

## **Sangbin IM**

Born in Seoul, 1976

[www.sangbinim.com](http://www.sangbinim.com)

### New Dimensions Revealed at the Intersection of Materiality and Virtuality

#### 1. Artistic Vision

As a member of Generation X, I transitioned from an analog upbringing to a fully digital adulthood. My artistic ambition is to serve as a bridge between these two contrasting worlds, exploring them through the mediums of photography and painting. My photography aims to unveil the bittersweet irony inherent in capitalistic desire and to navigate landscapes where the 'real' and the 'virtual' intersect. And my painting strives to fill the sensory void in our increasingly digital society, delving into the complex interplay between 'materiality' and 'immateriality.'

#### 2. Photographic Approach

Leveraging digital cameras and advanced post-production tools, I capture and weave together a multitude of images to construct hyper-realistic scenes. My photographic work is guided by the concept of 'hyper-realistic surrealism,' an exploration of landscapes that transcend conventional reality to achieve a heightened sense of the real.

#### 3. Painterly Approach

Guided by an intuitive flow of consciousness, I layer diverse brushstrokes allowing for accidental expressions that gain a sense of material weight over time, resulting in abstract landscapes. My painterly work is guided by the concept of 'material spirituality,' an exploration of abstractions that offers a tactile richness beyond mere visual representation that images alone cannot capture.

#### 4. Personal Resonance

Through photography and painting, I enjoy the tension of opposing elements, especially how the 'part and whole' are relatively categorized and interact in various ways to create a 'dynamic' scene. This reflects more than just a microscopic fragment of one's life; it mirrors the broader structure where individual desires and societal structures either harmonize, clash, or evolve in various ways. The unique artistic imagination at play here provides me with catharsis that transcends the limited conditions of ordinary life.

#### 5. Sociocultural Relevance

My artistic activities, utilizing various media, reflect and propagate the 'diversity' and 'convergence' of modern society. Especially in this current era, where the real world (universe) and the virtual world (metaverse) overlap and transform in multiple ways, it provides an opportunity to re-examine the 'value' of material or immaterial life. Moving forward, I aim to continually create meaningful works that examine, reflect, and propose new possibilities in sync with contemporary times.