworks of care, such as clinical treatment, intimate relationships and maternal nurturing, loosely referencing the anatomy of living forms, anthropology, human behavior and emotions.

Much like the word map hanging on the wall of the artist's studio, which organizes her thoughts through associated terms and opposing ideas, *Liquid Arrangement* charts a creative process of organizing forms that defy fixed meaning and classification. The scrutinization of the female body—whether through clinical observation, sexualization in material culture or performance histories—is central to Bae's thinking. Each object or grouping reflects ideas created, accepted or rejected through their interaction.

Individual works within the installation, titled *Provider*, *Navel Tube* and *Breather*, for example, address reproductive systems and the production of goods and services through the relationships between human, non-human and object. Employing both synthetic and organic materials to meander through binary relationships—including anatomy and consciousness, structure and disorganization, ally and antagonist—Bae's exploration of forms suggest a mechanism for understanding function, dependency and the potential for restoration. *Liquid Arrangement* reflects not only on our responsibility to nurture the existing human-made environment but also to create new care systems that necessitate agency and bodily autonomy.

Soeun Bae was born in South Korea, raised in Alabama and is based in New York. She received a 2023 T&W Contemporary Visual Art Award from the AHL Foundation and was a 2024 artist-in-residence at Anderson Ranch Arts Center in Snowmass Village, CO, as well as a resident at NARS Foundation and Velvetpark Media, both in New York, NY. Bae earned a BFA in sculpture from the Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI.

PUBLIC PROGRAM: Meet the Artists: Sun, Sep 15, 11 AM, Dario Mohr; 12 PM, Jordany Genao; 1 PM, Soeun Bae. Fall Exhibitions Reception: Sun, Sep 29, 2:30 – 4:30 PM.

Organized by Curator of Visual Arts Rachel Raphaela Gugelberger, the Sunroom Project Space provides an opportunity for emerging artists in the New York City area to develop and present a site-specific project as a solo exhibition. The 2024 season features: Tao Leigh Goffe, Katherine Sepúlveda, Roger Ferney-Cortés, Soeun Bae, Jordany Genao, Dario Mohr and Stephanie Beck, consecutively

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