

Artist's Statement

Emotion or Perception

Chang Hyun Bang

My works are derived from my personal journey in the world. Desire, strain, a sense of loss, lunacy, hallucination, paradox, phobia, and obsession are the recurring themes in my artwork. Most of all, I'm interested in my emotional response to the world and how I can convey my experiences to my audience. These emotions are the most direct and honest reflection of my journey through the world.

In my sculpture I use a pig's body language to capture the moment when it is most vulnerable. I place the pig in specific situations to evoke uneasy emotions and lure the spectators to empathize with its plight. My approach is very direct and it creates a narrative like a fairy tale. I ask the audience to strip off their civilized rationality to get closer to their original, yet lost emotional innocence.

I visualize the mechanism of forces that oppress me, such as all kinds of customs, powers, and pressures from our society through my sculptures' geometric architectures and ready-made found objects. The contrast in scale between the structures and the animal characters is an important element in my artwork. This contrast highlights the emotional lives of the animal characters. The interaction between abstract structures and animal characters reveals latent desires, absurd order, and emotional struggles in everyday life.

My animal characters and objects are a metaphor for the mentality of human beings.