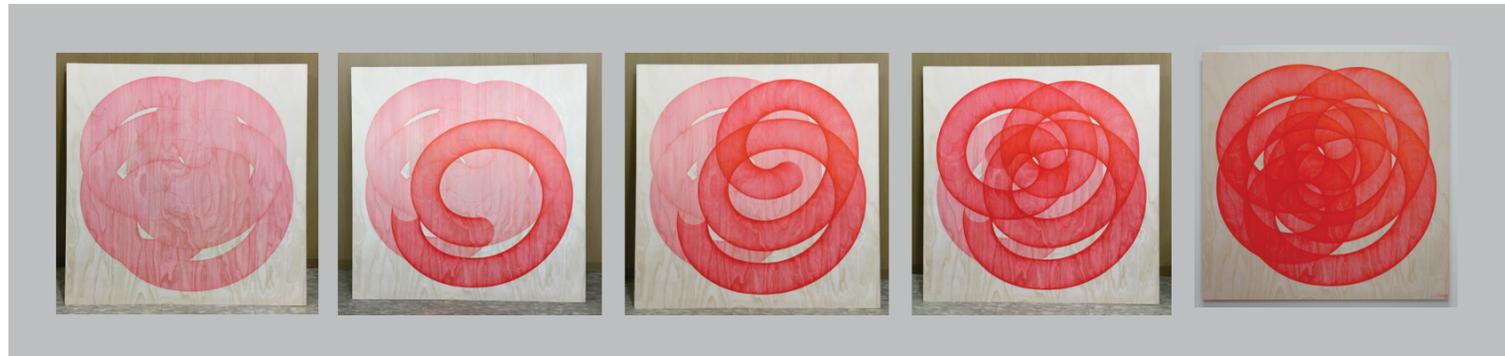




Paju, South Korea
 I grew up in a small rural village that was embraced by layer of mountains in South Korea, and studied Sculpture at Chungang UNIV in Korea, and did my M.F.A in Brooklyn college CUNY.

I find it's hard to draw a line between the real and the imaginary, and that line is where I start. my work arises from the boundaries of what is real and what is not. it helps me deal with life better, one step at a time.

instagram.com/cheolyuk



Cheolyu and Kia's exchange ended up centering on the motif of the heart. It began when Cheolyu shared some drawings built up in red on a wood panel background, which Kia responded to with a similar series, meditating on the need to focus on cooperation, vulnerability and togetherness to move through our current difficulties. Cheolyu's final work is a tree existing improbably in deep space, a heart at its core.

For this project I knew I wanted to create a piece that signifies interconnection. My collaboration partner's pieces reminded me of just that. We all have a heart and are intrinsically connected through it. Metaphorically and physiologically, the heart represents the center of all things. I felt that this was an appropriate symbol to represent in these transformational times. We must change the ways in which we have been living, from the toxic capitalistic system that puts profit before nature and humanity to how we connect with ourselves and each other. We must move towards cooperation, vulnerability and togetherness. Listening to our hearts will help us get there.



Portland, Oregon, USA

Kia Zora is a third generation artist born and raised in the Pacific Northwest. Her upbringing was imbued with nature, art and adventures with her many brothers. Though self taught, Zora is influenced and inspired by a strong community of like-minded creatives.



Zora investigates the deep and often unseen ways we are connected to each other through nature. These relationships are mysterious to us. In a visual dreamscape Zora represents the ecological relationships that underpin our shared experience. Elements in her work, including the exposed "insides," symbolize a merging of the outer world with that of our inner selves.

kiazora.com



Cheolyu Kim and Kia Zora

Tree's growing, moving, and floating. There is heart in the beginning. my tree is planet in the deep space.



"Planet Tree, Hexapod #61" Pen on birch wood panel 16" x 16"



'Love and Grief' Acrylic on board 12" x 12"

