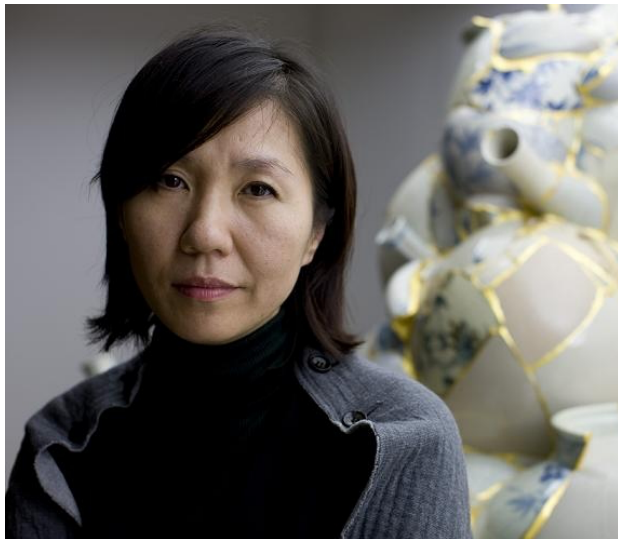


Artist Handout

Artist: “Yee Sookyung” is a South Korean artist who uses her art to communicate the idea that the “wounds” she has gotten in her life are the important parts and is what shapes her. The repaired **Ceramics** with the embellished cracks, highlights the hardships of the past, instead of hiding them. To put the pieces together we will use “**Caulk**” - A class of adhesives that we will be using to glue our ceramics back together.



“Sookyung posing in front of her art”

World and Audience

Sookyung talks about how the “master potter” will throw away 70% of their ceramics. But Sookyung finds the beauty in

these and creates her own art with them. Despite their past they are still beautiful. In an interview Sookyung was asked “Who are you and what’s your relationship to clay and ceramics?” Sookyung responded with “I am an artist who works in many different media. I am best known for my Translated Vase series, sculptures reconstructed from discarded fragments of old Korean ceramics. I piece together the smashed fragments of ceramics which have been created and then destroyed by Korean Masters. In this way I mutate the vases with 24K gold leaf over the cracks.” The main focus of our project is “**Pride**” – “A reasonable or justifiable self-respect” specifically, past experiences that hurt or “broke you” at the time, but you are now **proud** of these experiences.

Artwork

The name for this type of pottery repair is “**Kintsugi**” - The

Japanese art of repairing ceramics in a way that highlights the cracks instead of hides them. Sookyung pieces these pots back together in a way that creates a new form out of the old broken pots. Why do you think she does this? Instead of putting the pots back together “normal”. In your art piece do you want to put it back the same way? Or make a more abstract form?



Yeesookyung – Translated Vase,
2011, Ceramic trash, epoxy, 24K gold
leaf, 66 x 64 x 97 cm

Subjective Frame

What sorts of hardships or mistakes have happened in your past that you now feel **proud** of? How will you channel these emotions into your piece? How do the shapes and colors of Sookyungs sculptures change your interpretation of them? And why do you think she paints the cracks gold?

Structural Frame

How has Sookyung put the ceramic pieces back together? Why did Sookyung choose to repair the ceramics in this way?

Cultural Frame

How do these experiences shape who you are, and shape your culture? How do these influence your art? Do you want to share these values in your art?

Postmodern

Our “imperfections” are something we should be **proud** of and embrace. How can you express this in your art?

Vocabulary

Ceramics- Pots and other articles that are made from clay are hardened by heat

Epoxy- A class of adhesives that we will be using to glue our ceramics back together.

Kintsugi- The Japanese art of repairing ceramics in a way that highlights the cracks instead of hides them.



Yeesookyung, *Translated Vase*,
2013, Los Angeles County Museum
of Art



Ideas for Artwork and Research

Think of something in your past that you are now **proud** of and want to show off.

Either break the ceramic first or paint a design on your ceramic before you break it.

Piece your ceramics back together in whatever way you like. Alternatively, you may also make a 2-D version of kintsugi. Piecing together multiple

fragments of ceramic to make an artwork.

Helena Hauss

Helena Hauss created a series named “Hell Hath no Fury”. In this series Hauss uses her work to defy the gender stereotype that women are weaker than men by creating weapons out of ceramic, which is a brittle material. The weapons are actually very strong and sturdy, which plays into her meaning that women are strong.



Helena Hauss hand paints ceramic weapons in delft blue style to champion female fierceness

Compare and Contrast

How do the artists both use their artwork to empower themselves in different ways?

What are both artists trying to say with their work?

When working with ceramics, how are the artists' works different and similar?