

# LEFEBVRE & FILS

CONTEMPORARY ART CERAMICS

presents

## EMILY YONG BECK

### *Gimbap Heaven*

### 김밥천국

June 8 - July 29, 2023

Opening Thursday June 8, 2023 from 5 to 8pm



Galerie Lefebvre & Fils  
24, rue du bac - 75007 Paris  
[www.lefebvreelfils.fr](http://www.lefebvreelfils.fr)

**Sailor Moon, 2023**  
Glazed and underglazed stoneware  
63 x 50 x 48 cm  
24.8 x 19.6 x 18.8 in.  
Copyright Yannick Labrousse

## EMILY YONG BECK

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Lefebvre & Fils gallery is happy to present the first solo-show in Paris of the American-Corean artist Emily Yong Beck, following her Residency in Versailles between March and May 2023.

*«Japan was once previously seen as a militaristic aggressor responsible for heinous war crimes to large parts of the world. Koreans are still healing the wounds from the Japanese occupation whose victims are still alive to this day. As an act of propaganda, Japan has actively promoted anime and kawaii culture, using popular mediums such as anime, manga, and games. This rebranding aimed to present a non-threatening image of Japan to consumers all around the world. In this body of work there are references to Nintendo, Sanrio, Pokémon, Sailor Moon and many others. In tandem to these familiar faces are vessels and tigers inspired by traditional Korean art, many of which was destroyed during the occupation. The title “Gimbap Heaven” is not only a reference to a loved Korean chain restaurant ( 김밥 천국), but also a tribute to the Korean food that can be seen as a result and influence of the Japanese occupation and a symbol of resilience.»*

Emily Yong Beck, May 2023



# EMILY YONG BECK

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Emily Yong Beck (born in 1999) is an interdisciplinary ceramic artist who received her BFA from the School of the Art Institute in 2021. Currently based in Chicago, Illinois, her works are largely inspired by significant cultural pieces of craft and cartoon. The appropriation of certain motifs are an attempt to create a dialogue about forgotten histories and propaganda.

## EDUCATION

**2017- 2021**

BFA, School of the Art Institute, Chicago, IL

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

**2023**

Gaa Gallery, "Whiskers on Kittens" Cologne DE

**2022**

New Image Art, "*Spoonful of Sugar*" Los Angeles, CA.

Gaa Gallery, "*Lions and Lambs*" Provincetown, MA.

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

**2023**

Aparador "*Ceramique*" Los Angeles, CA.

The Pit "3 -Person" Los Angeles, CA.

**2022**

Gaa Gallery, NADA Art Fair New York, NY.

Agency Art, "*Menagerie*" Chicago, IL

Sebastian Gladstone, "*Obscurity and the Unknown*" Los Angeles, CA

Weatherproof "*So You Thought This Would Be Easy*" Chicago, IL

Black Book Gallery "*Party People*" Englewood, Colorado

**2021**

SAIC Galleries "*Undergraduate Exhibition*" Chicago, Illinois.

Arts of Life "*Cozy Warm*" Chicago, Illinois.

The Latent Space "*Bright Line*" Chicago, Illinois.

Black Book Gallery "*Quick Hello*" Englewood, Colorado.

Watershed Gallery "*Milkweed*" Newcastle, ME.

New Image Art, Untitled Art Fair Miami, FL.

## PUBLICATIONS

**2022**

Variable West: *Spoonful of Sugar* at New Image Art, Los Angeles

**2021**

*Clay In Color: The Propaganda of Rococo Ceramics and Cuteness* with Emily Yong Beck

White Columns: *The White Columns Curated Artist Registry*

**2020**

*ALL MY FRIENDS: friends forever* 5-8

## RESIDENCIES

**2023**

The Residency Program Versailles, FR

**2022**

Township10 Marshall, NC USA

**2021**

Watershed, Newcastle, ME USA



Emily Yong Beck  
Portrait

Copyright Yannick Labrousse





Portrait of Louis Lefebvre  
© Paul Jacob Bashour

#### About Louis Lefebvre

Born in Paris.

Louis Lefebvre left to study in Cambridge, England.

On his return, he began working at Christie's in the European Ceramics department, followed by the Asian Ceramics department.

During the 1980s, Louis Lefebvre started working with his father in his role as a respected expert in Ancient Ceramics. He specialized in historical and large decorative pieces, and later Modern and Contemporary ceramics.

In 2009, Louis Lefebvre chose to re-focus the family gallery, created in 1880. He put in place the gallery's first exhibition of new ceramics. Since, the gallery has explored contemporary ceramics and accompanied artists such as Roger Herman, Eric Croes and Cammie Staros in their interrogation of the medium with a leitmotiv and passion to show the real permanence and renewal of Ceramics as a medium in contemporary art.

## Presentation of the Residency Project Interview with Louis Lefebvre

*“The residency grew from a desire precious to my family; that is to know and promote a know-how passed down many generations, enabling the creation of complex and unique art works.”*

**In 2015, you opened the “The Residency” in Versailles for artists specialized in ceramics. What is involved in this initiative?**

En 2006, I had the chance to acquire a house in Versailles classified for its historical heritage, once the music room of the princess Elisabeth, sister of Louis XVI.

“The Residency” grew from a desire precious to my family; that is to know and promote a know-how passed down many generations, enabling the creation of complex and unique art works.”

The residency is kitted out with two kilns to make production as easy as possible for artists.

**The duration of the residencies vary between 6 weeks and 3 months. Part of the package is that your gallery is the stage for a solo show at the end of the residency. Are all the pieces are exhibited being shown exclusive?**

On average, the residency lasts two months for each invited artist. Each exhibited work is unique and unseen. There are no multiple editions.

Each residency is an opportunity to share, experiment and live a human adventure. The resulting solo show is the fruit of work that comes from a strong link between the artist and the gallery.

**Not all the artists in “The Residency” are artists of the gallery. How do you choose which artists benefit from the residency?**

It would be impossible to establish an admissions process to participate in “The Residency”.

I am particularly susceptible to the production of a number of artists from the West Coast of America. I find their outlook, when it comes to techniques and the work produced, of a very high level. There is a really unique style that comes from Los Angeles.

I trust my eye and my aesthetic sensitivity. I owe many artistic encounters to Roger Herman, a professor friend at UCLA and ceramist artist, and to Danny First, an Israeli philanthropist friend.

**“The Residency” has existed for two years, could you tell us your first impressions of how it’s gone so far, and your goals for the future?**

I had given myself two years to make the project viable. I’ve achieved this, as well as doubling the turnover for the gallery.

The solo shows have been a great success, enabling me to confirm my role as a gallery owner by placing the artists’ pieces. I also advise and accompany them in introductions to great collectors and museums. Such as Anabel Juarez, a Mexican artist, or Eric Croes, a Belgian artist, who have works in the collections of the Museum of Sèvres.

In addition, the gallery offers the residency artists a high quality of visibility through the participation in innovative international fairs, for example in AAAH Paris Internationale.

This project, dedicated to the red arts, which started with the artist Ulrika Strömbäck continues today with many more artists. “The Residency” has a booked-up program until 2023, which demonstrates that the gallery has opened a new chapter and that the story continues.

THE RESIDENCY



## Practical Informations



**EMILY YONG BECK**

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Galerie Lefebvre & Fils  
24, rue du Bac  
75007 Paris

From Tuesday to Saturday  
11am - 1pm and 2pm - 7pm  
Monday by appointment

01 42 61 18 40  
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www.lefebvreelfils.fr

**Heart vase, 2023**

Glazed and underglazed stoneware

66 x 41 x 41 cm

25.9 x 16.1 x 16.1 in.

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