

JEONG WOOKYUNG

ARTIST PROFILE · Knitting is Love

I have worked as a painter for many years, based and working across Seoul, Sejong, and Daejeon, South Korea. After graduating from Mokwon University, I continued to present my work in Korea and abroad. In 2024, I received the Special Prize of the 22nd Lee Donghoon Art Award, followed by an award exhibition at Daejeon Museum of Art in 2025. In March 2026, I presented the solo exhibition *Les fils de l'amour* at Atelier Gustave in Paris.

My practice began with a childhood memory of my mother knitting. The time, patience, and care contained in each stitch she made for her daughter remained with me as an image of love.

Knitting is Love.

I do not attach real yarn. With paint and a fine brush, I build small stitch-like marks one by one on canvas. From a distance the surface can resemble knitted fabric; up close, it reveals thousands and sometimes tens of thousands of individual brushstrokes. I call this approach Knitting-style Painting: not an imitation of knitting, but a painterly method based on connection and the accumulation of time, labor, memory, and relationship.

Past, Present and...

My central series *Past, Present and...* begins from the belief that the past does not disappear. Memories remain within the present and meet our choices to form another layer of time.

The Korean word *그리고* in the title carries a deliberate double meaning. It can mean 'and,' leaving the next moment open, but it can also be heard as a form of the verb 'to draw' or 'to paint.' The title can therefore also mean 'painting the past and the present.' It speaks about time while naming the act of the painter.

From Connection to Space

My work has continually connected mother and daughter, past and present, one person and another, and human beings with nature. Through *Earth and Energy*, the knitted structure expanded from a surface that formed images into a structure capable of generating energy and space.

More recently, I have folded, curved, and expanded canvas beyond the flat picture plane. I call this the 'multiplex of painting.' For me, painting is a continuing act of carrying the thread of love forward - a practice of living in the world.