when the body becomes dust and settles around you
works by Cecilia Kim on view June 24, 2023 through July 29, 2023

opening reception Saturday, June 24, 2023, 5–7pm
1353 U St NW, Washington, DC 20009

Washington, DC: Hamiltonian Artists is pleased to present Cecilia Kim’s solo exhibition, when the body becomes dust and settles around you. The works presented in this exhibition are embedded with Kim’s lived experiences, including the recent passing of her grandparents. Through ethereal multi-channel videos, installations, and prints on paper, Kim contemplates homegoings, remembrance, mourning, and living in the wake of loss. To offer broader context for her latest work, she shares the following:

“My grandfather’s passing was kept secret from my grandmother, who suffered from Alzheimer’s and cancer until she too passed away. The news reached me from abroad, and my ability to mourn was stunted—stifled by the distance. The exhibition’s title emerged during a phone call with a friend, following my grandmother’s death, in which my friend shared, "When a person dies, their body goes back to atoms. And those same atoms may rejoin the objects that surround you."
Kim invites viewers to consider the ways in which closeness and intimacy might outlive the physical body, and offer comfort to those who carry loved ones in memory. This notion is particularly evident within the exhibition’s central work, *Tidal Calling (Ebb)* and *Tidal Calling (Flow)*, through which Kim interpolates 3D visualizers of passing trains and corridors, footage of her grandparents’ vacant house, and poetic writings to tenderly envision the journey toward afterlife. In processing death and the departure of loved ones, this exhibition explores what it means to continue living.

**A virtual artist talk will be presented on Thursday, July 6th, 6pm–7pm.** [Link to register here](#)Visit Hamiltonian Artists’ website and follow [@hamiltonian_artists](https://www.instagram.com/hamiltonian_artists/) on Instagram for more information about corresponding public programs, details to be announced.

**ABOUT THE ARTIST:**

*Cecilia Kim* (b. Seoul, South Korea) is a video artist who received her MFA in Photography + Film at Virginia Commonwealth University, and BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Kim has lived in Korea, Australia, England, Singapore, and the United States. Kim is a 2023 Wherewithal Grant recipient and was awarded the 19th Trawick Prize: Bethesda Contemporary Art Award. Her work has been shown in solo and group shows, including the Museum of Contemporary Art Arlington Biennial, Arlington, VA; 0 GALLERY, Seoul, Korea; The Immigrant Artist Biennial: Here, Together!, NY; Target Gallery, Alexandria, VA; Hume Gallery (Chicago, IL); and The Anderson Gallery (Richmond, VA). Kim was a resident artist at Ox-Bow Artists’ School of Art and Artists’ Residency, Virginia Center for Creative Arts, Corsicana Artist and Writer Residency, VisArts Bresler Residency, and Busan International OpenArts Residence. Kim is a 2021–2023 Hamiltonian Artists Fellow.

**ABOUT HAMILTONIAN ARTISTS:**

Hamiltonian Artists’ mission is to build a dynamic community of innovative artists and effective visual art leaders by providing professional development opportunities to early-career artists and by advancing their entrepreneurial success. In 2007, Paul So, an avid painter and a physics professor at George Mason University, founded Hamiltonian Artists and Hamiltonian Gallery with the vision of creating an innovative career incubator program for emerging visual artists. In 2019, the Board of Directors of Hamiltonian Artists chose to merge the two organizations into a single 501c3 nonprofit to better serve the mission.

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Today, Hamiltonian Artists is a dynamic catalyst for DC’s creative economy and a vibrant center for contemporary art in Washington, DC.

Through its unique investment into the next generation of cutting-edge artists, Hamiltonian helps artists to develop important business skills, professional experiences, and visibility to support and sustain their art career. Through a two-year artist fellowship, artist talks, public events and its membership program, the organization contributes to the vitality of DC’s burgeoning arts scene by deepening the appreciation for contemporary art and culture throughout Washington, DC, and beyond.

**HOW TO VISIT:**
The exhibition is on view at Hamiltonian Artists, 1353 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20009. **Gallery open Thursday through Saturday 11am–6pm.** Masks are strongly suggested.
For more information visit hamiltonianartists.org.

**CONTACT:**
For press inquiries and additional info contact Anisa Olufemi, fellowship manager, anisa@hamiltonianartists.org