

## *Studio Now*



Currently in the studio, the Cognition series is in progress.

## *The explanation of my works*



<Cognition 22, 2022>

<Cognition 22> is a serial piece from <Cognition 3\_1> and <Cognition 3\_2>, and the main theme and content are the same.

## Kim's Essay

### Conversation 2

Last month, a senior artist was said to be holding a private exhibition in another province, so I sent to the gallery to celebrate. When I entered, there already were other senior artists from various provinces. And I remember a story one senior told me at the gathering after the show.

**Senior:** "I recently started to think that 'being good artist' and 'being good art seller' are completely different things. As you know, I am almost 60 and when I was young, each province had representing artists. From Seoul, Daegu, Busan to Gwangju, each province had a famous artist to represent the region. So I thought that being good artist would lead to selling well as well. I draw flowers up until now, but I hate drawing flowers. I draw them to make living and ending up drawing till this day. But since I kept drawing flowers, I became somewhat stable financially and now I can draw what I want."

Hearing that, I thought of a story of a man in his 50s in a group which I worked in few years back.

**Man:** "If I can return to my 20s, I would focus on working them making art. Then after about 20 years of working to stabilize financially, I would start drawing in my 50s, whatever I want. Looking back, 20s me must have thought I would have accomplished something by now. However, making art while forming a family was a hard life."

Both of the artists mentioned above are artists who make a living by selling art, and even though they are still active, I could feel that a part of their minds has always been troubled between realistic economic issues and their ideals. Perhaps every moment each person made the "best choice" in their situation, so the choice should be respected. But after a long time, if the result of the choice remained "regret" or "sadness," perhaps the choice at the time may have been "avoidance." Whether the choice was for oneself or for anything else.

On the other hand, I suddenly remembered what a senior artist like me, who set aside art and economic activities. "Young-il, when did we live by selling paintings? I draw because I like to."

In situations where life's starting point conditions are different, each person can move toward the desired ideal, but I also accepted that it is not easy to reach the desired ideal only with effort. It is as if the experience and wisdom acquired after a long period of time makes me realize what the consequences of the choices I made during my life were.