

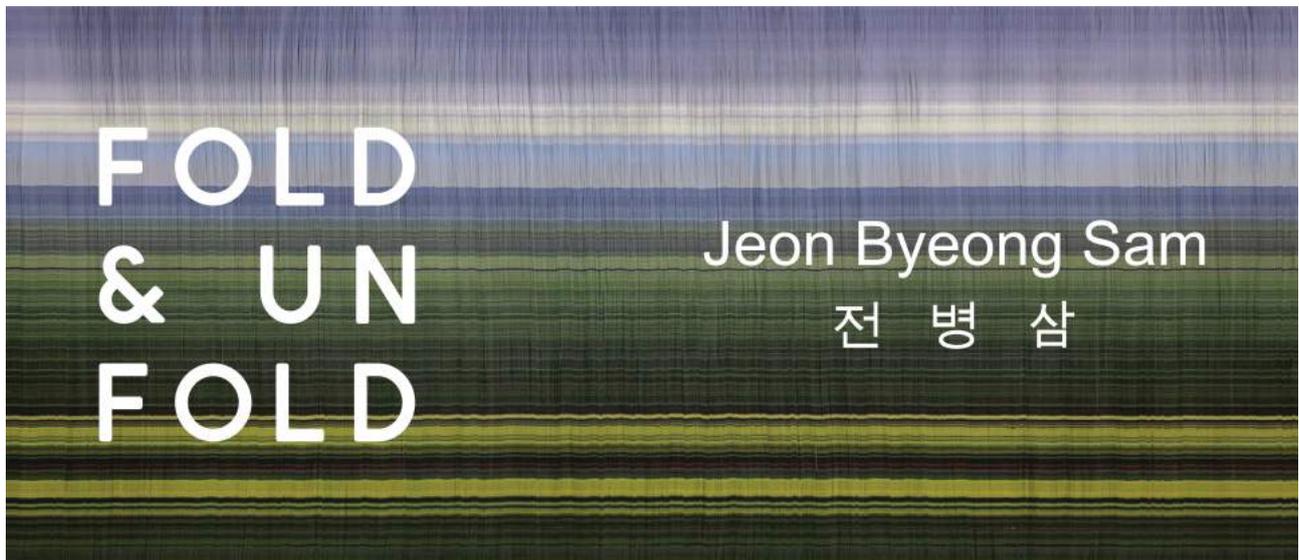
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## ***Fold & Unfold***

Solo exhibition by Jeon Byeong Sam

2 July - 27 August 2021

Free Entry



The Columns Gallery is pleased to present '*Fold & Unfold*', its first solo exhibition of the works by Korean contemporary artist Jeon Byeong Sam. The exhibition - titled based on David Bohm's quantum theory - features four series of framed mixed-media, diptych prints, a video and some NFT pieces, exploring the intertwined relationship of sculpture, print and image-making.

Many half-folded photographic prints, stacked and layered in various uniformed arrangements, serves as the primary construction for the serial works of *Moment*, *Cosmo*, *Wave*, and *Blossom*. Jeon reduces the formal qualities of an image to a mere thin line of ink exposed through its straight edge, similar to a single row of stuck pixels on a glitched screen.

In *Unfold*, a pair of square prints feature a central glowing light flare made out of texts extracted from books. Words are resized, arrowed and highlighted to appear as tiny bursting rays of yellow lines against a starkly contrasted background - bright and gleaming ethereally.

These unconventional manipulation and qualities are also present in his NFT works and *Lost*, a framed video display of moving vibrant elongated stripes derived from a warped image of a tower bridge in London. Played in a loop, the lines constantly vibrate, emerge and disappear in various linear configurations to capture the hypnotic experience of walking across one.

Through Jeon's deconstructive approach, all representational subject and original context of the print, image or text becomes rendered insignificant, distorted and repeated to create a unique spread and echo of gradient blurs and colours. Visually, they are a materialisation of freedom - calming waves, blooming flower forms and inviting wormhole-like portals to other worlds which serves as an immersive space for one's introspection on life.

Transforming the materiality of media, the inventive and playful works in '*Fold & Unfold*' creates a dynamic installation that fully immerses the viewer in a sensorial experience, poetically tackling themes of entrapment and freedom in the daily lives of individuals.



Jeon Byeong Sam, *London Tower Bridge*, 2019  
1 min digital video (looped), 68 × 109 cm  
© Jeon Byeong Sam, courtesy of artist and The Columns Gallery



Jeon Byeong Sam, *Chinese Bills*, 2020  
1000 half-folded photographs stacked, 105 × 105 cm  
© Jeon Byeong Sam, courtesy of artist and The Columns Gallery



Jeon Byeong Sam, *Cosmos*, 2019  
2000 half-folded photographs rolled, 120 × 120 cm  
© Jeon Byeong Sam, courtesy of artist and The Columns Gallery



Jeon Byeong Sam, *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind*, 2020  
Digital colour print on aluminium (diasec), 150 × 150 cm  
© Jeon Byeong Sam, courtesy of artist and The Columns Gallery

## About the Artist



JEON BYEONG SAM (b. 1977, Seoul) is a South Korean artist who works primarily with everyday objects and images. Employing strategic processes of appropriation, repetition, and rearrangement to large quantities of data (both digital and physical), he revisits the social conventions hidden within and transforms them into meaningful artwork that traverse the two-dimensional and three-dimensional.

Jeon was trained in Sculpture at Hongik University, Korea. He holds two master's degree, one in Fine Arts from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and another in Information and Computer Science from the University of California, Irvine. For the past fifteen years, his artworks have been featured internationally, including: UNESCO (France); SIAF (Japan); SIGGRAPH (USA); ISIMD (Turkey); AsiaGraph (China); ArtBots (Ireland); Salon (Cuba); LIFE (Russia); Netfilmmakers (Denmark); Siggraph ASIA (Singapore), amongst others.

## About The Columns Gallery

First established in New York in 1994 by executive director Dong Jo Chang, The Columns Gallery came to bear its name in 2005 after moving its operations to Seoul, South Korea. Over the last 27 years, the gallery has cemented its reputation as one of the most powerful contemporary art galleries in Asia. The Columns Gallery aims to bridge connections between East Asian artists and the global market by increasing their presence in the international art scene.

Since its opening in Gillman Barracks, Singapore in 2012, The Columns Gallery has also expanded its mission to include the promotion of emerging and established Southeast Asian artists in the region. With far-reaching roots in Korea and Singapore, The Columns Gallery is perfectly positioned to seamlessly navigate the worldwide market, as well as support exchanges between East Asia and Southeast Asia.

## About Gillman Barracks

Set in a former military barracks dating back to 1936 and surrounded by lush tropical greenery, the Gillman Barracks visual arts cluster was launched in 2012. Gillman Barracks' vision is to be Asia's destination for the presentation and discussion of international and Southeast Asian art. Today, Gillman Barracks is a place for art lovers, art collectors, and those curious about art. The cluster is a focal point of Singapore's arts landscape and anchors the development of visual art in the region and beyond. For more information: [www.gillmanbarracks.com](http://www.gillmanbarracks.com)

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### The Columns Gallery

Gillman Barracks  
22 Lock Road 01-35  
S108939

Gallery hours:  
Tue-Fri: 11am - 7pm  
Sun: 12pm - 6pm  
Closed on Mondays &  
Public Holidays

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### Covid-19 update:

In accordance with the current advisory from the Singapore Government, we require all visitors to check-in using SafeEntry and to wear their masks during the duration of their visit.