

# Jaewook Lee

Curriculum Vitae | Updated July 2026

## Professional Summary

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Jaewook Lee is a new media artist-scholar, Associate Professor of New Media Art at Northern Arizona University, and founder and creative director of Jaewook Lee Studio, an independent studio developing and publishing experimental games, playable artworks, and immersive media. Using game engines, artificial intelligence, environmental simulation, and interactive systems, he approaches play as a critical artistic method for examining ecological, cultural, and social questions. Current projects include *GAME OVER: PLANET* and *GAME OVER: SPRING*. His work has been exhibited at the Museum of Contemporary Art Taipei, CURRENTS Art + Technology Festival, the Royal College of Art, Duke University, and the New Media Caucus Symposium Exhibition, and is held in the collections of the Gyeonggi Museum of Modern Art and Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts. His writing has appeared in *Leonardo*, and he is developing *The Future of Art Is Playable*, a book on video games and playable systems as emerging forms of contemporary art.

Portfolio: [jaewooklee.com](http://jaewooklee.com)

Student Work: [ArtStation](http://ArtStation)

## Academic Appointments

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### Northern Arizona University, School of Art + Design, Flagstaff, AZ

Associate Professor of New Media Art with Tenure, 2022-present

Assistant Professor of New Media Art, 2019-2022

Co-coordinator of New Media, Authorized Unreal Engine Academic Partner Program

Member, Program Founding and Curriculum Development Committee, B.S. in Immersive Media and Games

### School of Visual Arts, New York, NY

Faculty, BFA Fine Arts, 2015-2019; Graduate Mentor, MFA Art Practice, 2019-2021

### State University of New York at Old Westbury, Visual Arts Department, Old Westbury, NY

Adjunct Instructor, 2018-2019

### University of Chicago, Department of Visual Arts, Chicago, IL

Visiting Lecturer, Winter and Spring Quarters 2018

## Education

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### M.F.A., Fine Art, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, 2015

Thesis Committee: Jon Rubin (chair), Joseph Mannino, Raimundas Malasauskas, Patricia Maurides

### M.F.A., Art Practice, School of Visual Arts, New York, NY, 2014

Summer Low-Residency Program; Thesis Committee: Thyrsa Nichols Goodeve (director), Laura F. Gibellini, Denise Carvalho

### B.F.A., Visual Arts, Korea National University of Arts, Seoul, South Korea, 2006

## Selected Games, Films, and Interactive Works

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### In Development

*GAME OVER: SPRING*. First-person environmental video game; Unreal Engine 5; forthcoming on Steam for PC, 2027.

Director; developed and published by Jaewook Lee Studio.

### Released and Exhibited Works

*GAME OVER: PLANET*. Experimental environmental video game; Unreal Editor for Fortnite; published 2025. Director; developed and published by Jaewook Lee Studio. Island Code: 5870-4026-8180.

*Toward Entropy VR*. Interactive virtual-reality artwork and experimental game; Unreal Engine 5, 2025.

*Toward Entropy 360*. Immersive 360-degree film with sound; Unreal Engine 5.6; 15 minutes, 2025.

*Ana Mendieta might*. 3D animated film; Unreal Engine 5.3, MetaHuman Animator, and Blender; 13 minutes, 2023. Director.

*The Rhythm of the Road*. Multimedia installation and augmented-reality experience, 2022.

*Treatise on Rhythm, Color, and Birdsong*. Multimedia installation, 2021.

*Treatise on Rhythm, Color, and Birdsong*. Single-channel experimental documentary with sound; 5:35- and 21-minute versions, 2020. Director.

*Road Test/Hiking Test*. Performance, stage design, and EEG-based interactive research project, 2019. Director and stage designer.

*Empathic Audition*. Single-channel video with sound; 7:40 minutes, 2017.

## Book Project and Publications

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### Book Project

*The Future of Art Is Playable: Video Games as the Next Form of Contemporary Art*. Book manuscript in progress.

## Peer-Reviewed Publication

Lee, Jaewook. "Flourishing Through Entropy: A Dialectical Reimagining in Virtual Reality Ecological Art." *Leonardo* (MIT Press), 2026. [doi.org/10.1162/LEON.a.2709](https://doi.org/10.1162/LEON.a.2709)

## Edited Publications

*Treatise on Rhythm, Color, and Birdsong*. Arts Council Korea-supported publication, 2020.

*Suzanne Anker: The Biosphere Blues, Mending an Unhinged Earth*. O'NewWall Publication, Seoul, 2017.

*Treatise on Rhythm, Color, and Birdsong*. O'NewWall Publication, Seoul, 2016.

## Selected Essays, Reviews, and Artist Writings

"Art in Trouble in the 21st Century." TK-21 LaRevue, no. 123, 2021.

"The Past-Present: The Past Called by the Present." TK-21 LaRevue, no. 120, 2021.

"The Illogically Logical." TK-21 LaRevue, no. 117, 2021.

"Parched: The Art of Water in the Southwest." TK-21 LaRevue, no. 111, 2020.

"The Black Rock Is Hard to Find." TK-21 LaRevue, no. 102, 2020.

"The Proposition of Teaching New Art Media." TK-21, 2019.

"History of the Future: Curious Cases of Reconstructing History in Contemporary Korean Visual Culture." TK-21, 2019.

"A Proposal for Studio Art Classes in the 21st Century." TK-21, 2018.

"Acquisition of Empathy in Contemporary Art." TK-21, 2018.

"Games People Play." TK-21, 2017.

"Treatise on Rhythm, Color, and Birdsong - Parts I, II, and Lexicon." TK-21, 2016.

"Thing Thinks." TK-21, 2016.

"Performance Review: Becoming a Volcano - The Lithuania and Cyprus Pavilion at the 55th Venice Biennale, oO, and Maria Hassabi's Intermission." INCIDENT Magazine, 2014.

## Grants, Fellowships, and Honors

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23rd AHL-T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Award, Winner, 2026

Ewha Global Fellow, 2025-2026

National Arts Futures Fellowship, Creative West jurisdiction (Arizona), 2025

Finalist, Art Wins Arizona, 2025

Artist Opportunity Grant, Arizona Commission on the Arts, 2024

Faculty Course-Based Undergraduate Research Experience Development Grant, Northern Arizona University, 2023

International Art Exchange Support Project, Arts Council Korea, 2022

Northeast Asia Council Grant - Korean Studies, Association for Asian Studies, 2021

The Dots Between Fellowship, 2020

Most Promising New Artistic/Creative Scholar Award, Northern Arizona University, 2020

Scholarly and Creative Activity Award, Northern Arizona University, 2020

International Art Exchange Support Project, Arts Council Korea, 2020

SeMA Emerging Artists and Curators Supporting Program, Seoul Museum of Art, 2016

Sindoh Artist Support Program, juried by Beatrix Ruf and Dongyeon Koh, 2014

GuSH Research and Conference Grants, Carnegie Mellon University, 2012

International Exhibition Grant, Arts Council Korea, 2011

Exhibition Grant, Seoul Foundation for Arts and Culture, 2007

## Selected Film and Media Awards

Winner, VR and 360, Berlin Kiez Film Festival, 2025

Honorable Mention, 360 Video, Bridge Fest Vancouver, 2025

Best New Media Film, Brampton International Nollywood Film Festival, 2024

Finalist, Best Animated Film, Toronto International Nollywood Film Festival, 2024

Best Experimental, West Virginia Mountaineer Short Film Festival, 2024

Best Animated Short Film, Golden Lion International Film Festival, 2024

Honorable Mention, Best VFX and Special Effects, Athens International Monthly Art Film Festival, 2024

## Solo Exhibitions

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*Reimagine Human-Nature*, Museum of Contemporary Art Taipei, Taipei, 2024

*Treatise on Rhythm, Color, and Birdsong*, screening, This Is Not a Church, Seoul, 2021

*Treatise on Rhythm, Color, and Birdsong*, SACO9 Festival of Contemporary Art, Museo de Antofagasta, Antofagasta, Chile, 2020

*Road Test/Hiking Test*, SNAP SVA-NYC Art Platform, Shanghai, 2019

*Mirror Neurons*, SNAP SVA-NYC Art Platform, Shanghai, 2017

*Treatise on Rhythm, Color, and Birdsong*, Space O'NewWall, Seoul, 2016

*Object Theory*, O'NewWall E'juheon, Seoul, 2015

*Jaewook Lee*, Sindoh Art Space, Seoul, 2015

*Big Seoul (1971)*, PYO Gallery South, Seoul, 2011  
*Beautiful*, Project Space Kunst-Doc, Seoul, 2009  
*Golden Bomb at KIAF 09*, commissioned solo installation, Korea International Art Fair, COEX, Seoul, 2009  
*At the Highest Point in Asia*, Art Space HUE, Seoul, 2007  
*The 5th Art Wall Project*, Coreana Museum, Seoul, 2005

## Selected Group Exhibitions and Screenings

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*Immersive Acts*, Royal College of Art, London, 2026  
*New Media Caucus Symposium Exhibition*, Arizona State University MIX Center, Mesa, 2026  
*Computing the Lens*, Center for Documentary Studies, Duke University, Durham, 2025  
CURRENTS New Media Festival, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 2025  
*iDMAa 2024: Wild Media*, Winona State University, 2024  
*CUMULUS: The Art of Meteorology*, Coconino Center for the Arts, Flagstaff, 2024  
*Techno(s)cene*, Athens Digital Arts Festival, Santaroza Courthouse, Athens, 2024  
*Pair of Pale Blue Dots*, Art Museum at Seoul National University of Science and Technology, Seoul, 2023  
*Fly and Flock*, Chisenhale Studios, London, 2023  
*Revolution*, Santa Fe Art Institute, Santa Fe, 2022  
*Between Two Beats*, Seoul Art Space Geumcheon, Seoul, 2022  
*Wednesday Is Indigo Blue*, Daejeon Museum of Art Creative Center, Daejeon, 2021  
*Nothing Makes Itself*, Arko Art Center, Seoul, 2021  
*Spring Walk*, Shinsegae Gallery Centum City, Busan, 2021  
*Open Media Art Festival*, Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts, Amman, 2020  
*Carpenter's Scene*, Insa Art Space, Seoul, 2019  
*Nature Project*, Seoulro Media Canvas, Seoul, 2019  
*A.I. 632*, Total Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul, 2019  
*DMZ*, Culture Station Seoul 284, Seoul, 2019  
*Taiwan International Video Art Exhibition*, Hong-Gah Museum and Yu-Hsiu Museum, Taiwan, 2018  
*Busan International Video Art Festival*, Space Heem and Busan Museum of Art, Busan, 2018  
*The Scrap*, Culture Station Seoul 284, Seoul, 2018  
*Seoul Photo Festival*, SeMA Buk Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, 2017  
*Hypnotic Show*, Guggenheim Museum, New York, 2017  
*Asia Kula Kula-ring*, Asia Culture Center, Gwangju, 2016  
*Singapore Open Media Art Festival*, Gillman Barracks, Singapore, 2015  
*(Six Unknowable Symbols)*, Miller Gallery, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, 2015  
*When All Things Evaporate We'll Talk About Minerals*, Pioneer Works, Brooklyn, 2014  
*Hotel de Inmigrantes 04 - Insight*, Museo Juan Manuel Blanes, Montevideo, Uruguay, 2014  
*Current Practice*, The Invisible Dog Art Center, Brooklyn, 2013  
*Now What*, Microscope Gallery, Brooklyn, 2013  
*Manifesta 9 Preview Opening Performance*, Z33 Art Center, Hasselt, Belgium, 2012  
*Manifesta 9 Parallel Event*, Hotel de Inmigrantes, Hasselt, Belgium, 2012  
*Innerscaping the City*, Chelsea Art Museum, New York, 2011

## Museum Collections

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Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts, Amman, Jordan, 2021  
Gyeonggi Museum of Modern Art, Ansan, South Korea  
Hangaram Design Museum, Seoul, South Korea

## Selected Film and XR Festivals

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River Film Festival, Padua, 2026  
Independent Days International Film Festival, Karlsruhe, 2026  
Intervalli Festival Cinema, 2026  
KremFest Virtual Reality, 2025  
Chroma Art Film Festival, Superblue Miami, 2024  
Toronto International Nollywood Film Festival, 2024 (Canadian Screen Awards-qualifying)  
Montreal International Animation Film Festival, 2023 (Canadian Screen Awards-qualifying)  
NeMaf - Seoul International ALT Cinema and Media Festival, 2020

## Artist Residencies

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Santa Fe Art Institute, Santa Fe, 2022  
SACO9 Contemporary Art Festival, Antofagasta, Chile, 2020  
Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild, Woodstock, NY, 2011

Wassaic Project, Wassaic, NY, 2011  
Vermont Studio Center, Freeman Fellowship Honorable Mention, Johnson, VT, 2007  
Art Space HUE, Seoul, South Korea, 2007

## Selected Conference Presentations and Panels

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30th International Symposium on Electronic Art (ISEA), Panel Chair, 2025  
College Art Association 113th Annual Conference, 2025  
College Art Association 112th Annual Conference, Panel Chair, 2024  
National Art Education Association Annual Conference, 2023  
College Art Association 109th Annual Conference, 2021  
College Art Association 107th Annual Conference, 2019

## Selected Invited Lectures and Academic Presentations

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University of Chicago, Department of Cinema and Media Studies, 2026  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Department of Communication, 2024  
Clemson University, Department of Art, 2024  
Artist Lecture, Ewha Womans University, Seoul, 2024  
Artist Lecture, Chugye University for the Arts, Seoul, 2023  
Artist Lecture, Yonsei University Mirae Campus, Wonju, 2023  
Visual Voices, George Mason University, 2023  
The Arts of Korea, Vanderbilt University, 2022  
Innovation in Exhibition Making, Seoul Museum of Art, 2015

## Curatorial and Organizational Work

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*Mindful Joint 2022 Symposium*, Northern Arizona University, 2022  
*Mindful Joint 2019 Symposium*, Start Museum, Shanghai, and Golden Eagle Contemporary Art Center, Nanjing, 2019  
*Mindful Joint 2018 Symposium*, University of Chicago and School of Visual Arts, 2018  
*Mindful Joint 2017 Symposium*, Art Sonje Center, Seoul, 2017  
*Suzanne Anker: The Biosphere Blues, Mending an Unhinged Earth*, Space O'NewWall, Seoul, 2017  
*Videorover: Season 9 /// Jaewook Lee: LunarmagmaoceanLove*, NURTUREart, Brooklyn, 2014  
*Dance of the Photons*, Fitness Center for Arts and Tactics, Brooklyn, 2013

## Professional Service

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Peer Reviewer, *Leonardo* (MIT Press), 2025  
Peer Reviewer, ISEA International Symposium Academic Review, 2025 and 2023  
Juror, Robinson International Film Festival, 2024  
Exhibition Juror, *CUMULUS: The Art of Meteorology*, Coconino Center for the Arts, 2024  
Selection Committee, Open Engagement, Pittsburgh, 2015

## University and Community Leadership

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Faculty Status Committee / Annual Review Committee Chair, Northern Arizona University, 2024-2025  
Curriculum Committee, B.S. in Immersive Media and Games, Northern Arizona University, 2023-present  
Program Coordinator, New Media Art, Northern Arizona University, 2019-present  
Preparation Committee, B.S. in Immersive Media and Games, Northern Arizona University, 2022-2023  
Academic Technology Advisory and Coordinating Council, Northern Arizona University, 2021-present  
Visiting Lecture Series Committee Chair, Northern Arizona University, 2020-2024  
Faculty Senate Representative, School of Art, Northern Arizona University, 2019-2021  
Creative Flagstaff Advisory Board, Exhibition and Diversity Committee, 2022-present  
CCA Digital Media Consulting Group, Coconino Center for the Arts, 2021

## Teaching Experience

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### **Northern Arizona University, School of Art + Design**

Courses: Virtual Reality Art; Time-Based 3D/CGI Art; Art in the Anthropocene; Introduction to Video Art; New Media Foundations; Exhibition-Making as an Artistic Medium; Installation; Studio Exhibition; Drawing I-II; 2D and 3D Design Foundations.

### **University of Chicago, Department of Visual Arts**

Course: Introduction to Sculpture.

### **State University of New York at Old Westbury, Visual Arts Department**

Courses: Digital Imaging; Digital Video.

### **School of Visual Arts, BFA Fine Arts and MFA Art Practice**

Courses and roles: Foundation Drawing I-II; Graduate Mentor, MFA Art Practice.

### **Carnegie Mellon University, School of Art**

Teaching Assistant: Installation; Art and the Brain; Advanced Drawing; Foundation Drawing; Concept Studio I and III.

## Selected Bibliography and Press

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Dong-Yeon Koh, *The Korean War and Postmemory Generation: Contemporary Korean Arts and Films*, Routledge, 2021  
"Jaewook Lee: BODIES//BOUNDARIES," *Southwest Contemporary*, 2021  
Denise Carvalho, "Jaewook Lee: Space as Window," *Sculpture Magazine*, 2017  
Kate Sutton, "Seoul Cycle," *Artforum.com*, 2016  
Monthly Art Magazine *Woolganmisul*, 2016  
Public Art Magazine, 2016  
Art in Culture, 2016  
"8 Artists to Watch from the 2015 Bushwick Open Studios," *Hyperallergic*, 2015  
artagenda, "The 4th SINAP Winners," 2014

## Technical Skills and Languages

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**Game Engines:** Unreal Engine 5, Unreal Editor for Fortnite

**Digital 3D:** Blender, Substance 3D Painter

**Programming:** Unreal Engine Blueprint

**Adobe Creative Suite:** Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Premiere Pro, After Effects, Aero

**Fabrication and Studio:** Woodworking, metalworking, welding, drawing, watercolor

**Languages:** English, Korean