

Pearl River Mart and Asian American Arts Alliance presents *Futures Ever Arriving* in celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

May 6, 2021 - June 27, 2021

Chelsea Market

Can Xue's novel, *Love in the New Millennium*, paints a picture of a magical, hidden region in the heart of a, perhaps, fictional China where villagers shapeshift, impart the knowledge of life-giving medicine from the Earth, and protect each other to survive. Driven by this cosmivision of possibilities, Pearl River Mart and A4 present *Futures Ever Arriving*, a group exhibition of emerging Asian artists working in the United States who are examining our past and present to dream up new futures in their work.

Don Mee Choi writes in *DMZ Colony* that "It can take billions of years for light to reach us through the galaxies, which is to say, History is ever arriving." The title of the exhibition is inspired by this idea of the flexible temporality of our histories, which in turn inform the futures that are to come and are already arriving. This exhibition presents works by artists, across various mediums, who are critically examining the Asian American community's futures through a myriad of sources including folklore, hidden wars, domestic objects, iconography, and childhood memories. The participating artists include Raymond Hwang, Christina Yuna Ko, Jennifer Lai, Kim Sandara, and Jia Sung.

Futures Ever Arriving is organized in the midst of the rise and increased focus on anti-Asian racism and violence across the United States, which makes conversations around safety integral. During these difficult times, we are asking questions and forming thoughts around who we are as Asian Americans, what Asian America means, what is belonging, and how we can all move onwards as a community while noting that we hold multiplicities. Each artist's work is playing a part in the formation of our futures during this critical time of uncertainty, and the hope is that the exhibition brings a sense of warmth and care to those in our communities.

- Sophia Park [@sophia_sofaar](#)

Artist Bios

Raymond Hwang [@rayhwangart](#)

Raymond Hwang (b. 1992) is an artist from Los Angeles, CA currently living and working out of Ridgewood, NY. He received his BFA from the School of Visual Arts in 2016 and has participated in exhibitions in Los Angeles, Denver, Philadelphia, New Jersey, and venues throughout New York City.

Weaving together a combination of comedy, violence, cartoonish imagery, and personal artifacts, Hwang creates drawings and paintings that often confront his relationship with his cultural and familial upbringing as an Asian American. These artifacts are often objects or symbols that hold significance in

his personal history utilized to construct his own narratives that reference broader themes within the second generation American experience.

Christina Yuna Ko [@christina_yuna_ko](#)

Christina Ko is a Korean American artist living and working in Queens, NY. She received her BFA from Cornell University in 2013 and has since then shown her work in Los Angeles, CA, Washington, DC, and throughout New York, NY. Selected exhibitions include *Internal Arrangements*, Trestle Gallery, Brooklyn, NY (2020); *Downloading Place*, Wave Hill, Bronx, NY (2019); *Fever Lure*, Selenas Mountain Gallery, Brooklyn, NY (2019); and *Crossover: East and West*, Korean Cultural Center, Washington, DC (2018). Her work has been featured in *Gallery Gurls*, the Arcade Project Zine, *HISS* magazine, *The FADER*, *The Washington Post*, and *Ballpit*.

Jennifer G. Lai [@thelibrarybandit](#)

Jennifer G. Lai (b. 1988, American) is an artist, poet, writer, and audio producer. Her visual practice focuses on collapsing borders, fashioning new timelines, and creating new utopias. Her work exists between alternate pasts and hopeful futures. She currently lives in Brooklyn, NY and on the internet.

Kim Sandara [@kimthediament](#)

Kim Sandara is a queer, Laotian/Vietnamese artist from Northern Virginia and now based in Brooklyn, NY. In 2016, she graduated from the Maryland Institute College of Art with a BFA in General Fine Arts. In 2019, the National Museum of Women in the Arts' gift shop collaborated with her to create "Being," an event showcasing her work and guiding visitors to draw music. She has been featured in Visart's *Gen 5* exhibition, Torpedo Factory Art Center's *2019 Emerging Artists* exhibition, and Washington Project for the Arts' 2019 Auction Gala. In her Torpedo Factory summer 2019 Post-Grad Residency, she created a stop motion animation about her parent's immigration story intersecting her coming out story. She used the studio space as a shop to fundraise for local and national LGBTQ+ nonprofits empowering queer youth. In her 2020 Bresler Residency at VisArts, she focused more on Lao identity work. She's currently working on her graphic novel *Origins of Kin and Kang* about her coming out story and collaborating with Legacies of War to help fund removing the bombs left over from the Secret and Vietnam Wars from Laos. She is eager to integrate into creative, queer, and Asian communities in Brooklyn.

Jia Sung [@jiazilla](#)

Jia Sung is an artist and educator, born in Minnesota, bred in Singapore, now based in Brooklyn, NY, and received a BFA from RISD in 2015. Her work spans paintings, zines & artist books, poetry, and tapestries, and draws on motifs from Chinese mythology, Buddhist iconography, and the familiar visual language of folklore to examine and subvert the archive through a queer feminist lens. She was a 2018 - 2019 Smack Mellon Studio Artist and Van Lier Fellow, and is currently an adjunct professor at RISD. Her paintings and artist books have been exhibited at institutions including the Knockdown Center, RISD Museum, Wave Hill, EFA Project Space, and Lincoln Center; her work has been featured in *The Paris Review*, *Emergence Magazine*, *Hyperallergic*, *Jacobin* magazine, and Asian American Writers Workshop, and collected by SFMOMA and the Special Collections at Yale, SAIC, and RISD.

Work Information

For all sales inquiries, please email Sophia Park at galleryjip@gmail.com

1



*you're gonna sit here and Finish
Eating all of your food (or ELSE),*

2019

Raymond Hwang

Acrylic on canvas

16 x 20 inches

2



*intimidation at the dinner Table
leads to nowhere good, 2019*

Raymond Hwang

Acrylic on canvas

36 x 36 inches

3



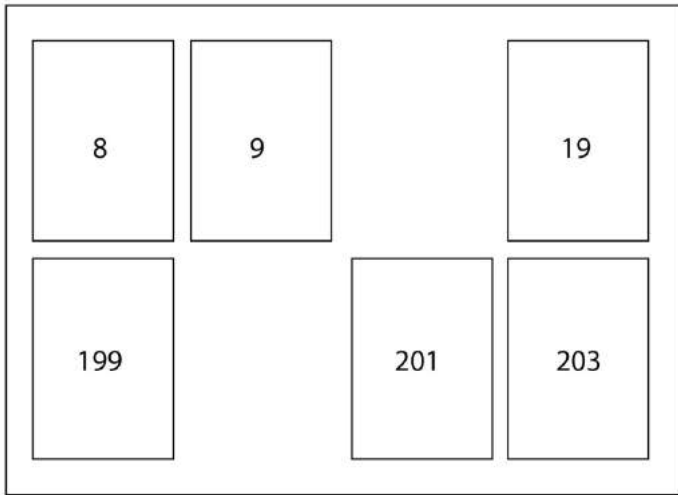
*grappling with the euphoric
paranoia that guides your Sixth
sense, 2020*

Raymond Hwang

Acrylic on canvas

36 x 48 inches

4-9



270 Million Project,
2020 - 2021
Kim Sandara
Ink on paper
9 x 12 inches

(\$100 from the sale of
each work goes to
Legacies of War or
COPE.org)



270 Million Project #8, 2020



270 Million Project #9, 2020



270 Million Project #19, 2020



270 Million Project #199, 2021



270 Million Project #201, 2021



270 Million Project #203, 2021

10



six realms (wheel), 2019

Jia Sung

Acrylic, gouache, embroidery
thread, and glass beads on linen

32 x 58 inches

11



*sleeping in; reminiscing about
yourself as a Consolation prize in
a race with No escape*, 2021

Raymond Hwang

Acrylic on canvas

40 x 30 inches

12



Jaru Ba Goo Nee, 2020
Christina Yuna Ko
Acrylic on MDF
7 x 13 inches

13



moo spirit vessel, 2020
Raymond Hwang
Acrylic on canvas
12 x 12 inches

14



*Plastic Tumblr Stained Glass
Windows, 2016*
Christina Yuna Ko
Acrylic on MDF, balsa wood, and
plastic tray
29 x 45 inches

15



*Pretty Dinner Table Tray (양은
쟁반), 2021*
Christina Yuna Ko
Acrylic on MDF
18 inches diameter

16



Laundry School Uniform, 2020
Christina Yuna Ko
Acrylic on washboard
7 x 11 3/4 inches

17



Meh, clean your laundry and get married, 2019
Christina Yuna Ko
Acrylic on washboard
8 x 19 5/8 inches

18



*last night I dreamt of all of us,
swimming against the current,*
2016

Jennifer G. Lai
Mixed media collage
8 1/2 x 5 1/2 inches

19



the work we do, 2019

Jennifer G. Lai
Mixed media collage
12 x 9 inches

20



you choose, you lose, 2021

Jennifer G. Lai
Mixed media collage
12 x 9 inches

21



persimmons of joy, 2020

Jia Sung
Acrylic on canvas
11 x 14 inches

22



flowers, 2021

Jia Sung
Oil on canvas
9 x 12 inches

23



a spring without humans, 2020

Jennifer G. Lai
Mixed media collage
11 x 8 1/2 inches

24



apocalypse hymn (dou'e yuan),
2021
Jia Sung
Gouache, acrylic, embroidery
thread, grommets, and glass
beads on linen
16 x 60 inches

25



牛魔王, 2019
Jia Sung
Acrylic, embroidery thread, and
glass beads on canvas
24 x 36 inches

26



8 chrysanthemums, 2021
Jia Sung
Gouache and embroidery thread
on unstretched linen
12 x 12 inches

Special thanks to our friends at Chelsea Market, [New Project, LLC](#), Marino PR, Pearl River Mart Foods, and all of the participating artists.