

THE ARTIST

- Haegue Yang (b. 1971, South Korea) is a Professor of Fine Arts at the Städelschule in Frankfurt am Main.
- Yang's practice spans a wide range of media, from paper collage to performative sculpture to large-scale installations, which often feature everyday objects, in addition to labour-intensive woven sculptures.



THE ARTWORK



THE HYBRID INTERMEDIATES – FLOURISHING ELECTROPHORUS DUO

The Sonic Intermediate – Hairy Carbonous Dweller and
The Randing Intermediate – Furless Uncolored Dweller
2022

Powder-coated stainless-steel frames, mesh and handles, casters, rattan, powder-coated stainless-steel bells, stainless steel bells, split rings, plastic twine and artificial plants, 210 x 107 x 107 cm each

- **MEDIUM:** *The Hybrid Intermediates – Flourishing Electrophorus Duo* consists of two sculptures, *The Sonic Intermediate – Hairy Carbonous Dweller* and *The Randing Intermediate – Furless Uncolored Dweller*. Both sculptures' frames are made of stainless steel. One is covered with rattan, the other is shrouded in bells and plastic twine.
- **TECHNIQUES/PROCESSES:** The artist carefully chooses her materials, oftentimes household objects, to discuss larger themes, such as power and movement. *The Hybrid Intermediates – Flourishing Electrophorus Duo*, which she refers to as "thing-figures," have forms that reference electrical appliances or an electrical outlet. Yang lends movement and gives presence to a static and unassuming object—the electrical outlet that is usually embedded in the wall—by making it larger than life and setting it on casters. The sculptures also have components that allow them to connect and be in dialogue with each other within the space, alluding to the notion of duality.
- **IDEAS/INSPIRATIONS/CONTEXT:** Apart from the electrical outlet, Yang is also inspired by bells, which have long been present in the rituals of various civilisations, from Korean Shamanism to European pagan cultures, and link humans to the cosmos. In rituals, the metallic sound of the bell reverberates through the body and can be expressed through dance. This moment of connection is said to elevate one's spiritual state.

DID YOU KNOW?

1. The sculptures will be activated throughout the period of the Biennale. The artist engages performers to bring these anthropomorphic sculptures that resemble otherworldly beings to life. Equipped with handles, the sculptures on casters can be operated for simple movements, and their tinkling bells produce subtle yet invigorating rattling sounds reminiscent of those used in spiritual rituals.
2. The artist used the most basic weaving technique, randing, which uses a single rod as the main stake around which the rest of the material is woven.

Artist Folio – MEETING NATASHA

SECONDARY:

ENGLISH

SCIENCE

ACTIVITIES AND QUESTIONS

PRE-VISIT

- What comes to mind when you think about “thing-figures”?

DURING YOUR VISIT

- Observe the materials used in making the sculptures. Why do you think the artist chose these combinations of materials?
- What are the differences or similarities between each sculpture?

POST-VISIT

These peculiar “thing-figures” in the form of multiple electrical outlets forge a dynamic pair that invite us to dance.

- How do the differences or similarities between the sculptures help facilitate their dance together?
- If you could make two things in your house dance together, what would they be and how would they dance?

FIND OUT MORE

- Garceau, Scott. “Haegue Yang’s cones of concern and hybrid intermediaries.” *The Philippine Star*, 14 November 2022. <https://philstarlife.com/geeky/775996-haegue-yang-cones-hybrid-intermediaries?page=3> (accessed 22 December 2022).
- Gaskin, Sam. “Haegue Yang, Creator of a ‘Hairy Carbonous Dweller’, Wins Benesse Prize.” *Ocula*, 20 October 2022. <https://ocula.com/magazine/art-news/haegue-yang-wins-benesse-prize/> (accessed 22 December 2022).
- Tate. “Haegue Yang – Strange Attractors.” Tate. 26 June 2021. YouTube video, 9:38. <https://youtu.be/RCzsqSglAac>.

