

RALA CHOI

Gimhae, South Korea, 1987. Lives and works in Seoul.

ALZUETA
_GALLERY



Photo courtesy of Alzueta Gallery

South Korean film photographer Hansol Choi, also known as Rala Choi, works with a photography that takes us back to the past through an analogue gaze, in a world that is increasingly digitalised and distanced from reality.

With an appearance that reminds us of painting, Choi makes use of a range of vivid colours that give life and subtle beauty to his works. His photographs create expressive depictions of our inner worlds and relationships. In this way, the artist captures the essence of a moment, stripping himself of any artifice, seeking the most authentic look at the photographic genre.

Rala's experimentation with photography began after he'd enlisted in the military in 2006. He then spent a few years making commercial and commission-based work, but this never felt quite right. Rala explains it was the support of musicians and friends that allowed him to immerse himself in more self-directed artworks.

For him, the creative process needed distilling into a more intimate process of production; the results are personal reflections of universal emotional experiences. Rala describes his process as beginning with contemplation, then sketches, before a scene materialises, likely illuminated solely by natural light, in which feelings are expressed through colour, character, and Rala's signature painterly quality.

Following a successful few years in which Rala has had two sold-out solo shows in Seoul, also exhibited internationally, he was awarded the Photography Grand Prix and Prix du Public at the 37th International Festival of Fashion, Photography and Accessories, Hyères in 2022.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

Like a blossom, Alzueta Gallery, Barcelona, Spain (2024)
Several Seasons, FUJIFILM Partice, Seoul, South Korea (2024)
Lovers, Villa Noailles, 38th International Festival Of Hyères, Hyères, France (2023)
My Thirty six, Frieze 91 x Mulberry, Hwiyumjae, Seoul, South Korea (2023)
BLUE, Sheriff Gallery, Paris, France (2023)
Solo Presentation, Alzueta Gallery, Barcelona, Spain (2022)
Feel Lost, Plusjun Studio Yongsan, Seoul, South Korea (2021)
Rala Salon, D Museum Project Space, Seoul, South Korea (2017)
Always Boring, Always Sleepy, D Museum Project Space x Glad Live, Seoul, South Korea (2016)

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

This is how we look, this is who we are, Alzueta Gallery, Barcelona, Spain (2024)
New Portraits, Alzueta Gallery, Barcelona, Spain (2024)
Photographs & Helmut Newton: Provocateur, Phillips London Preview, London, UK (2024)
Photographs, Phillips London Preview, London, UK (2023)
I-M-A-G-I-N-A-T-I-O-N-S, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France (2022)
37th International Festival Of Hyères, Villa Noailles, Hyères, France (2022)

ART FAIRS

ENTER ART FAIR, Alzueta Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark (2024)
PHOTO BASEL FAIR, Frames, Basel, Switzerland (2024)
PHOTO LONDON FAIR, Bildhalle Gallery, London, UK (2024)

AWARDS

"Grand Prix du Jury Photographie", The 37th International Festival Hyères, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, France (2022)
"Prix du Public", The 37th International Festival Hyères, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, France (2022)