

EXHIBITION TEXT

Esther Schipper is pleased to announce a duo presentation with works by Young Joon Kwak and Eusung Lee. Brought into dialogue, on view is a suite of new sculptural and relief works by the respective artists. The exhibition is presented in collaboration with Commonwealth and Council, Los Angeles.

For this presentation, Young Joon Kwak's Choreography for **Divine Transitions (Gestures)** (2025), an expansive, cumulative group of sculptural works, is arranged center stage. Cast from friends and collaborators, the sculptures represent an ensemble of bodily fragments. Each sculpture's concave resin surface is burnished with pigmented wax, "fleshing out" embodied impressions. A shield covered with shards of mirrored glass, the convex shells act as protection—and lure the viewer into an orchestrated encounter. **Trans 삼태극** (2025), a new relief by the artist is adorned by rhinestones in pastel pinks, blues, and iridescent white. Shimmering, refracting the gallery's spotlights, the tondo's color code references the transgender pride flag. In a symbolic gesture Kwak reenvisions, in their own words, "the traditional primary color scheme of sam-taegeuk—representing earth, heaven, and humanity—to embrace and safeguard all bodies in transformation."

Eusung Lee's tripartite wall sculptures **Eponym**, **Bucentaur**, and **Study of Model A** (all 2025) are installed throughout the exhibition space. Part of her **Symbolon** series, they depict bisected halves: a hand-carved wooden leg, wings made of fabric and yarn, a metallic model of Alef's flying car. These works appear to be on a collision course propelled by flights of fancy and technological innovations. With their seams exposed, their uncanny compositions reveal fissures in the building blocks of evolutionary progress. Co-opting a visual lexicon of movement and accelerated speed, the **Symbolon** series limns the threshold of imagination confounded by fraught egos.

A conversation between Young Joon Kwak and Eusung Lee accompanies the exhibition.

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Cover image, Exhibition view: Exhibition view: **Young Joon Kwak & Eusung Lee**, Esther Schipper, Seoul (2025)