

Chance Encounter, Seoul Intercontinental Hotel

金高芸

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<http://www.kimgottlieb.com>
kimgo@kimgottlieb.com

PERMANENT INSTALLATION : CHANCE ENCOUNTER

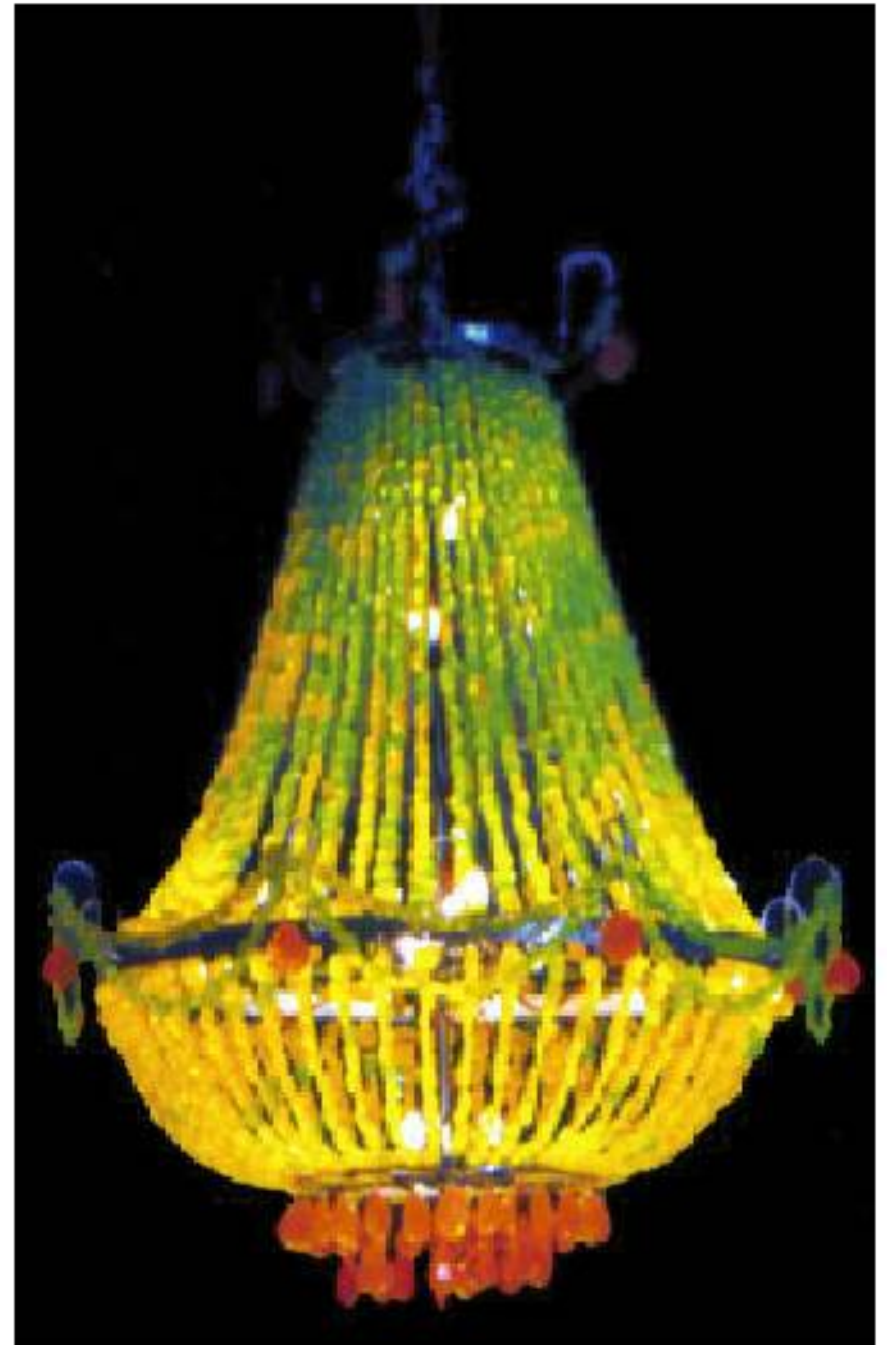
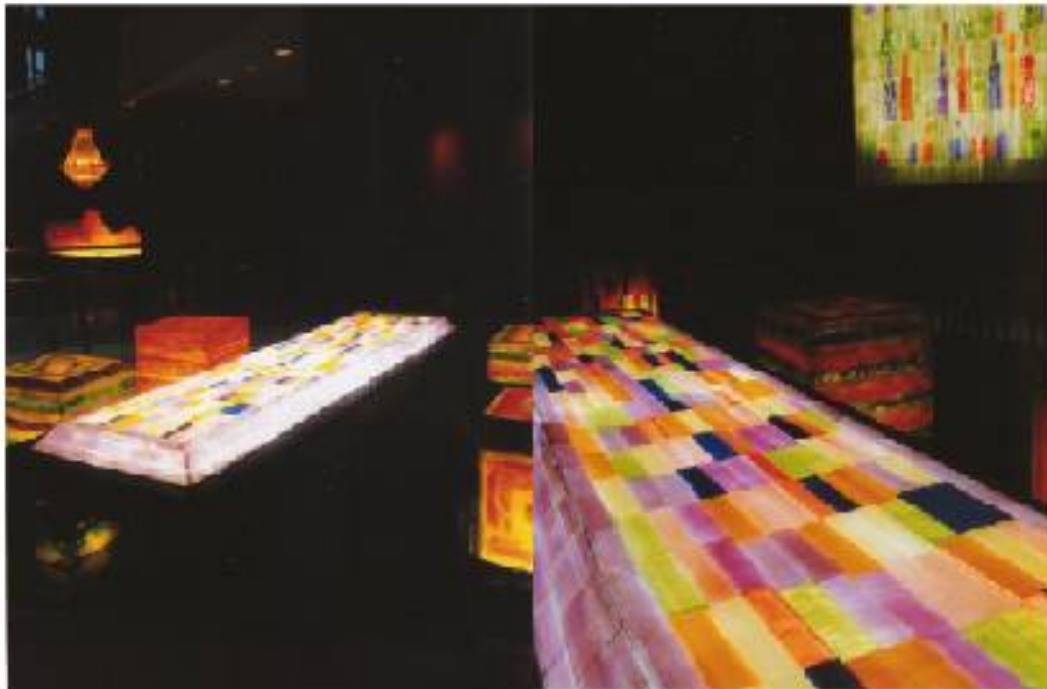
COEX INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL, SEOUL 2003



Jinran Kim's illuminated soap-covered objects are solemn testaments to time. At first glance, the pretty colours and floral perfumes create a gentle and playful mood, yet these objects remain, glowing unmoving in their sweet patinas of misused soap, soap which will never dissolve in the act of cleansing.

This stagnant soap is stopped in its function of relieving the social body of its filth. Filth the ancient enemy, carrier of disease, had once acquired a visceral moral analogue, that of sin which sickens the community. Today filth is almost fashionable, yet our dreams and aspirations are still supposed to be filled with soap-sweet-smelling innocence where pristine figures meet and speak their simple eternal truths.

Jinran Kim recasts the world in soap with a tender irony that speaks of wasted time and missed opportunities, forever beckoning the fantasy like enticing coloured signs on the night streets. The bittersweet ecstasies of an unliveable dream.



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