

*Luminous Path* marks the third philanthropic exhibition organized by Civil Art along with Christie's CSR + ED&I, continuing to create platforms where art acts as a catalyst for cultural empowerment, community building, fundraising and cross-sector collaboration. Open from June 18–23 at Christie's Rockefeller Center, the exhibition brings together 17 artists across generations and cultures whose practices engage with light as both a material condition and a conceptual device, considering how illumination has long served as a means of understanding the world around us and our place within it. Through this partnership, art becomes not only a site of reflection, but also an opportunity for community and collective impact.

Across cultures and throughout history, light has appeared as a recurring motif through which societies have sought to explain transformation, hope, revelation and renewal. Light is meaningful because darkness exists alongside it. We understand brightness because we have experienced obscurity; we recognise joy because we have known grief, certainty because we have faced doubt and belonging because we have encountered isolation. In this sense, the works in *Luminous Path* are not simply about light itself, but about its repercussions, exploring what illumination can reveal, transform or obscure. The artists in the exhibition convey light becoming a pathway toward freedom, identity, memory, resilience and self-discovery, a means through which we encounter ourselves, others and the conditions of human existence.

This tension feels particularly resonant throughout the works gathered in *Luminous Path*. While the exhibition invites optimism and possibility, it also encourages us to consider what remains unseen beyond the edge of the light. Across the exhibition, illumination emerges not as a symbol of certainty, but as a means of navigating the complexities of life's experiences. In the works of Dabin Ahn and Sung Hwa Kim, light and shadow evoke the quiet persistence of nostalgia, memory and the traces of moments that linger long after they have passed. Bambou Gili turns toward the nocturnal as a psychological space, expressing the isolation and introspection that often accompany the search for connection. Arghavan Khosravi explores the delicate tension between freedom and confinement, revealing how pathways forward are often shaped by competing forces of possibility and restriction. In Ho Jae Kim's work, light becomes a vehicle through which identity reveals itself in its entirety — illuminating beauty and imperfection, strength and vulnerability, as inseparable parts of the self. Meanwhile, Tuan Vu employs light as a portal into the realm of imagination, where storytelling, memory and wonder converge.

Together, these artists suggest that light does not erase darkness but instead helps us understand and move through it. This idea feels especially meaningful in support of Apex

for Youth and the communities served through *Luminous Path*. Despite persistent assumptions surrounding the success of Asian American communities, many Asian and immigrant families continue to face poverty, displacement and barriers to opportunity. The pathways we follow are never singular; they are shaped by histories, circumstances and communities. In bringing these voices together, *Luminous Path* asks us to consider not only what illuminates our journeys, but also the unseen realities that accompany them — and the responsibility we share in helping others find their way forward.

Written by Sarah Markovitz