

# TINA KIM GALLERY

## Mire Lee *Carriers*

September 15 – October 22, 2022

For her first solo exhibition with Tina Kim Gallery, Mire Lee presents *Carriers*, the continental debut of her eponymous body of work shown at Art Sonje, Korea in 2020, and the Schinkel Pavillon in 2021.

In the front gallery, a spectral video depicting Lee's mother is projected onto a cast monolithic form, joined by a slippery curtain, and other grayscale sculptural casts, molded from functional objects that "carry" in their day-to-day utility.

Deeper into the space, Lee's quasi-biomorphic "carriers" hide suspended behind a filthy, maze-like wall of used concrete molds, spurting an unidentifiable fluid out of a circulatory pump system commonly used in both dialysis treatments and industrial manufacturing. A long tank catches the flesh tone discharge, pooling before it is spit back out from the carriers' unending, regurgatory struggle.

A telling reference for Lee is *vore*, a fetish involving the impossible urge to swallow the object of one's desire in a total annihilation of boundary between self and other, necessitating a supreme violence. Rather than offer a clear aggressor or desiring party, *Carriers*, both the work and as an exhibition, instead turns to uncompromising partiality, reminiscent of the familiar or bodily in its spurting cavities without committing to a single, identifiable form.

The exhibition coincides with Lee's presentations in the Venice Biennale, the Busan Biennale, and the 58th Carnegie International, in addition to two earlier solo shows at the MMK Frankfurt and the Kunstmuseum Den Haag in 2022.

### **ABOUT MIRE LEE**

Mire Lee (b. 1988) lives and works between Seoul, South Korea and Amsterdam, Netherlands. She earned a bachelor's degree from the Department of Sculpture (2012) and a graduate degree in media art (2013) at the Seoul National University College of Fine Arts. Her recent solo exhibitions include *Carriers*, Tina Kim Gallery, New York (2022), *Look, I'm a fountain of filth raving mad with love* at ZOLLAMTMMK, MMK Frankfurt (2022), *As we lay dying*, Kunstmuseum Den Haag, Netherlands (2022), *Carriers* at Art Sonje Center, Seoul (2020), and *words were never enough*, Lily Roberts, Paris (2020).

Lee's work was also featured in several group exhibitions including presentations at the Busan Biennale (2022), 59<sup>th</sup> International Venice Biennale (2022), 58<sup>th</sup> Carnegie International (2022), Schinkel Pavillon, Berlin (2021), Kunstverein Freiburg, Freiburg (2021), Het HEM, Zaandam (2021), Marwan, Amsterdam (2020), Antenna Space, Shanghai (2020), Niet Normaal Foundation, Den Bosch (2020), Laurel Project Space, Amsterdam (2019), the 15 Biennale de Lyon, Lyon (2019), Art Sonje, Seoul (2019), and the 12<sup>th</sup> Gwangju Biennale Pavilion Project (2018). She was the recipient of the 2022 PONTOPREIS MMK prize and was shortlisted for the Special Prize at the 2021 Future Generation Art Prize.