

A.I.R.

Haus of Bongba **Jongbum Kim**

October 15–November 13, 2022

Opening reception: Saturday, October 15 from 6–8pm

GALLERY II



Jongbum Kim, *Haus of Bongba*, 2022, Recycled fabric, garments, yarns, beads, 120 x 150 x 91 inches.

A.I.R. Gallery is pleased to announce *Haus of Bongba*, an exhibition by Jongbum Kim. *Haus of Bongba* features a new body of work consisting of hand-drawn illustrations, made with watercolors, colored pencils, and pen, that are then digitally printed on recycled cotton, satin jersey, chiffon, silk, and quilts. Creating an installation and sanctuary that expresses unity in diversity and non-duality, Kim brings together a wide variety of materials—including recycled beads, hotfix rhinestones, donated yarns, and balloons—via the techniques of machine knitting, crochet, ruching, and needle felting. Kim's illustrations and soft sculptures explode the binary categories that often limit our world, generating a utopia where fantasy characters and multicultural communities can interact free from the boundaries of gender, cast, and creed. This is Kim's first solo exhibition in New York City.

Jongbum Kim is a New York-based designer/artist who explores the ideas of multicultural communities and gender. With a strong belief in seeing the world and experiencing it firsthand, Kim's designs are filled with color and symbolism, both literal and figurative, engaging the viewer and provoking them to respond. They strive to create paintings and fiber artwork that help express their personal voice and journey so far. Recent group exhibitions include *Materialistic* at Mana Contemporary in Jersey City, *Industrious Bodies* at Donna Karen's Urban Zen Foundation in New York City, and *Windows Open to the Sky*, presented in collaboration with Design Pavilion, ARTSTHREAD, NYC x Design, Artemide, Society Limonta, and Interior Define in New York City. Kim's work has been featured in Al-Tiba9's contemporary art magazine in Spain and Algeria, in *Embroidery* magazine in London, England, and has been reviewed online by the blog Textile Curator and American Tapestry Alliance. Kim attended The New School Parsons School of Design for their MFA in Textiles and received a BA(Hons) in Fashion Design Womenswear from Central Saint Martins, University of Arts London.

A.I.R. Gallery is wheelchair accessible via ramp. There are accessible toilets in the venue. There is comfortable seating with backs. Free tap water is available. The venue is nearest to the F train at York St (0.2 miles) and the A train at High St (0.5 miles). The nearest wheelchair accessible trains is the B, Q, R at Dekalb Av (1.1 miles) and the 2, 3 at Borough Hall (0.8 miles). The roads immediately surrounding the gallery are cobblestone. The nearest accessible parking garage (for an hourly fee) is two blocks away at 100 Jay St. No ID necessary for entry. Please contact info@airgallery.org for more information.

