

Material Dialogue Concept Statement

For Collect 2021, we are in residence at Gallery O, NEUL in Jeju Island in South Korea, curating the physical exhibition 'Material Dialogue'. The exhibition showcases Korean contemporary craft as a creative dialogue between artists and their materials.

The concept of exploring the relationship between the materials and the artist, came to me whilst I was preparing my usual studio visits after returning from London last spring. By that time Korea had Covid 19 under control but people had stopped socializing, and I had been nervous to make these visits to artists – I wondered how they would feel after this stressful time? However, one particular artist welcomed me as usual, as if he hadn't been aware of what was happening in the world. He explained that 'nothing had changed' for him. Self-isolation is everyday life to the incredible craft artists that we work with. They find consolation and peace within their dialogue with their materials. I wanted to showcase this important conversation, this interaction that leads to the artworks that we'll see presented. So, we too can better understand and experience this consolation and inner peace.

The exhibition will present eleven Korean master craftsmen and established artists who are working with ceramics, metal, mother of pearl, natural lacquer, silver and textile including two of Lowe Craft Prize 2021 finalists whom are new to the Collect.

Lloyd Choi
Lloyd Choi Gallery Director

To see available works, please click [here](#).

To arrange virtual viewing, please click please [here](#).