

# SKYLAH RIM

**Nationality:** Dual Citizenship, Hong Kong and Korea

**Gender:** Fluid

**Pronouns:** they/them

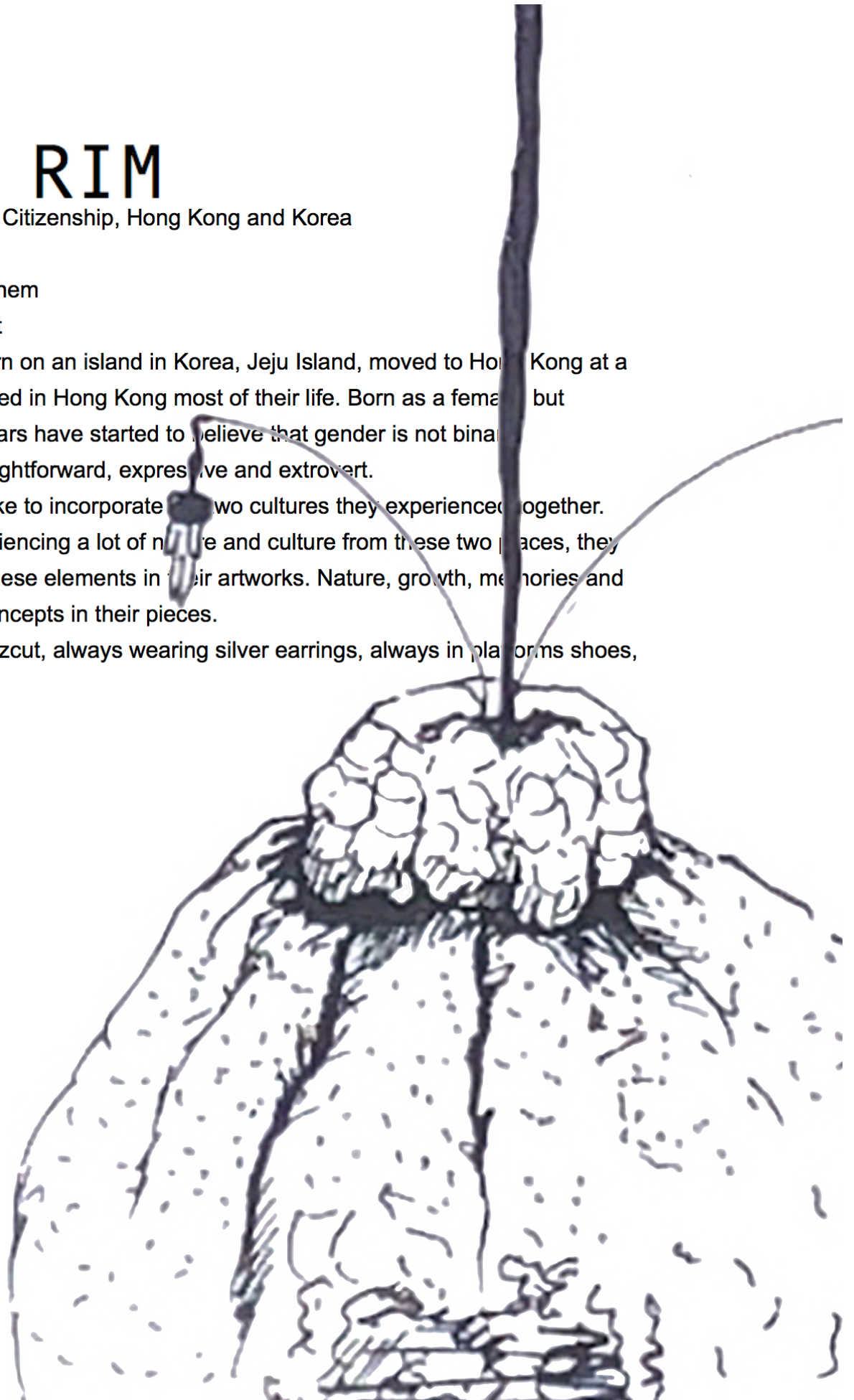
**Profession:** Artist

**Background:** Born on an island in Korea, Jeju Island, moved to Hong Kong at a young age and lived in Hong Kong most of their life. Born as a female but throughout the years have started to believe that gender is not binary.

**Personality:** straightforward, expressive and extrovert.

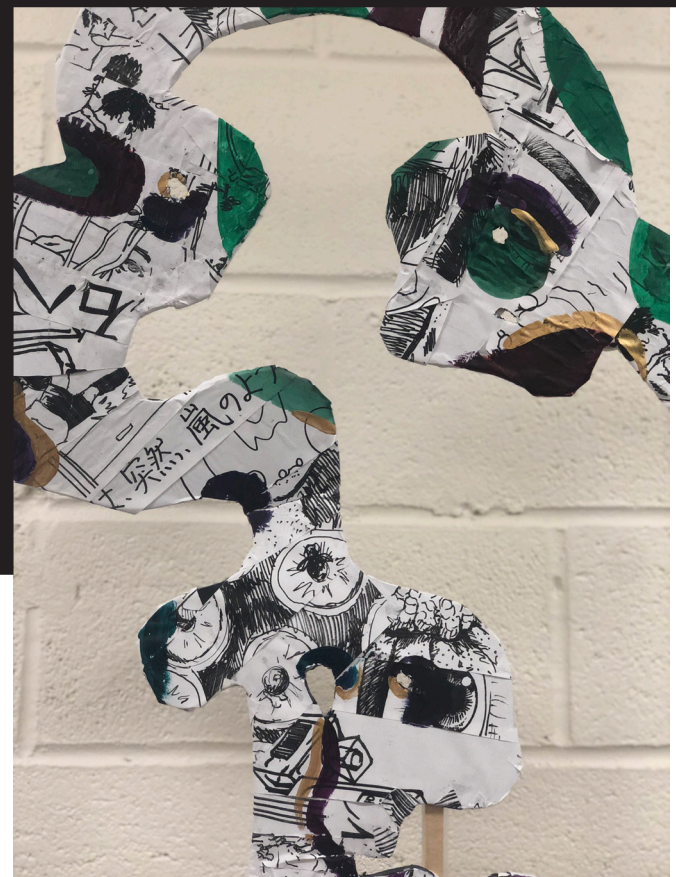
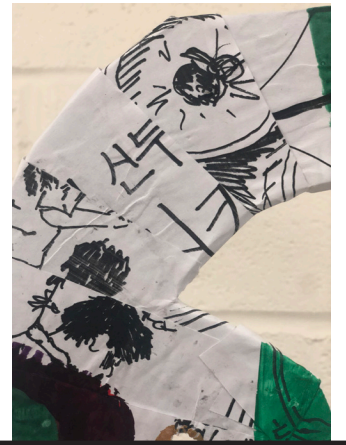
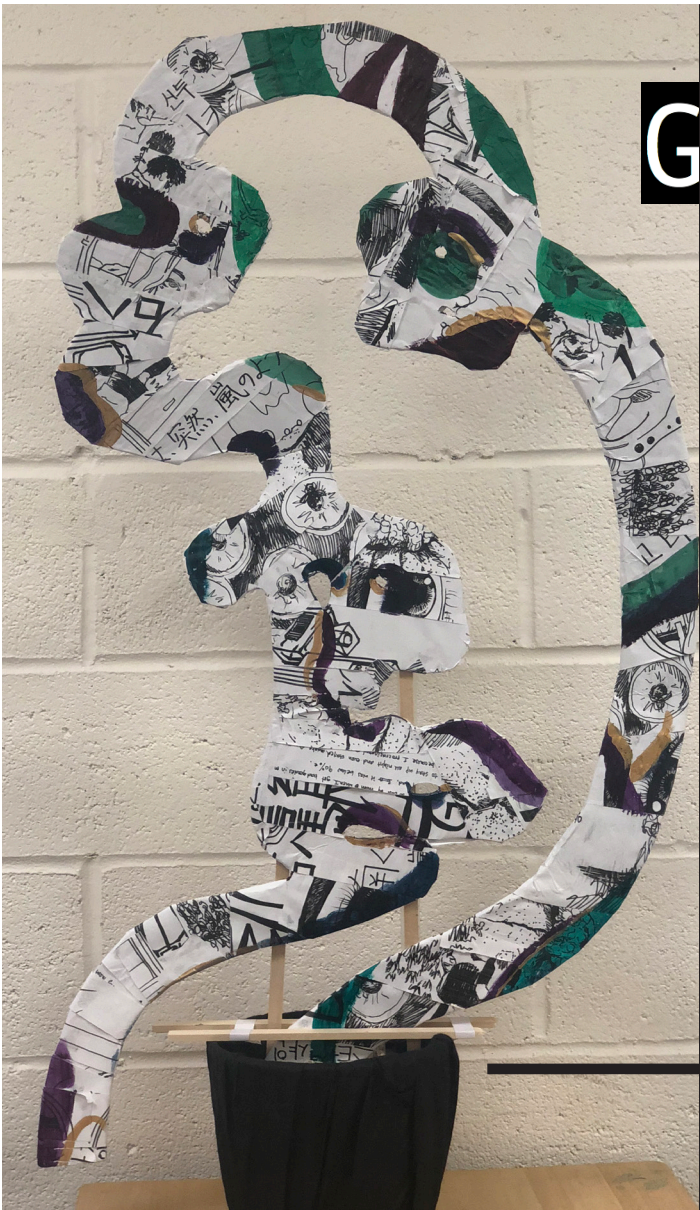
**Their Art:** They like to incorporate the two cultures they experienced together. Growing up experiencing a lot of nature and culture from these two places, they also like to fuse these elements in their artworks. Nature, growth, memories and identity are big concepts in their pieces.

**Looks:** Dyed Buzzcut, always wearing silver earrings, always in platform shoes, funky glasses



# Growth

27x19 inches  
Paper collage



Several years back, a third of East Asian teenagers had the same hair style. They had black, fairly short hair with straight, tri-dented fringe. When I say 'tri-dented', it may be unfamiliar to many, but it was a typical Asian teenage girl look back in Hong Kong and Korea. I wasn't included in that third but I did try the fringe for a week. I only lived in Korea for 3 years from when I was born, which I barely remember (obviously), but it was natural for me to put on Korean clothes and makeup and even the hairstyle throughout my teenage. It was only when I reached 17, I started absorbing western cultures into my identity through realization of my true self.



It was hard moving constantly from one place to another, and I see New York as another brand new chapter in my life.

I was never sure about where I'd fit in. Even though I tried very hard to fit into the norms back when I was in Hong Kong and Korea, it just didn't seem to feel right. I felt disconnected from the rest of the world, and I never really had someone I could open up and talk to.

New York is similar to Hong Kong but somewhat completely different. I no longer need to restrain myself from wearing a specific type or even color of clothes. People will not stare at me, and sometimes, I get complimented by others from the way I dress. I feel free here.

# Ciara Liu X Sung Yeon Park

The 100 series of sharpie drawings were done referring back to 7 years of memory in an island in Korea called 'Jeju'. The features included the unforgettable sunsets of the jeju sky, some beaches I visited, waterfalls, and some animals on set. The portraits of people I met included not only whom personally meant something to me but also the people who are the mascot/symbols of Jeju island.

Then, I made a rather different series of a continuous contour drawings of some facial expressions in combination with linguistic devices and punctuations representing the emotions I went through during the time I spent on the island and in school. Those emotions start from some optimistic minds but then move on to mostly dark and miserable emotions. This, I believe, highlights the struggles I went through during my independent life in an international school on a mundane island full of Korean teenagers. Further on, I went on to draw some imaginative images that could possibly be a metaphor of my emotions as well. These mostly conveys emotions of loneliness and depression through images of inhumane objects or animals on rather surrealistic sets.

This project allows me to explore my past and to remember many things that I have forgotten that were significant to me. Many things that I thought were trivial, suddenly all felt more meaningful. Most of my drawings are made up of my memories from the past, my passions, and what I love to do. A lot of the drawings also came from many trips I took over this summer, sceneries, animals, and objects. I have also explored some of my heritage while drawing, I searched up the most difficult Chinese character and also my Chinese last name. All of these things meant something to me and were displayed through the 100 drawings project.

