## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Exhibition: 한지 - Hanji

Artist: 박은주, Eunju Park

Date: August 15 to November 4, 2023

**Location**: Feature exhibition – Staircase

Art Gallery of St. Albert

19 Perron Street, St. Albert, AB

https://www.artsandheritage.ca/products/%ED%95%9C%EC%A7%80-hanji

Events: Virtual Tour - August 16 noon on <u>Facebook Live</u>

In-Person Tour - August 30 at noon

Culture Days Workshop - Saturday September 23 from 1-3 pm

Contact: Curator, Emily Baker: Phone 780-460-4310

**Email:** <u>exhibitions@artsandheritage.ca</u>

Language, heritage and joy blend in 한지 – Hanji, a new feature exhibition set to open in the staircase space of the Art Gallery of St. Albert. Created by St. Albert's **Eunju Park**, every element of the artwork celebrates the artist's Korean heritage, from the subject to the materials. Park uses colourful strips of hanji (mulberry paper) to create her collages, which in turn resolve into 한글 Hangul – Korean characters. Colourful and light, these abstract collages brim with messages of optimism and encouragement.

With titles/subjects such as 너는 아름다워 You Are Beautiful, 행복 Happiness, and 하하호호 the Sound of Laughter HaHaHoHo, the works overflow with light and infectious enthusiasm.

One of the goals of Park's art practice is to share the beauty and richness of her Korean heritage. After living in Canada for 10 years, she felt disconnected from the traditions and culture that previously permeated her life, so she turned to art.

*Hanji* is a traditional Korean paper made from *dak* - the bark of paper mulberry trees. With a history reaching back thousands of years, this amazing paper is soft, yet incredibly durable, versatile and beautiful.

Visit the Art Gallery of St. Albert to view *한지 – Hanji* from **August 15 – November 4**.

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