

ARTIST STATEMENT · THESIS ABSTRACT

A Home of One's Choosing

Women, Thresholds, and Self-Determined Belonging

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Home, in this project,
is not a fixed location.

It is an emotional and psychological state, continuously shaped through movement, imagination, and personal choice.



Plate I. Rest by Water — Home as Posture.

ABSTRACT · CONTINUED

A Home of One's Choosing reinterprets the visual language of Korean minhwa and East Asian ink-wash painting to explore women's dreams, freedom, movement, and self-determination. The work began from deeply personal questions about longing, rest, and the desire to live beyond predetermined roles. Through the process, those private emotions widened into a broader reflection on the quiet aspirations carried by women across generations.

Recurring symbols — doors, paths, mountains, water, trees, and celestial imagery — represent transition, emotional expansion, and the possibility of self-chosen worlds. The female figure is small within the landscape: not in weakness, but in scale to a world large enough to walk through. The six paintings are conceived as a contemporary byeongpung (병풍, the Korean folding screen) — one continuous landscape of thresholds, read left to right.

Visually, the work merges minhwa, ink-wash, decorative symbolism, and the structural logic of the folding screen with contemporary editorial illustration. The materials carry their own history: hanji paper, mineral pigment bound in nikawa glue, and wooden panel. Together they read as a quiet, living language for questions the artist has been asking since long before the work began.

ON SEQUENCE

The six works are arranged as a quiet journey toward self-chosen belonging. The sequence begins with rest: a woman in a hammock, allowing herself stillness before departure. From there, the figure rises into an imagined sky, crosses water, finds joy in the city, pauses before an open mountain landscape, and finally returns through the air by balloon. Read in order, the series moves from private rest to movement, expansion, pleasure, reflection, and arrival. Home is not the place she begins or ends, but the state she gradually learns to choose for herself.

What worlds do we inherit?

How far are we allowed to go?

What does home truly mean?

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Plate VI. Sky Crossing — Threshold in Air.
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