



WONMIN PARK

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

“In my designs, I want objects to speak for themselves. To be beautiful, attractive and engage with their surroundings. My work embraces simplicity, purity, and subtlety. People who experience my design have the space to explore their own sensations and emotions,” says Wonmin Park.

Wonmin Park was born in 1982 in Seoul, South Korea. After graduating from the Design Academy, in Eindhoven in 2011, Park worked with a series of prestigious design companies in the Netherlands before establishing Studio Wonmin Park in 2012. He later established a production facility in Rotterdam and a creative studio in Paris.

To highlight the aesthetic appeal of his pieces, Park uses resin and metal – materials selected for their ability to create a surreal, dream-like quality. “I like resin because of its colour, transparency, and texture, but it is not a strong material. Therefore, I needed to create a certain form of structure,” explains Park. The artist combines these two seemingly opposite materials – one transparent and opaque, the other fragile and sturdy – with perfection. This combination of materials gives the viewer the illusion that Park’s artworks are simply bound together by light and air. In the painting process, Park begins by mixing of primary pigments to create an envisioned colour. The pigments are added to moulds of the resin sections and a muted colouration is obtained within the slabs to maintain their translucency – an element that allows the colours to engage each other in the joints of the structures he creates. Park’s designs sit on the axis between minimal and practical, but always contain an element of dissonance that creates a sense of balance and tension within the work. His furniture takes the shape of a sculpture which demands to be visually appreciated and his designs are considered practical commodities as well as fine art.

Park now lives and works in Paris, a city he considers essential for its historical and cultural design heritage. His work will be included in the upcoming *MONUMENTAL* exhibition at Ladbroke Hall in 2024. His work has also been included in many exhibitions globally including Salone del Mobile, the Guild Design Fair, Cape Town, South Africa, the National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Seoul, South Korea, the Musée des Arts Decoratifs, Paris, France. In 2023, Wonmin Park collaborated with Dior to create the *Lady Dior Ice Bag* – using resin to express the ice.

Park received his first awards in 2014. He won the Wallpaper* Design Awards for Best transparency and was chosen as Global star designer at the Korea Institute of Design Promotion. Park was also nominated for the IMM Cologne’s D3 Contest Awards. The following year he was the winner of the Rising Asian Talent Award for Maison et Objet. In 2022 Park won the Wallpaper* Design Award again for Best odes to nature ‘Plain cuts stone & steel’.

AWARDS

2015

/ Maison & Objet, Rising Asian Talent Awards.

2014

/ Wallpaper* Design Awards 2014, Best Transparency.

/ Global star designer, Korea Institute of Design Promotion.

EXHIBITIONS AND FAIRS

2018

/ 'Plain Cuts', Carpenters Workshop Gallery, New York, USA.

2017

/ 'Plain Cuts', Carpenters Workshop Gallery, Paris, France.

/ PAD London, Solo Show, Carpenters Workshop Gallery, London, UK.

2016

/ 'New Works Only', Carpenters Workshop Gallery, Paris, France.

/ PAD London, Carpenters Workshop Gallery, London, UK.

2015

/ 'Korea Now', Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris, France.

/ 'Haze', Carpenters Workshop Gallery, Paris, France.

2014

/ Design Korea, Seoul, South Korea.

/ Design in Full Colour, Dutch Design Week, Eindhoven, the Netherlands.

/ Korea tomorrow, Seoul, South Korea.

/ Porto Cervo, Sardinia, Italy.

/ National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea, Seoul, South Korea.

/ Viaduct, 25+, London, UK.

/ Museo Bagatti Valsecchi, Salone del mobile, Milan, Italy.

/ Spazio Rossana Orlandi, Salone del mobile, Milan, Italy.

/ Guild Design Fair, Cape town, South Africa.

/ imm cologne – D3 Contest, Cologne, Germany.

2013

/ Design Miami/Basel, Miami, USA.

/ Eat Drink Design@Kazerne, Dutch Design Week, Eindhoven, the Netherlands.

/ Inside Design Amsterdam, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

/ National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea, Seoul, South Korea.

/ Porto Cervo, Sardinia, Italy.

/ Post Milan, Frozen fountain, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

/ Spazio Rossana Orlandi, Salone del mobile, Milan, Italy.

/ Design Days Dubai, Dubai, UAE.

2012

/ Graduation Show, Design Academy Eindhoven, Eindhoven, the Netherlands.

/ Inside Design Amsterdam, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

/ DMY International Design Festival, Berlin, Germany.

/ '50' Design Academy Eindhoven, Salone del Mobile, Milan, Italy.

MUSEUM REFERENCES

National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art / Seoul, Korea, 2021.

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