

CHARLES BURNAND GALLERY

BOUNDED SHADOWS
THE ART OF KYEOK KIM

collect

28 FEB–02 MAR 2025
PREVIEWS 26–27 FEB
SOMERSET HOUSE
LONDON
 Crafts
Council



BOUNDED SHADOWS

In the realm of contemporary art, few materials command the sense of tactile wonder and timeless elegance as copper wire and Otchil lacquer—a pairing transformed by the Seoul-based artist Kyeok Kim into evocative forms that blur the boundaries of craft, design, and fine art. It is with great honour that we present this solo exhibition at Collect Art Fair 2025, one of the premier global platforms for contemporary craft and design. This prestigious fair, renowned for showcasing boundary-pushing works by leading artists, offers a fitting stage to celebrate Kyeok Kim's transcendent artistry and her exploration of tradition and innovation.

Kyeok Kim's mastery begins with her materials. Copper wire, traditionally associated with industrial and functional purposes, is transformed through an intricate process of crochet—a method she employs to create complex, lattice-like structures. Each wire is meticulously intertwined, forming patterns that balance strength and delicacy. Once these forms are constructed, Kim, applies layers of Otchil lacquer, a traditional Korean varnish derived from tree sap. This labor-intensive process requires patience and skill, as multiple layers are built up, polished, and refined to achieve a luminous, durable finish that enhances the texture and form of each piece. These creations are then imbued with the depth and vitality of Otchil lacquer, a centuries-old Korean technique that Kyeok reimagines for contemporary practice. The resulting works are suspended in time, at once organic and architectural, delicate and enduring.

This exhibition also situates itself within the broader narrative of Kyeok Kim's artistic journey. Her participation in the prestigious Loewe Foundation Craft Prize underscored her as a global voice in the dialogue between traditional craftsmanship and modern aesthetics. Her formal training at the Royal College of Art and her background in jewellery making have further honed her ability to transform intricate techniques into groundbreaking works of art. Recognition by this esteemed platform, alongside her participation in notable exhibitions across Asia and Europe, reflects Kyeok's ability to transcend geographic and cultural boundaries while remaining deeply rooted in her heritage.

At Collect Art Fair 2025, Bounded Shadows invites viewers to consider not only the forms themselves but also their interplay with light and shadow. The silhouettes cast by Kyeok's works become as integral as the physical structures, weaving layers of narrative through the spaces they occupy. These shadows remind us of the delicate balance between materiality and immateriality, presence and absence.

Through the works exhibited, Kyeok Kim demonstrates what can be achieved through threadlike copper and shimmering Otchil, drawing on the meticulous craftsmanship she cultivated in her jewellery-making practice. Her artistry is a testament to the power of innovation grounded in tradition. As you engage with this remarkable collection, may you find yourself immersed in the worlds she so elegantly spins—where light, form, and shadow are forever intertwined.

KYEOK KIM

A graduate of Metal Art & Design at Hongik University, Kyeok Kim's creations, spanning jewellery, objects, and installations, have graced over 80 exhibitions across Europe, Asia and the USA. Notable showcases include the 2015 KOREA NOW exhibition at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs in Paris and Loewe Foundation Craft Prize in 2021.

The artist delved into crafting pieces using copper wires intricately woven in crochet and coated with Korean lacquer (ottchil), following the ancient techniques from her homeland. This meticulous process, symbolically evoking the passage of time, forms the foundation of her 'Second Surface' collection. Within this series, vases and vessels drawn from traditional Korean forms, are envisioned as containers, encapsulating memories and past encounters. Kim, thus gives life to light elements that by distorting themselves create unusual forms.





Second Surface OB13 Side Table | 2023

Copper, jute, wood, ottchil (Korean lacquer)

H. 60 x W. 120 x D. 35 cm | H. 23 5/8 x W. 47 1/4 x D. 13 3/4 inches

Photo: Kyeok Kim

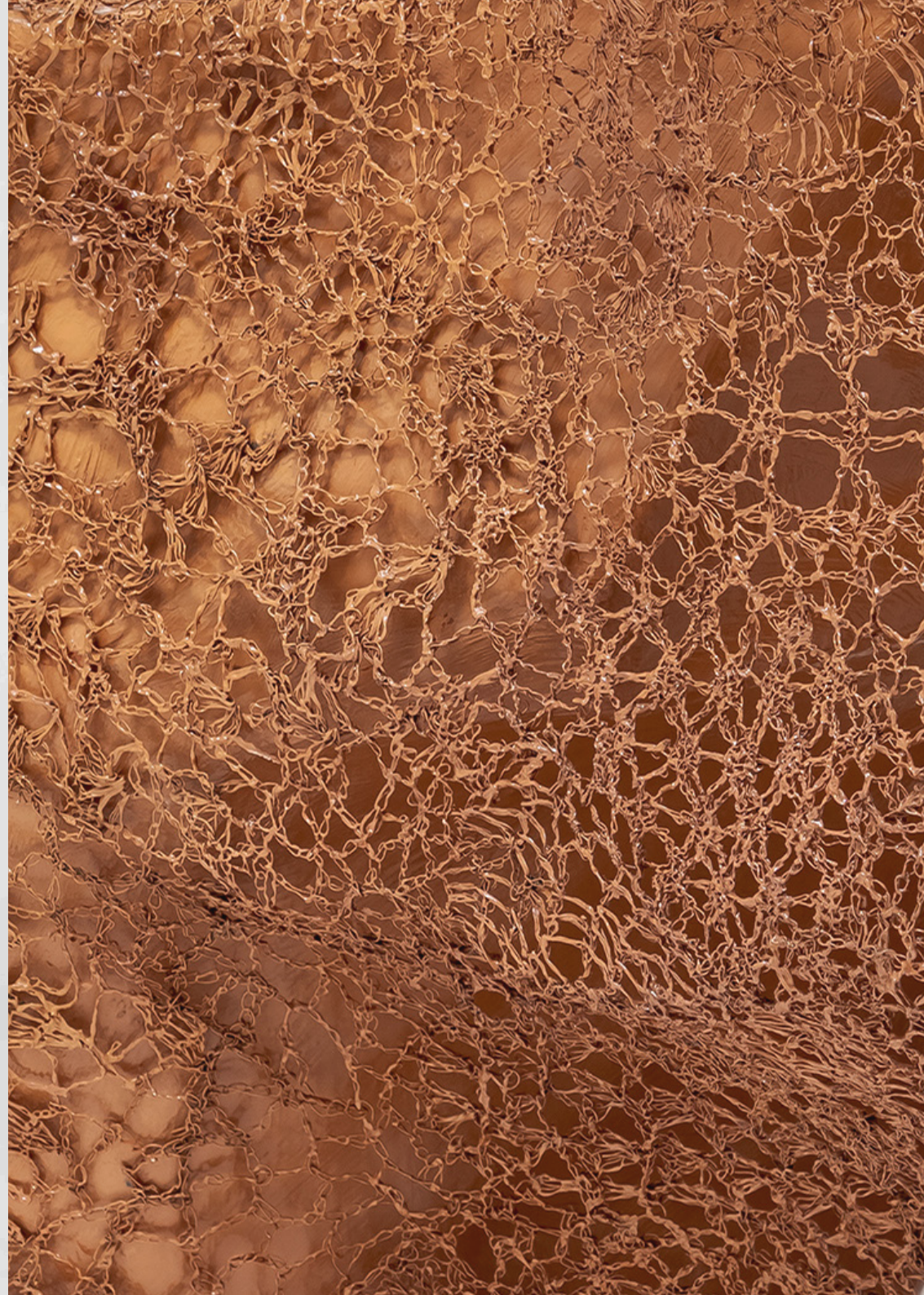


Second Surface OB11 Side Table | 2023

Copper, jute, wood, ottchil (Korean lacquer)

H. 50 x W. 90 x D. 60 cm | H. 19 3/4 x W. 35 3/8 x D. 23 5/8 inches

Photo: Kyeok Kim





Second Surface Lighting 1 | 2024

Copper, gold leaf

H. 220 x D. 50 cm | H. 86 5/8 x D. 19 3/4 inches

Second Surface Lighting 2 | 2024

Copper, gold leaf

H. 180 x D. 50 cm | H. 70 7/8 x D. 19 3/4 inches

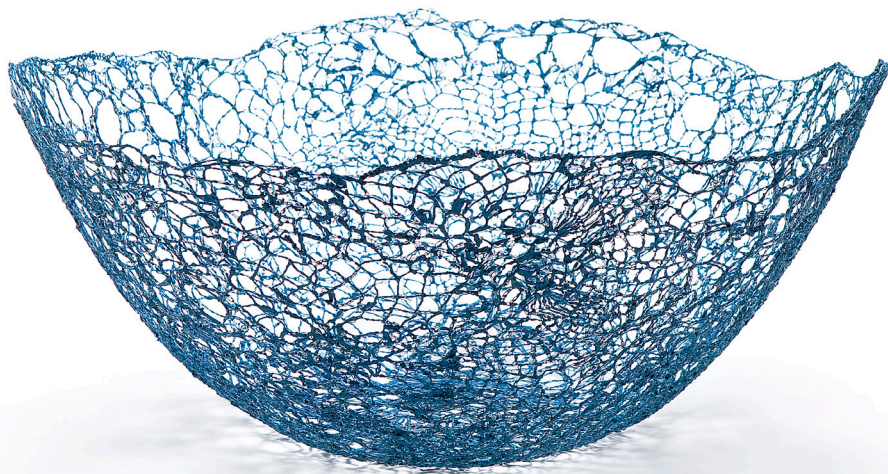
Second Surface Lighting 3 | 2024

Copper, gold leaf

H. 220 x D. 50 cm | H. 86 5/8 x D. 19 3/4 inches

Photo: Graham Pearson



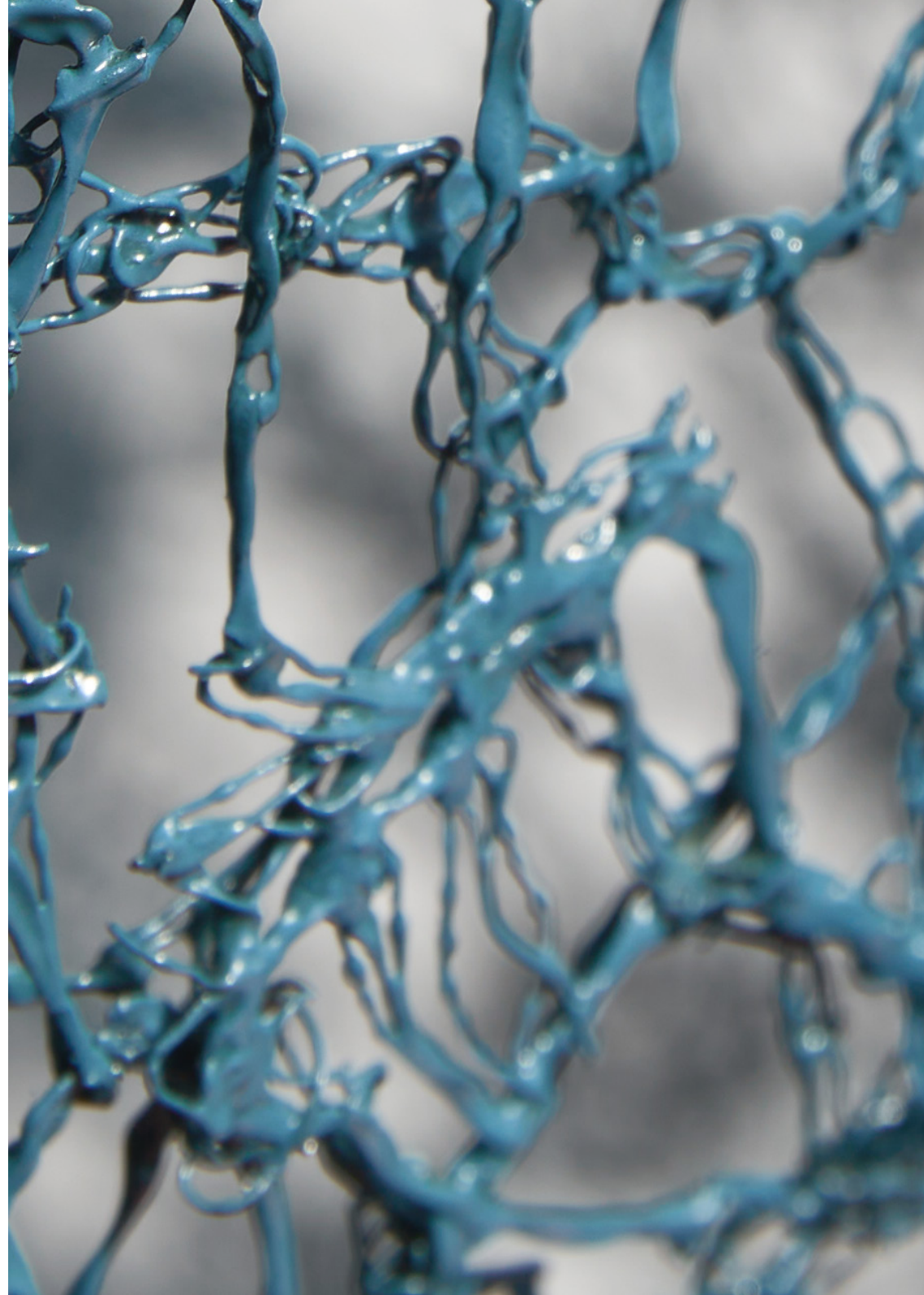


Second Surface OB1 | 2021

Copper, ottchil (Korean lacquer)

H. 19 x W. 46 x D. 46 cm | H. 7 1/2 x W. 18 1/8 x D. 18 1/8 inches

Photo: Kyeok Kim





Second Surface OB6 | 2022

Copper, ottchil (Korean lacquer)

H. 35 x W. 28 x D. 56 cm | H. 13 3/4 x W. 11 x D. 22 inches

Photo: Kyeok Kim



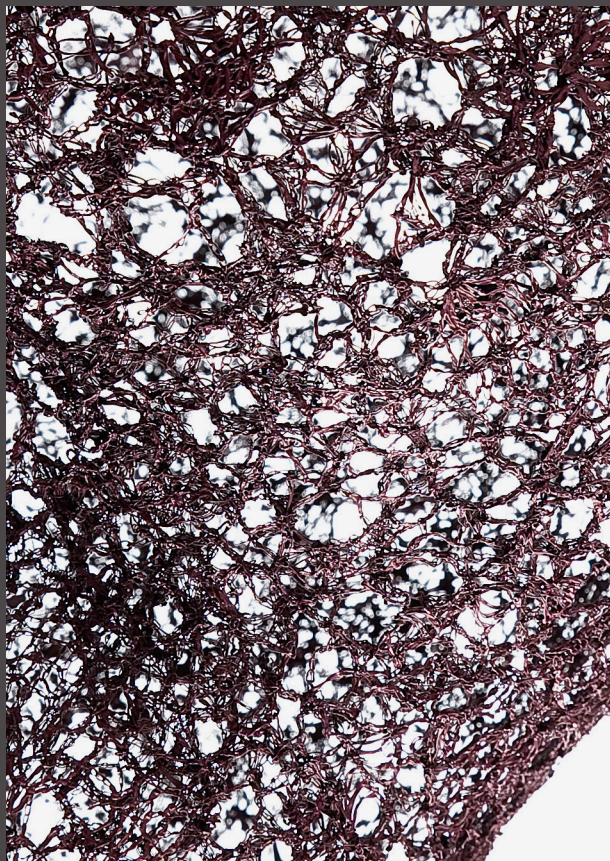
Second Surface OB9 | 2022

Copper, ottchil (Korean lacquer)

H. 41 x W. 46 x D. 58 cm | H. 16 1/8 x W. 18 1/8 x D. 22 7/8 inches

Photo: Kyeok Kim





Second Surface OB5 | 2022

Copper, ottchil (Korean lacquer)

H. 54 x W. 35 x D. 40 cm | H. 21 1/4 x W. 13 3/4 x D. 15 3/4 inches

Photo: Kyeok Kim



Second Surface OB8 | 2022

Copper, oit chil (Korean lacquer)

H. 63 x W. 48 x D. 43 cm | H. 24 3/4 x W. 18 7/8 x D. 16 7/8 inches

Photo: Kyeok Kim





Second Surface Ob14 - Ob17 | 2023

Copper, ottchil (Korean lacquer)

OB14. H. 21 W. 36 D. 70 cm | H. 8 1/4 x W. 14 1/8 x D. 27 1/2 inches

OB15. H. 19 W. 38 D. 72 cm | H. 7 1/2 x W. 15 x D. 28 3/8 inches

OB16. H. 145 W. 17 D. 22 cm | H. 57 1/8 x W. 6 3/4 x D. 8 5/8 inches

OB17. H. 16 W. 41 D. 23 cm | H. 6 1/4 x W. 16 1/8 x D. 9 inches

Photo: Kyeok Kim





Second Surface OB18 | 2025

Copper, ottchil (Korean lacquer)

H. 41 x W. 33 x D. 55 cm | H. 16 1/8 x W. 13 x D. 21 5/8 inches

Photo: Kyeok Kim



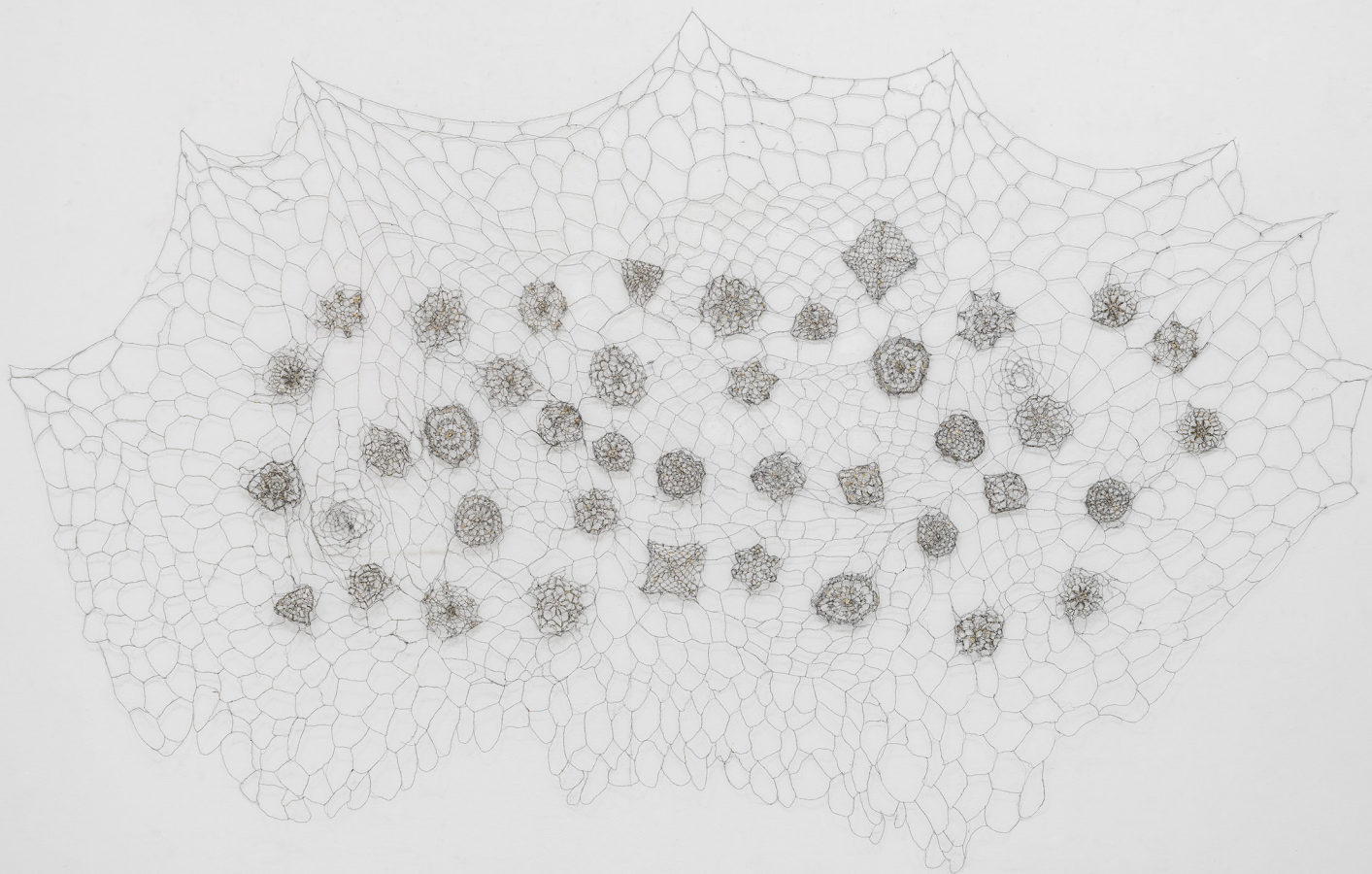


Second Surface Wall 01 | 2022

Copper, gold leaf

H. 250 x W. 340 cm | H. 98 3/8 x W. 133 7/8 inches

Photo: Kyeok Kim

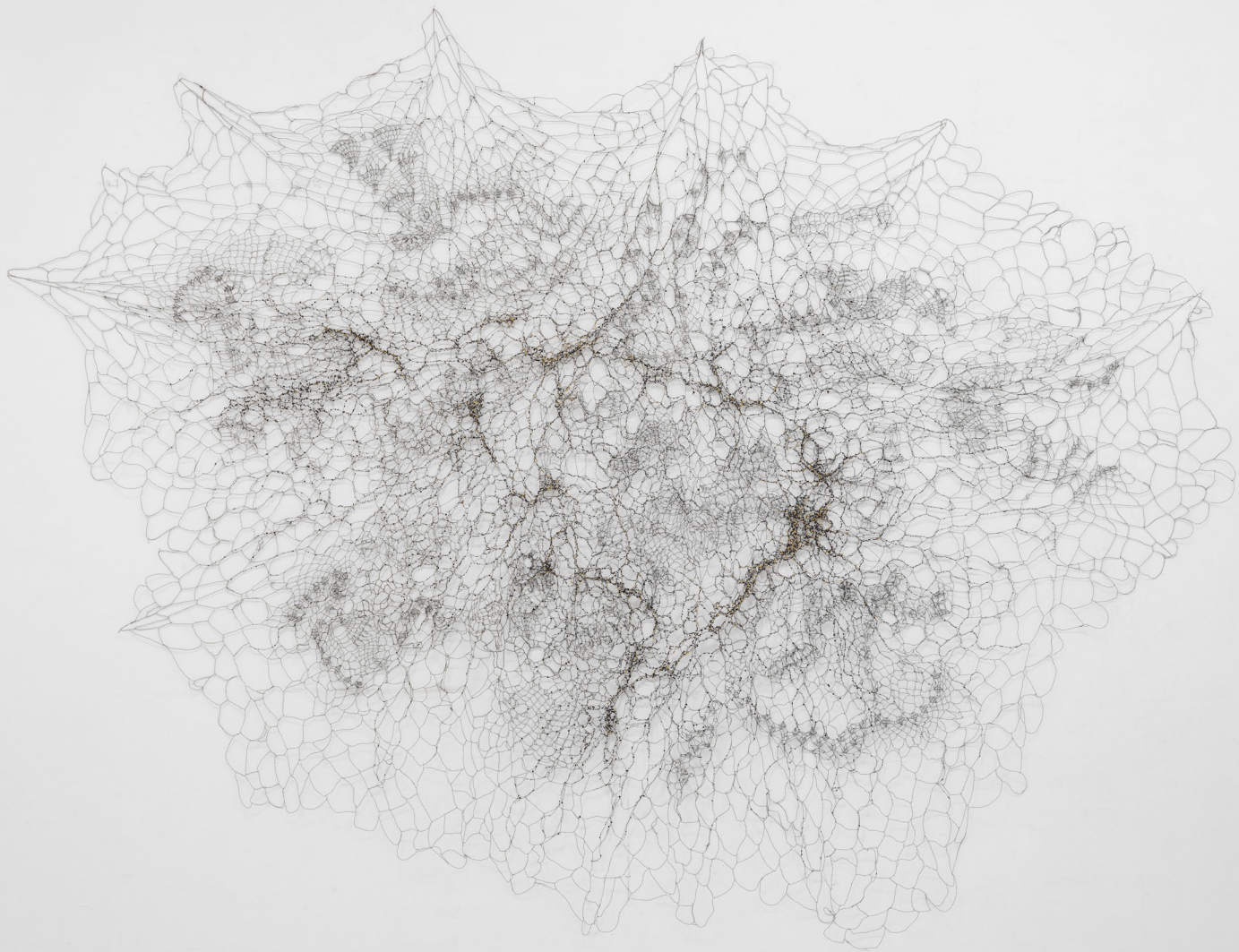


Second Surface Wall 03 | 2021

Copper, gold leaf

H. 150 x W. 260 cm | H. 59 x W. 102 3/8 inches

Photo: Kyeok Kim

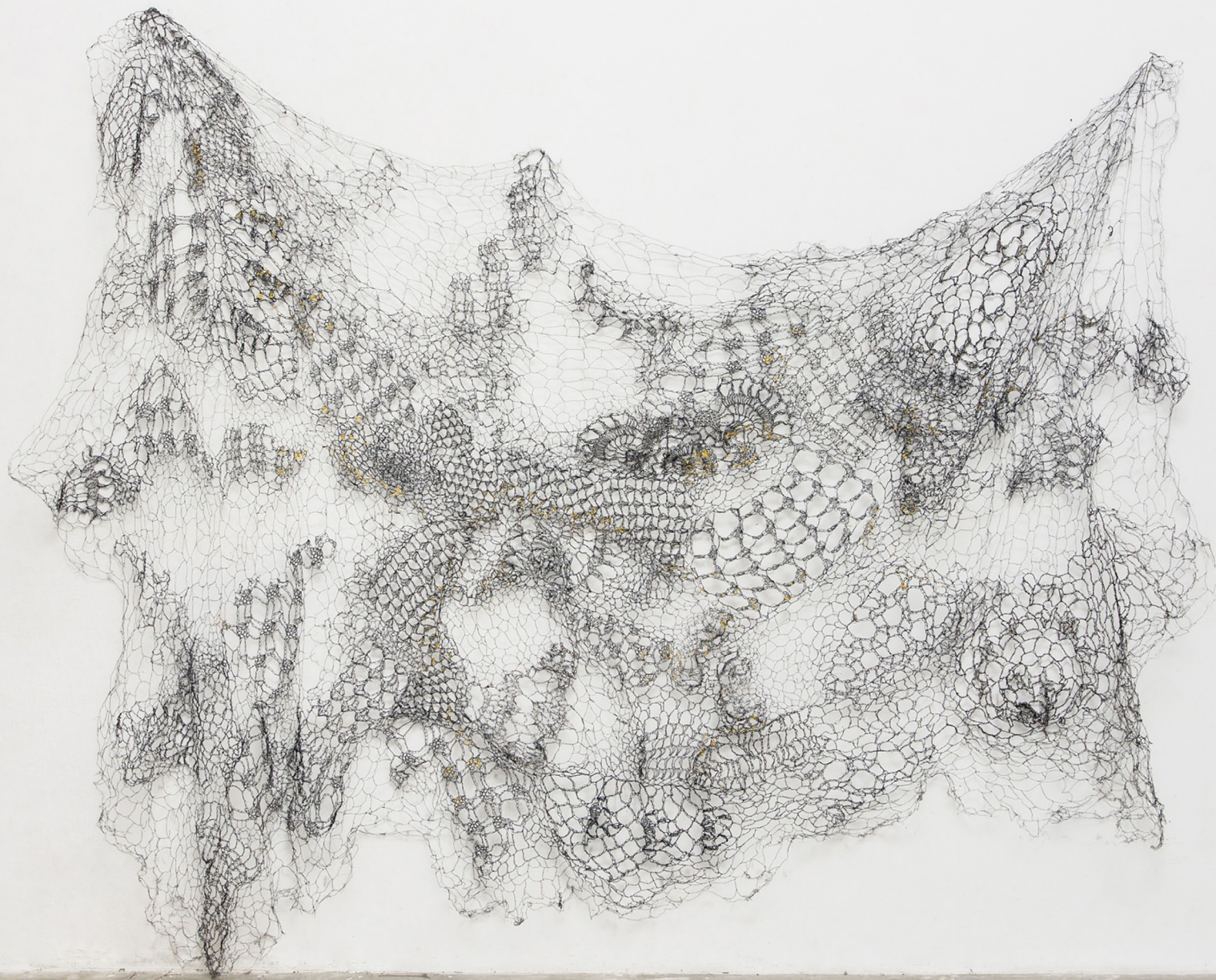


Second Surface Wall 05 | 2022

Copper, gold leaf, beads

H. 220 x W. 270 cm | H. 86 5/8 x W. 106 1/4 inches

Photo: Kyeok Kim



Second Surface Wall 06 | 2019

Copper, gold leaf

H. 250 x W. 340 cm | H. 98 3/8 x W. 133 7/8 inches

Photo: Kyeok Kim



CHARLES BURNAND GALLERY

Founded by Simon Stewart, Charles Burnand Gallery is an internationally renowned gallery representing established and emerging designers and artists. Located in London's Fitzrovia Design District, the gallery draws an international clientele seeking one-of-a-kind and editioned collectable designs and studio artworks from a diverse roster of talent. The gallery honours fine craftsmanship while emphasising the use of sustainable materials and production techniques.

Charles Burnand Gallery maintains dynamic programming throughout the year, ranging from thematic and solo shows and selling exhibitions. The gallery regularly exhibits at globally recognised art and design fairs including Design Miami, Salon Art + Design, PAD London, Collect Art Fair and London Design Festival. Represented talent boasts international recognition from the LOEWE Foundation Craft Prize, in addition to acquisitions from institutions such as the Vitra Museum, National Museums Northern Ireland and countries as far reaching as France, Sweden and the United States.

CHARLES BURNAND GALLERY

info@charlesburnand.com

+44 (0)20 7993 4968

27 Whitfield Street

London

W1T 2SE