



**School: School of Art**

**Researcher: Young In Hong**

**Project Title: The Moon's Trick**

**UOA: 32**

## 300-Word Statement

Inspired and constructed from archival material the 3 key works in **The Moons Trick** examine the collective experience from unexplored tumultuous moments in the post war modernisation in South Korea through embroidery, sound installation and performance. Exhibited in solo shows at the Korean Cultural Centre UK in 2017 & Exeter Phoenix in 2018, **The Moons Trick** addresses ideas around authorship, translation and reinterpretation to ask

1. Might an audio visual language be developed that translates the specific experience of South Korean modernity?
2. Can an abstract graphic score open up greater possibilities for multiple interpretations by participating musicians?
3. How might embroidery be a means of revisiting and capturing the intensity of past collective experience ?

The title came from Soo-Young Kim's (1921-1968) socio political poems *A Game Played in the Moon*, in which he defines the moment of 'existing in a different sphere' as the moon's trick. Seeking a similar intensity through which to re examine past moments, Hong's 6 large scale embroidery works, exhibited at Cecilia Hillstrom gallery in 2016, became starting points for **The Moons Trick** - ritual reweaving of shared experience.

The exhibition's 2 commissions followed: **Prayers 1-39** 2017, was Hong's sound installation of piano sounds played from her 39 photo scores, stitched abstracted silhouettes from archival photos. Secondly, in a live ensemble performance, **Looking Down From The Sky** 2017, the relationship between image and sound was further explored. 5 large canvases of Hong's photo scores representing duration, pitch and sound-effects were re interpreted and translated by the performers in their own way shifting control over the artwork from the artists. Hong's unique methods in these works initiate a process where meaning is constantly translated from one form to another, creating a multilayered intensity of collective experience, whereby significant historical moments reverberate against systems of power in the present.