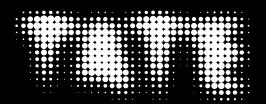
THE GENESIS EXHIBITION: DO HO SUH

1 MAY - 19 OCTOBER 2025

LARGE PRINT GUIDE



Please return after use



CONTENTS

Room 1	•••••	3
Room 2		39

ROOM 1

[WALL TEXT] INTRODUCTION: WALK THE HOUSE (ON THE LEFTHAND SIDE AS YOU ENTER)

You are in London, standing on the second floor of Tate Modern. Stepping across the threshold into Do Ho Suh's exhibition, you will soon encounter buildings and spaces spanning multiple time periods. Many of these are places where Do Ho Suh has lived and worked and to which he repeatedly returns through his installations, videos and works on paper. **Do Ho Suh: Walk the House** surveys three decades of the artist's practice across Seoul, New York and London – the three cities he has called 'home' at different points in his life.

'Walk the house' is a Korean expression Suh heard as a young boy from the carpenters who constructed his childhood home in Seoul. The building was a traditional Korean house known as a hanok. These buildings could be disassembled and reassembled in a new location – a process of literally 'walking the house'. For Suh, the phrase describes how we carry multiple places with us across space and time. The relationship between architecture, the body and memory is central to Suh's interests. As he says, 'memory amalgamates in these spaces and memories shape our perceptions of them. Yet, they're not stagnant. They're not foreclosed environments in my work. They're transportable, breathable

and mutable'. To the artist, 'home' is not a fixed place or a simple idea. Instead, it evolves over time, and is continually redefined as we move through the world.

The exhibition's open layout encourages moving back and forth through time and place, and meandering through the artworks. Suh's works remind us that everything is connected – we exist within a network of relationships and experiences.. As you explore, you may begin to wonder what spaces and times you carry with you as you move through the world. How does architecture shape and hold our memories? And in a world increasingly defined by movement – voluntary and involuntary – where and when is home?



Scan to view the exhibition texts and large print guide

ALL ARTWORKS SEQUENCED ANTICLOCKWISE FROM ROOM ENTRANCE.

Wise Man

2023

Thread embedded in pape

Swirls of multicoloured threads are connected to a figure on whose shoulders sits a seemingly endless trail of other forms, disappearing into a spiral. Suh is interested in cycles of time and the relationships through which an individual 'is part of an intergenerational community and network'. He has spoken about 'the interconnectedness and impermanence of all things', rooted in Buddhist principles.

Private collection, X90233

My Homes

2010

Thread embedded in paper

The thread drawing **My Homes** brings together Suh's multiple ways of imagining the seemingly impossible idea of a home in motion. Motifs such as the walking and flying house, attached to a parachute, reappear as Suh's ongoing reworking of the 'moveable' home. These echoes and repetitions, which appear throughout the exhibition, have nourished Suh's practice across decades. An ongoing return to ideas is in keeping with his understanding of time as cyclical.

Private collection, X89945



Haunting Home

2019

Thread embedded in paper

Suh has said: 'I want to carry my home, my house, with me at all times, like a snail.' A house levitates in mid-air, tethered by a cascade of multicoloured threads to a moving figure on the ground. This is the artist's childhood home, a **hanok** in Seoul. Suh imagines it acting like a parachute, carried above the ground.

Private collection. X100545

Blueprint

2014

Thread and polyester fabric embedded in paper
In this drawing, Suh presents the façade of his three-storey
New York apartment building, using translucent blue fabric
embedded in paper. A pile of colourful threads appear from
the door, windows and roof. The title **Blueprint** refers to
technical plans and drawings used in building construction.
In the drawing, the façade becomes precarious and porous,
with the threads suggesting the complexity and energy of
life within.

Private collection. X89948

Robin Hood Gardens, Woolmore Street, London E14 OHG 2018

Video, colour and sound (stereo)

Duration: 28 min, 33 sec

Suh's video Robin Hood Gardens explores the changing architectural fabric of London and its impact on inhabitants. Robin Hood Gardens was a housing estate in East London. It is an example of Brutalism, a post-war architectural style known for its use of raw concrete and functional appearance. After nearly 10 years of uncertainty for the residents, in 2017 a local council ruled that the estate was to be demolished, despite multiple attempts to preserve it. Suh's video records the building before demolition. He uses a combination of time-lapse photography, drone footage and photogrammetry (stitching together photographs to create 3D models). The video captures the remnants of the lives lived within the vacated apartments, as well as several of the last remaining permanent residents sitting alone in their homes. We can also hear and see the first signs of demolition. Missing windows and walls disrupt the symmetry of the building, rendering it open and porous. The demolition took place in stages, and the last residents left the eastern block of Robin Hood Gardens in June 2024.

Courtesy the artist, Lehmann Maupin New York, Seoul and London and Victoria Miro. Commissioned by the Victoria and Albert Museum, London. Repurposing supported by Genesis. X89732



Dong In Apartments

2022

Video, colour, no sound

Duration: 21 min

The apartment block in this video was located in Daegu, South Korea, and completed in 1969. Similar blocks were built in South Korean cities from the late 1960s onwards, to serve a growing need for housing. They replaced traditional single-floor hanok buildings like Suh's childhood home. In the following decades, these 1960s apartment blocks were overshadowed by newer high-rise developments, in a fast, ongoing reshaping of the city's architectural fabric. Suh documents the near-empty building before demolition but having mostly been cleared of furniture and possessions, giving attention to the traces of life that remain. Using a 'flythrough' camera technique, Suh gives an impression of the architecture as porous. The camera moves seamlessly from exterior to interior, between public and private space, and between building and home.

Courtesy the artist, Lehmann Maupin New York, Seoul and London and Victoria Miro. Repurposing supported by Genesis. X89733



Rubbing/Loving: Seoul Home

2013-22

Graphite on paper, aluminium, LED lighting; video, monitor, colour and sound (stereo)

Suh conjures his childhood home in Seoul – the hanok house he said 'has always followed me' - through this work, made decades after leaving South Korea. He wrapped the exterior of the building in mulberry paper, rubbing over it with graphite to create a portable trace. Through this labourintensive process Suh captured tiny details, such as the texture of the wood and decorative features. He then left the paper on the house for nine months, where it also gathered traces of the surrounding environment, including moisture and soil. He later carefully peeled off the paper tracings to re-erect them on an aluminium frame. Through this process, he is interrogating 'how and whether the site is moveable'. The title, Rubbing/Loving, refers to the intimacy of the rubbing process for Suh, as an act of being attentive. It also plays on the lack of distinction between the letters R and L in the Korean language, which Suh recognises when switching between Korean and English.

Courtesy the artist, Lehmann Maupin New York, Seoul and London and Victoria Miro. Repurposing supported by Genesis. X89728



[WALL TEXT] WHEN DOES A BUILDING BECOME A HOME?

Do Ho Suh was born in Seoul in 1962. He grew up in a **hanok**, a house based on an architectural style dating back to the early years of the Joseon Dynasty (1392–1910). Suh's parents had the house built in the 1970s.

Suh began to explore the idea of home after leaving South Korea in 1991 and emigrating to the United States. Since then, his childhood home has repeatedly emerged through his work. For **Rubbing/Loving: Seoul Home**, Suh returned to the house and covered its entire exterior in paper. He then rubbed the surface with graphite, describing the technique as a 'loving gesture' that is mingled with a sense of loss. For Suh, rubbing is an act of witnessing as well as exploring 'where memory actually resides'.

The style of Suh's childhood home contrasted starkly with most of modern Seoul. The city was being rebuilt following liberation from Japan and destruction during the Korean War (1950-53). A rapidly growing population meant low buildings were replaced by high-rise blocks that were rebuilt constantly. The two video works displayed nearby – **Robin Hood Gardens** and **Dong In Apartments** – portray parallel stories of community housing blocks in London and Daegu, South Korea. Both had been constructed through similar development efforts during the 20th century and were later slated for demolition. Through the videos, Suh examines the stakes of destroying buildings that are both sites of architectural significance and homes to many individuals.

In the large-scale works on paper near the entrance, Suh explores how the past, present and future inform our understanding of home and identity. Bringing together different times and spaces, he moves away from opposing notions of 'past' or 'present', and 'here' or 'there'. Instead, the drawings trace a cyclical rather than linear experience of time that has been important for Suh throughout his life. Many also playfully visualise how places, people and past selves are carried within us wherever we go.

Spectators

2023

Charcoal on paper

None of us move through this world alone. **Spectators** suggests the interconnectedness of our existence in a network of relationships and experiences. What initially looks like a form of writing reveals a collective group of heads, all oriented in the same direction. **Spectators** also highlights the relationship between drawing and writing. Suh makes these complex drawings in what he has described as a meditative state. His measured breathing shapes the rhythm and energy required to make each series of profiles. Suh understands breathing and drawing as closely connected, involving the removal of ego to embrace a modest mode of working.

Private collection. X100577

Nest/s

2024

Polyester fabric and stainless steel

Nest/s is connected to an ongoing fabric architecture series Suh calls **Hubs**. They form what he describes as an 'impossible' architecture. The Hubs series is based on thresholds, such as corridors or entryways, from spaces Suh has occupied throughout his life. In Nest/s, each section is drawn from rooms Suh has inhabited, which together create a continuous passageway. Unlike most building materials, the translucency and delicacy of the textile conveys impressions of the original space rather than acting as a precise replica. The work is made through centuries-old techniques of working with fabric in Korea. The polyester material is today used for traditional Korean summer clothing, emphasising Suh's interest in the relationship between architecture and the body. Nest/s' breathable and porous quality allows in the surroundings of the museum and the sight of visitors passing through it, blurring the boundaries between inside and outside. Suh considers the fabric architectures to be 'activated' once occupied. You are invited to enter the work.

Courtesy the artist, Lehmann Maupin New York, Seoul and London and Victoria Miro. Creation supported by Genesis. X89963



[WALL TEXT] WHAT MEMORIES DO SPACES HOLD?

Suh moved to the United States to continue his art studies at the Rhode Island School of Design, eventually settling in New York in 1997. During this period, he embraced two of his most central techniques – measuring and rubbing. Physically and mentally taxing, Suh uses these time-consuming processes to create portable versions of the places he has inhabited. Through measuring, he carefully documents a space, paying attention to its exact details. He describes how previously forgotten memories re-emerge as he retraces features by rubbing their surfaces through paper.

In the large-scale work **Nest/s**, Suh has stitched together a series of in-between spaces and rooms from buildings in Seoul, New York, London and Berlin. He connects them to form one continuous, impossible architecture. Suh calls these

works, made using traditional Korean sewing techniques, 'fabric architectures'. Through this process, Suh can pack up and transport spaces, fulfilling his desire to 'fit my childhood home into a suitcase'. You are invited to enter the work and consider your own journeys through different spaces, types of architecture, cities and neighborhoods. Suh's practice also questions how memories can be embedded in spaces during political upheaval and censorship. His Rubbing/ Loving: Company Housing of Gwangju Theater takes up the censored histories of those who experienced the Gwangju Uprising. This was a series of student-led protests which took place in Gwangju, South Korea in May 1980, and were suppressed by the authorities. By creating rubbings of the interior surfaces of buildings in Gwangju, Suh explores how they bear witness to violence and asks what memories they carry against the grain of official histories. Working with assistants, Suh's collaborative process also becomes a moment of collective witnessing. He says: 'It was not a performance, but there was a deeply moving sense of ritual, or commemoration, that came from doing things together.'

Rubbing/Loving: Company Housing of Gwangju Theater 2012

Graphite on paper, wooden structure; video, monitor, colour and sound (stereo)

This work is a rubbing of a space which lay empty after the Gwangju Uprising, a mass protest against the South Korean military government, in May 1980. After suppressing the protest, the government censored what had occurred. For this work, Suh and a team of assistants covered the building's interior with paper and rubbed the surface, creating a trace of the walls' textures. They worked wearing blindfolds. Through this process, they attempted to reflect on the invisibility of the Gwangju Uprising in South Korea's official collective memory. Peculiarly, one corner of the space was missed by every member of the team. Originally created as a three-dimensional room, for this display Suh unfolds the work into a two-dimensional, floorplan-like structure.

Courtesy the artist, Lehmann Maupin New York, Seoul and London and Victoria Miro. Repurposing supported by Genesis. X89731



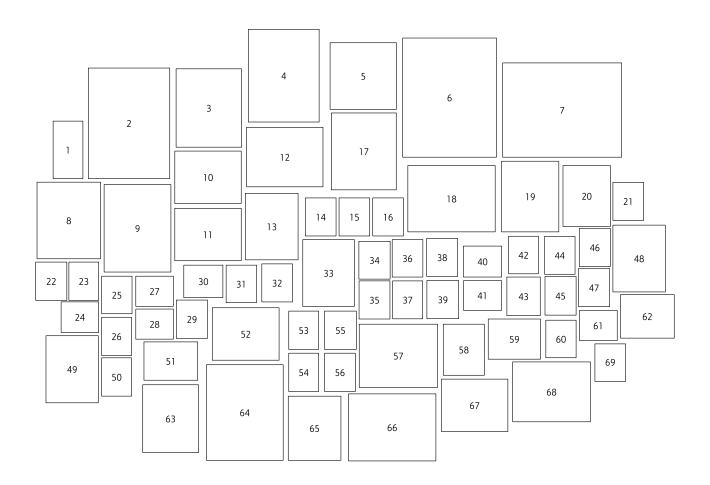
Staircase

2016

Gelatine tissue and thread embedded in paper
Suh made **Staircase** using a process he developed with
gelatine tissue paper, typically used as a support for
embroidery and designed to dissolve in water. He sews
threads into the tissue paper to create 1:1 scale models of
architectural elements and domestic fixtures, such as doors,
light switches, sinks, and in this case, a staircase. Suh then
places the tissue and threads onto wet sheets of paper, into
which the tissue collapses, part-dissolved. Through this fastmoving, collaborative process, three-dimensional space is
flattened onto a two-dimensional surface. It evokes the act of
folding and packing away, emerging from Suh's exploration
of how we can carry certain spaces with us.

Private collection. X90234





1. **Untitled** 2008

Ink on polyester film. Private collection. X90223

2. **Myselves** 2016

Lithograph on paper. Private collection. X90221

3. **My Home/s** 2013

Thread embedded in paper. Private collection. X90226

4. **Home Within Home** 2010

Watercolour on paper. Private collection. X89956

5. **Facing Myself** 2014

Thread embedded in paper. Private collection. X100575

6. **Going Home** 2013

Thread embedded in paper. Private collection. X89946

7. **Karma Juggler** 2013

Thread embedded in paper. Private collection. X100573

8. **Myselves** 2013

Thread embedded in paper. Private collection. X90240

9. Illustrious Figure 2022

Ink on paper. Private collection. X90220

10. **Home Within Home** 2003

Watercolour on paper. Private collection. X89958

11. Seoul Home/L.A. Home 1999

Ink on paper. Private collection. X100568

12. **A Perfect Home** 1999

Ink and watercolour on paper. Private collection. X89960

13. **Aami + Omi + Appa** 2022 Ink on paper. Private collection. X90210

14. **Staircase/s** 2024

Watercolour and coloured pencil on paper. Private collection. X100558

15. **Leaving Home** 2024

Watercolour and coloured pencil on paper. Private collection. X100564

16. **Journey** 2024

Watercolour and coloured pencil on paper. Private collection. X100559

17. Father and Daughter 2022

Thread embedded in paper. Private collection. X90227

18. Karma Juggler 2022

Coloured pencil on paper. Private collection. X90203

19. **Karma** 2002

Ink on paper. Private collection. X90204

20. **Flowers** 2010

Lacquer on paper. Private collection. X100572

21. **Myselves** 2024

Coloured pencil on paper. Private collection. X100549

22. **Body/Building** 2024

Ink on paper. Private collection. X100548

23. **Myselves** 2022

Graphite powder on paper. Private collection. X90191

24. Fist 2002

Watercolour and coloured pencil on paper. Private collection. X89951

25. **Figure Study** 2006

Ink on paper. Private collection. X90177

26. **Self-Portrait** 2006

Watercolour on paper. Private collection. X90187

27. **Bangoopong** 2022

Watercolour on paper. Private collection. X90193

28. **Whisperer** 2023

Graphite powder on paper. Private collection. X90194

29. Chapelle St-Louis de la Salpêtrière 2024 Watercolour and coloured pencil on paper. Private collection. X100547

Fallen Star 2011Watercolour and coloured pencil on paper. Private collection. X90183

31. **Home Within Home** 2024 Ink on paper. Private collection. X100550

32. I am your Conduit 2024Coloured pencil on paper. Private collection.X100552

Father and Son 2004Watercolour on paper. Private collection. X100570

34. Going Home 2022Ink on paper. Private collection. X90174

35. Borderless Home 2024Ink and coloured pencil on paper. Private collection.X100561

36. **Breathing Home** 2024 Watercolour and coloured pencil on paper. Private collection. X100838

37. **Dream Home** 2003

Watercolour and coloured pencil on paper. Private collection. X89955

38. **Breathing Home** 2024

Ink on paper. Private collection. X100562

39. **Breath (348 West 22nd Street)** 2024

Ink on paper. Private collection. X100557

40. **Breathing Space** 2020

Ink and watercolour on paper. Private collection. X90195

41. **Comfort Zon**e 2020

Ink and watercolour on paper. Private collection. X90196

42. **Home Clothing** 2014

Watercolour on paper. Private collection. X90189

43. Unfolded Room 2018

Graphite on paper. Private collection. X90199

44. **Possessed** 2024

Ink on paper. Private collection. X100554

45. **Staircase** 2011

Watercolour on paper. Private collection. X90182

46. **Karma** 2024 Watercolour and coloured pencil on paper. Private collection. X100551

47. **Convergence** 2024 Ink on paper. Private collection. X100563

48. **Spectators** 2015 Ink on paper. Private collection. X90236

49. Untitled 2002Ink on paper. Private collection. X90211

50. Self-Portrait 2014Watercolour and graphite on paper. Private collection. X89953

51. **Culture Shock** 2023 Ink on paper. Private collection. X100546

52. **Self-Portrait (My Journey)** 2023 Ink on paper. Private collection. X90217

53. Family Cuddle 2020Ink on paper. Private collection. X90198

54. **Family Portrait** 2016 Ink on paper. Private collection. X90197

55. Circle 2022Coloured pencil on paper. Private collection. X90173

Self-Portrait 2023Graphite and watercolour on paper. Private collection. X100576

57. **Sleepy Head** 2008 Ink on polyester film. Private collection. X90213

58. **Clingy Home** 2020 Ink on paper. Private collection. X90216

59. Separation Anxiety 2019Ink on paper. Private collection. X90201

60. **Body/Building** 2024 Ink on paper. Private collection. X100555

61. **Staircases** 2009 Watercolour on paper. Private collection. X90179

62. **Perfect Home** 2024 Ink and coloured pencil on paper. Private collection. X100560

63. **Chapelle St-Louis de la Salpêtrière** 2020 Watercolour and graphite on paper. Private collection. X90218

64. **Paratrooper** 2013

Thread embedded in cotton paper. Private collection. X100574

65. **My Country / Our Country** 2002

Ink on paper. Private collection. X89959

66. **Son and Father** 2022

Ink on paper. Private collection. X89962

67. **My Home/s** 2024

Watercolour and coloured pencil on paper. Private collection. X100556

Reflection 2004

Coloured pencil on paper. Private collection. X100571

69. Fart in the Wind 2017

Ink on paper. Private collection. X90175

Time Pockets

2021

Polyester, cotton and assortment of objects

Suh and Rebecca Boyle Suh made these tunics, with specially sewn pockets, for their two children, who were 8 and 10 years old at the time. As the children grew up, their parents tried to keep some of their favourite toys and objects. To make **Time Pockets**, the children selected those objects they considered most significant. The resulting works become markers for what we carry with us across time. They also emphasise the links Suh sees between clothing and architecture, both which are containers and carriers that exist in proximity to the body.

Private collection. X90238-9



[WALL TEXT] WHERE DO SPACE AND MEMORY BEGIN OR END?

Early in his career, Suh often used drawing to develop ideas as well as work through technical issues with his installations. The works on paper displayed here date from 1999 to 2024 and trace how Suh's approach has evolved over the years. They move from immersive to intimate, demonstrating Suh's sensitivity to scale across his practice. You can see how he continually returns to places, forms and subjects as time passes.

Suh's artworks have roots in his training in Korean ink painting, which he studied before emigrating to the United States. This practice traditionally uses paper as its base. Suh plays with the principles of ink painting, describing his interest in the artist's surrendering of control as ink marks expand through the absorbent paper fibres. He initially used ink, watercolour and pencil for his paper-based works, but for more than a decade he has developed his own experimental techniques. In **Staircase**, shown nearby on the right, Suh has worked with threads embroidered on gelatine tissue paper to collapse a three-dimensional form onto a two-dimensional plane. Like the fabric architectures, which can be packed away like clothing, this process allows Suh to create portable versions of meaningful spaces.

The constant return to spaces, or the feeling of being 'haunted' by them, is visualised in the work **Home**Within Home, on the left. Suh uses 3D printing techniques to merge two buildings in which he has previously lived, one in South Korea and the other a house of rented apartments in the US. This process blurs the distinctions between the buildings, which are at a shrunken, more intimate scale. Suh has talked about the cultural collisions and language barriers he experienced on moving from South Korea to the US. His work explores how, as we move through the world, we constantly reconsider who we are, through contact with the places in which we find ourselves.

Home Within Home (1/9 Scale)

2025

Resin

In Home Within Home, a 1:9 recreation of Suh's childhood hanok home in Seoul nestles inside a 19th-century house of rented apartments in Providence – the first place Suh lodged in the US as a student. To create the work, Suh used architectural tools that could measure, 3D-scan, shrink and combine the two existing buildings. He cut the structure into quarters to reveal the differences between them. Home Within Home belongs to an ongoing body of artworks Suh calls 'speculative'. It is connected to a recurring dream in which Suh's childhood hanok home flew over the Pacific Ocean and crashed into the Providence building, trailing an emergency parachute. The buildings are in a constant architectural negotiation with one another. It is unclear whether the hanok is growing from the interior of the house in the United States, or has been transplanted within it.

Courtesy the artist, Lehmann Maupin New York, Seoul and London and Victoria Miro. Creation supported by Genesis. X89727



[WALL TEXT] WHAT SPACES DO WE CARRY WITH US?

There is a deliberate tension in Suh's work between precision and impression, reminiscing and forgetting, the act of preserving and moving on. His fabric architectures and rubbings evoke the places he has inhabited, but the materials he makes them from resist exact replication. Fabric yields, minutely altering the shape of the buildings it brings into view. Paper cannot perfectly cling to the contours of every detail as Suh rubs over them. He explains: 'It's more about capturing enough visual and physical information to evoke a sense of the space as I experienced it.'

Before Suh left New York for London, he rubbed the interiors of the apartment he had rented for two decades, creating Rubbing/Loving Project: Unit 2, 348 West 22nd Street, New York, NY 10011, USA. He moved to London in 2016, and portrays his home in this city in the fabric architecture Perfect Home: London, Horsham, New York, Berlin, Providence, Seoul. The work is based on a 1:1 scale outline of the interior of Suh's London home, but accumulated within it are fixtures and fittings from multiple places he and his family have lived in over the years. He locates light switches, doorknobs and plug sockets at the positions and heights they would be found in their original geographic location. Suh evokes the almost unconscious rituals that create a sense

of familiarity such as opening a door or switching on a light. He has compared the disorienting effects of adjusting to these geographic differences to the physical experience of jetlag.

Suh refers to the fixtures in these two works as 'specimens'. In the wall-based Rubbing/Loving Project: Unit 2, 348
West 22nd Street, New York, NY 10011, USA, they are still in their original packing, evoking a display case in a natural history museum. In his acts of 'preserving' spaces and their memories, Suh describes being flooded with both recollections and apparitions: 'overtaken by the meditative process of rubbing ... I felt as if I was hallucinating.' The works also remind us that our own memories of any time and place are often partial and fragmentary.

Perfect Home: London, Horsham, New York, Berlin, Providence, Seoul

2024

Polyester fabric and stainless steel

The outline of this work is based on a 1:1 form of the interior of Suh's present home in London, following his migration here in the 2010s. Inside, **Perfect Home** reveals fixtures and appliances from multiple places Suh and his family have inhabited over the years. These light switches, doorknobs and other small elements of our dwelling spaces, touched constantly over time, contribute to our understanding of home. Almost subconsciously, we remember how to reach for these well-used items. Suh colour-codes the objects based on their location or origin, and places them at their original height, resulting in a dizzying accumulation of places and time zones within the work.

You are invited to enter the work.

Courtesy the artist, Lehmann Maupin New York, Seoul and London and Victoria Miro.

Creation supported by Genesis. X8972



Rubbing/Loving Project: Unit 2, 348 West 22nd Street, New York, NY 10011, USA

2014-23

Coloured pencil on paper and stainless steel pins

Suh made these rubbings of objects in his rented home in New York, a building he lived in for over 20 years. The rubbings are arranged by type, such as air vents, bathroom fixtures and light switches. Before moving out of the apartment, Suh received permission to rub the surfaces of the building's interiors. His landlord and friend, Arthur Henoch, who had lived on the floor above, had died with dementia, and the subject of memory loss preoccupied Suh as he created the work. 'The instant I've masked (a) surface I can no longer remember what's exactly behind it. I'm aware that I know what's under the paper, but I can't have access to the memory. When I start rubbing, things rush back.' Suh used a different colour to create the paper traces for each section. A physically and emotionally exhausting, monthslong task, the process becomes one of memorialising spaces. Private collection.

Repurposing supported by Genesis. X90237



EXIT GALLERY/ROOM 2

Bridge Project: Phase I

1999-2012

Video, 4 flat screens, colour, no sound

Duration: 11 min

Bridge Project began during Suh's time living in New York. Here, Suh measured the location of the 'perfect home' at a midpoint between Seoul and New York, proposing four speculative bridge designs that span the North Pacific Ocean.

Courtesy the artist, Lehmann Maupin New York, Seoul and London and Victoria Miro. X89729

[WALL TEXT] BRIDGE PROJECT

Bridge Project is a speculative exploration by Suh, begun in 1999, imagining his 'perfect home' at the centre of a bridge connecting the three key cities in his life. The notion of a 'perfect home' is a provocation – an impossible idea. In Phase 1, Suh proposes four speculative bridge designs that span the North Pacific Ocean, linking Seoul to New York. Phase 2 includes London, where he now lives. Measuring the distances between these three locations, Suh found their midpoint to lie in the Arctic Ocean.

Suh invites us to consider how art can imagine new worlds, even if some will remain unrealised. At the same time, he grapples with real-world social, political and ecological issues. Suh's 'perfect home' would be located over 700 kilometres from the nearest Arctic Ocean coastline. The exact site is under no country's jurisdiction but has been subject to competing claims from Norway, Canada, Denmark, Russia and the US. The nearest lands are home to the Indigenous Chukchi of the Chukotka Peninsula and the Iñupiat of Alaska. The project raises many questions. Whose land would the bridge infringe upon? What would the environmental impact be? With so many homes under threat, surely the idea of a 'perfect home' is contradictory?

Suh has worked with specialists from architecture, engineering, industrial and clothing design, philosophy,

anthropology and biology, to interrogate these issues. The project is also informed by Suh's own migration experiences and reflections on globalisation. While the work has various outcomes – designs, maps, animations and survival suits – at its core it exists in an imaginary space.

Perfect Home S.O.S (Smallest Occupiable Shelter) in collaboration with KOLON SPORT 2024

Polyester, nylon and polyurethane

A prototype of a suit made for the Arctic site of the 'perfect home', designed in collaboration with a company that has custom-made clothing for Polar travel.

Bridge Project: Drawings

1999-2024

Graphite, ink, watercolour, digital print, tape and paper

These drawings were made collaboratively by Suh and a research team. They explore design solutions for the bridges that would connect together, with Suh's imagined 'perfect home' in the middle, as well as various speculations on what would be required for the journey.

[WALL TEXT] AUDIO INTERVIEWS

Since the beginning of **Bridge Project**, Suh has held conversations with collaborators in the fields of anthropology, engineering, politics and philosophy, and with members of the Iñupiat community based in Utqiagvik, Alaska, which is 750 kilometres from Suh's 'perfect home'. Here are recordings of four conversations and correspondences with anthropologist and writer Hugh Brody, bridge engineer Kalil Erazo, philosopher Sarah Fine, and actor and educator, Doreen Nutaaq Simmonds.

Some of the questions they discuss are: What does it mean to speak of 'home' when the homes of the Indigenous Peoples of the Arctic are threatened by climate change, and by governments that don't fully recognise and protect their rights?

What would be the carbon footprint of such a bridge on our planet? The bridge would probably need to be made of steel or concrete. Given the scale, the construction process itself would be significant. What are the stakes of imagining such a structure when climate change is rapidly affecting global temperatures, creating rising sea levels?

The extended versions of these conversations are also printed in a newspaper published by the artist, which you are invited to take with you, or to access a digital copy via the QR code below:



Bridge Project: Audio Interviews

2025

Sound (stereo) and newspapers

Kalil Erazo, bridge engineer, with Do Ho Suh

Duration: 24 min

Hugh Brody, anthropologist and writer

Duration: 15 min

Doreen Nutaaq Simmonds, actor and educator

Duration: 38 min

Kalil Erazo, bridge engineer, with Do Ho Suh

Duration: 24 min

Sarah Fine, philosopher, with Do Ho Suh

Duration: 21 min

Bridge Project: Phase II

1999-ongoing

Video, projection, colour; sound (stereo)

Duration: 24 min

When Suh relocated to London in the 2010s, he re-measured the midpoint of his 'perfect home' to be between Seoul, New York and London, located in the Arctic Ocean. In **Phase II**, Suh explores the real-world social, political and ecological dimensions of this hypothetical location.