

Minu Park

Independent Scholar

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AREAS OF INTEREST

- ✓ Performance and Theater Studies; Indigenous, Postcolonial, and Decolonial Studies
- ✓ Korean Shamanism; Food and Fermentation Studies; Trauma and Psychoanalysis
- ✓ Diaspora; Global Asias; Asian American Studies; Embodiment and Affect

EDUCATION

- 2024 **Ph.D. Drama and Theatre**, Joint program with University of California, Irvine (Drama Department) and University of California, San Diego (Department of Theatre and Dance), CA
Dissertation title: *Untying Pain: Performances of Survival in Postcolonial South Korea*
Committee: Ketu Katrak (Chair), Daphne Lei (Chair), Gabriele Schwab, Julie Burelle, Anthony Kubiak
- 2018 **M.A. Theatre and Film**, Bowling Green State University, OH
- 2016 **B.A. English Literature**, Korea University, Seoul, Korea
B.A. Media & Communication, Korea University, Seoul, Korea

TEACHING & PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2025 Lecturer, Seoul Open City University
Horror Knows: Cinematic Reflections of Social Anxiety and Historical Trauma in Contemporary Korea
- 2024–2025 Lecturer, Drama Department, University of California, Irvine
Modern American Drama; Theater and Mental Health; Theater and War
- 2019–2022 Teaching Associate, Drama Department, University of California, Irvine
Development of Drama Series

Additional Teaching Experience (selected)

Discussion Section Instructor

Studio Era Cinema (Spring 2024), Dept. of Film and Media Studies, UC Irvine

Silent Era Cinema (Winter 2024), Dept. of Film and Media Studies, UC Irvine

U.S. Broadcasting Media History & Analysis (Winter 2023), Dept. of Film and Media Studies, UC Irvine

Guest Lectures

“Wordless Bodies, Watery Worlds: Women and the Body” (Summer 2025), Dept. of Anthropology, UC Irvine

“Food and Korean America” (Spring 2023), Dept. of Drama, UC Irvine

“Bong Joon Ho’s *Mother* and Dance as Alternative Language” (Summer 2022), Dept. of East Asian Studies, UC Irvine

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

2025 “When the Oxygen Mask Becomes Excess: The Ethics of Cultural Preservation and *Haenyeo Kitchen’s* Food Ecology.” *Asian Theatre Journal* 42, no. 2 (Fall): 472-489.
<https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/atj.2025.a968811>.

2023 “Researching Spontaneous Doing: Random Dance as Decolonial Praxis in *Dancing Grandmothers*.” *Performance Matters* 9, no. 1-2: 222–235. <https://doi.org/10.7202/1102396ar>

2022 “No Choice but to Care: Performing Care to Survive in Korean Shamanism and Jeju Women.” *Performance, Religion, and Spirituality* 4, no. 1: 63-81. The University of Toledo Press.
<https://openjournals.utoledo.edu/index.php/prs/article/view/609>

Chapter in Edited Volumes

Forthcoming. “Dramaturgy of Liminality: Locating the Ritual in Eun-me Ahn’s *Dancing Grandmothers*.” *Dramaturgy and Decolonization in Global Theatre and Performance*, Magda Romanska, Kee-Yoon Nahm, Taiwo Afolabi, Jimmy Noriega, Marjan Moosavi eds. (under contract with Bloomsbury)

Commissioned. “Shamanic Echoes: Korean Diaspora, Popular Culture, and the Work of Re-enchantment” (working title). *The Oxford Handbook of Asian American Religions*, Oxford Handbook Series. Melissa Borja, Helen Kim, Justin Tse eds.

Manuscripts Under Review

Submitted for consideration. *Eating into Entanglement: The Alchemy of Fermentation in Indigenous-Diasporic Koreas*. University of Hawai’i Press, Global Asias: Method, Architecture, Praxis book series.

Submitted for consideration. “On Listening as an Epistemic Condition: Transnational Bodies at the Limits of Interpretation — Notes from an Encounter with Frida.” *Journal of Asian American Studies*.

Submitted for consideration. “Hybrid Monstrosity and Feminine Violence in Asian Horror: Genre, Witnessing, and the Body in *Bedevilled*.” In *Spectral Boundaries: Gender and Sexuality in Asian Horror Cinema*, edited by Soumyarup Bhattacharjee.

Under external review. “Diasporic Citation as Indigenous Magic: Radical Relationality in Korean American Shamanic Arts.” *Verge: Studies in Global Asias* 13, no. 1.

Works in Development

Edited collection. *The Rituals of Screen Horror: History, Trauma, and Ghost Ontologies from Digital Asia*

SCHOLARLY INITIATIVES & EDITORIAL WORK

Founder and editor, *The Witching Archive: Journal of Knowledge Academia Couldn't Hold*

- 2025 Co-authored with Chee-Hann Wu. "K-pop's Transnational Technique: Affective Aesthetics in Protest Infrastructure across Korea and Taiwan." <https://www.witchingarchive.com/post/issue-1-k-pop-s-transnational-technique-affective-aesthetics-in-protest-infrastructure-across-kor>
- 2025 "Where Is the Space for [Asian] Anger?" <https://www.witchingarchive.com/post/where-is-the-space-for-asian-anger>

SELECTED AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2025 Research Grant, *Performing Fermentation: Food and Spirituality in the Korean Diaspora*. The Asia Pacific American Religions Research Initiative (APARRI)
- 2025 Faculty Professional Development Fund Award, UC Irvine, Unit 18
- 2024 Emerging Scholar Award, "When the Oxygen Mask Becomes Excess: The Ethics of Cultural Preservation and *Haenyeo Kitchen's* Food Ecology." The Association for Asian Performance (AAP)
- 2024 Travel Grant, David Keller Award, "Finding Home in a Persian Garden: *Kimchi Forage & Fermentation* and Transnational Belonging.", American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR)
- 2023 Completion Fellowship, Graduate Division, UC Irvine
- 2022 Graduate Dean's Dissertation Fellowship Award, UC Irvine
- 2022 "Performing Care, Imagining Peace: Politics of Care in Korean Shamanism and Jeju Women" Medici Scholarship, Claire Trevor School of the Arts, University of California, Irvine

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 "To Eat from Wounded Land: Ecologies of Fermentation and Jeju's Indigeneity." Critical Island Studies (CIS)
- 2025 "Deception as Ritual: Shamanic Play and the Haunting of History in *The Wailing* and *Exhuma*." Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS)
- 2025 "Korean Musical Beyond Spectacle: Transnational Encounters in *Frida: The Last Night Show* at the University of Southern California." Association for Asian Studies (AAS)
- 2024 "Multicultural/Cross-Cultural Dance & Performance: Unity in Motion." Invited talk, Department of Asian & Asian American Studies, California State University, Long Beach
- 2024 "Can Diaspora Be a Hero?: Multiverse as Diaspora Narrative in *Black Panther* and *Everything Everywhere All At Once*." Global Asias Conference
- 2023 "Performing the Arts of Suffering: Young Artists in Jeju Island and Transgenerational Healing." American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR)

- 2023 “Reviewing Academia in the Global Context: Tensions Between Domestic and International Korean Studies.” Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE)
- 2022 “Are Culpability and Victimhood Incompatible?: Survivor’s Guilt and Collective Activism in South Korea.” Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE)

SERVICE

Association for Asian Performance (AAP)

- 2024–2026 IT Officer and Webmaster
- 2021–2023 Graduate Student Representative

Inclusive Academic Community Engagement

- 2019 – 2020 Graduate Student Representative, Diverse Educational Community and Doctoral Experience (DECADE), University of California

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

- 2025 “K-Culture in the United States: How the Korean Diaspora Translates K-pop and K-food.” Invited lecture, Daerim Middle School and Doksan High School, Seoul
- 2022 – current Brunch Story (Korean online magazine), <https://brunch.co.kr/@minupark>
Selected series:
- *Reading Theatre History Philosophically*
 - *Modern American Drama and The American Dream*
 - *Critical Performance Review*
- 2022 Writer, HSAd web magazine (Korea)
- “What Would Be Our Body’s Language? (a.k.a. *cho-ba-ddaen*),” <https://blog.hsad.co.kr/3222>
 - “*Tiger Style!* Watching Asian American Play in Orange County,” <https://blog.hsad.co.kr/3238>
 - “Madame Proust’s Sweet Healing,” <https://blog.hsad.co.kr/3265>

PROFESSIONAL THEATER & DRAMATURGY

- 2021 Translations/Language Consultant, *Coleman’72* by Charlie Oh, South Coast Repertory’s Pacific Playwrights Festival
- 2018 Dramaturg, *Helen, Pretext for War* by Nick Schweitzer, dir. Janeve West, Mid-America Theatre Conference (MATC) Playwriting Symposium
- 2015 Translator/Interpreter, *Living Room*, Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards, 15th Seoul Performing Arts Festival (SPAF)

LANGUAGES

Korean (native)

English (fluent)

German (intermediate)