

# **Look, look. Anna Park**

## **Artwork Labels**

Wall text:

## **Look, look. Anna Park**

Chaotic collages of smiling women and bedroom  
whispers that mask our darkest projections.  
Speed streaks that generate constant calls to action.  
Drawings that exude a yearning for liberation.  
Emancipation that never quite materialises.

Anna Park is a major new figure in contemporary drawing. Born in Daegu, South Korea in 1996, she has swiftly gained international recognition for her richly detailed charcoal and ink works on paper that teeter between figuration and expressive abstraction.

Taking inspiration from popular culture, communal experiences and more personal interpersonal exchanges, Park addresses the cultural construction and perception of identity, sexuality, and power within our increasingly media-saturated social environments. In doing so, her works deploy a form of nostalgic montaging, as she remixes elements from various art movements and styles, including Pop art from Andy Warhol to Marjorie Strider and Ed Ruscha, comic artists such as R. Crumb and Ralph Steadman, and the politically directed graphic collages of Barbara Kruger. Laced with signifiers from Park's generational zeitgeist, her satirical drawings make visible the ongoing societal pressure to conform to beauty standards and gender norms that reach across race, sexuality and class.

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*Look, look. Anna Park* is her first museum exhibition outside the United States. Spanning two gallery spaces, it features a new group of her signature large-scale black and white drawings made especially for this presentation.

AGWA's Simon Lee Foundation Institute of Contemporary Asian Art is delighted to have been able to support this significant moment in Park's career and to share her work with Australian audiences for the first time.

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SIMON LEE FOUNDATION  
TO CHAMPION THE HUMAN SPIRIT

  
Australia-Korea FOUNDATION

The Fini  
Family

  
SINGAPORE  
AIRLINES

# **Anna Park**

born 1996 Daegu, South Korea

## **Look, look.**

2024

charcoal, ink, paint, foam, paper mounted on panel

Courtesy of the artist and BLUM, Los Angeles/New York/Tokyo

# **Anna Park**

born 1996 Daegu, South Korea

## **Wishing You Well**

2024

charcoal, ink, paint, foam, paper mounted on panel

Courtesy of the artist and BLUM, Los Angeles/New York/Tokyo

# **Anna Park**

born 1996 Daegu, South Korea

## **Good Girl**

2024

charcoal, ink, paint, foam, paper mounted on panel

Courtesy of the artist and BLUM, Los Angeles/New York/Tokyo

# **Anna Park**

born 1996 Daegu, South Korea

## **My Pleasure!**

2024

charcoal, ink, paint, foam, paper mounted on panel

Courtesy of the artist and BLUM, Los Angeles/New York/Tokyo

# **Anna Park**

born 1996 Daegu, South Korea

## **Last Words**

2024

charcoal, ink, paint, foam, paper mounted on panel

Courtesy of the artist and BLUM, Los Angeles/New York/Tokyo



# **Anna Park**

born 1996 Daegu, South Korea

## **Thank You**

2024

charcoal, ink, paint, foam, paper mounted on panel

Courtesy of the artist and BLUM, Los Angeles/New York/Tokyo

# **Anna Park**

born 1996 Daegu, South Korea

## **Picture that**

2024

charcoal, ink, paint, foam, paper mounted on panel

Courtesy of the artist and BLUM, Los Angeles/New York/Tokyo

# **Anna Park**

born 1996 Daegu, South Korea

## **Finders Keepers**

2024

charcoal, ink, paint, foam, paper mounted on panel

Courtesy of the artist and BLUM, Los Angeles/New York/Tokyo

# **Anna Park**

born 1996 Daegu, South Korea

## **Don't Mind If I Do**

2024

charcoal, ink, paint, foam, paper mounted on panel

Courtesy of the artist and BLUM, Los Angeles/New York/Tokyo

# **Anna Park**

born 1996 Daegu, South Korea

## **Just Imagine!**

2024

charcoal, ink, paint, foam, paper mounted on panel

Courtesy of the artist and BLUM, Los Angeles/New York/Tokyo

Wall text:

What I aspired to be was built from the way women are presented in mass media. Filtered images of women in advertisements and on screen who were always depicted as nothing more than 'perfect'. They were rarely created to be multidimensional beings. I see the female figures I present in these works as a vessel of my own self. Women who reflect a certain "ideal" yet are placed within an environment consumed by chaos that disregards her own comfort.

**ANNA PARK**

Having immigrated from South Korea to the United States as a child, Anna Park's earliest experiences of Western culture were shaped by current and past American screen stories and advertisements. In this exhibition, she combines these influences with common phrases and fragmented female figures sourced from mid-century advertisements, comic books, American pop culture and questionable historical texts. Familiar images collide with disjointed dialogue, speech bubbles and captions as Park departs from linear narrative to mirror the complex process of identity formation experienced during her formative years.

Beyond her personal experience, these energetic images reflect the overwhelming nature of our daily information consumption and the perpetual accessibility of internet culture.

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The interplay of text and images follows the constant flow of thoughts amidst this sea of mis/information, altering the tone and intent of clichéd expressions. The near hallucinatory experience Park creates is heightened further by her use of collage and cut-out techniques to fashion drawings that are equally part-sculptural relief. Physically occupying space with us, these artworks engage us in a joint exploration of how mass media shapes and perpetuates cycles of idealisation and denigration in our collective un/consciousness.

# **Anna Park**

born 1996 Daegu, South Korea

## **For Reference**

2024

charcoal, ink, paint, foam, paper mounted on panel

Courtesy of the artist and BLUM, Los Angeles/New York/Tokyo



# **Anna Park**

born 1996 Daegu, South Korea

## **What Could Have Been**

2024

charcoal, ink, paint, foam, paper mounted on panel

Courtesy of the artist and BLUM, Los Angeles/New York/Tokyo

# **Anna Park**

born 1996 Daegu, South Korea

## **Dangerous**

2024

charcoal, ink, paint, foam, paper mounted on panel

Courtesy of the artist and BLUM, Los Angeles/New York/Tokyo

# **Anna Park**

born 1996 Daegu, South Korea

## **With Reason**

2024

charcoal, ink, paint, foam, paper mounted on panel

Courtesy of the artist and BLUM, Los Angeles/New York/Tokyo

# **Anna Park**

born 1996 Daegu, South Korea

## **Taste the Fruit!**

2024

charcoal, ink, paint, foam, paper mounted on panel

Courtesy of the artist and BLUM, Los Angeles/New York/Tokyo

# Anna Park

born 1996 Daegu, South Korea

## Sketchbook pages and sketchbook

2023–24

Courtesy of the artist and BLUM, Los Angeles/New York/Tokyo

Sketches like these are a vital part of Park's artistic process. Each of her large drawings begins with a thumbnail sketch that is focused upon specific shapes, such as an arched window or a star-shaped hole, or an arrangement of comic-like segments. These elements allow her to plan the layout of cutouts that create the overall composition. After this general structure has been determined, Park then makes loose sketches using images and text from her extensive archive of mid-20th century American advertisements, comics, films and television. These preparatory drawings inform the specific figurative and typographic components that will be incorporated into her final drawings.