

Paper ID	146
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Title	〈Notes to 『Illustrations of Joseon plants: a selection of toxic plants』〉
Abstract	
<p>〈Notes to 『Illustrations of Joseon plants: a selection of toxic plants』〉 (〈『朝鮮植物圖說 有毒植物編』, 註釋〉) is an ongoing artistic research project on the botanical descriptions in 『Illustrations of Joseon plants: a selection of toxic plants』, a book published by Bong Syup Toh and Hak Chin Shim in 1948 in Keijō. As professors at Keijō College of Pharmacology and members of the Joseon Society of Natural History, the authors researched and documented plants across the Korean peninsula over the course of over thirty years. As Toh and Shim were abducted to North Korea during the war, the traces of their botanical research can only be accessed through literatures including 〈Poisonous Native Plants of Korea〉, a series of botanical illustrations by Toh's wife Chanyoung Jung and 『Korean Flora』 by Tai Hyun Chung published in 1956 and 1957. From 2021 to the present, the artist has been visiting the forests, fields, wetlands, and cities of South Korea to witness the spontaneity of over sixty plant species recorded in 『Illustrations of Joseon plants: a selection of toxic plants』. The project compares the ecological and taxonomical descriptions made by Toh and Shim with the corresponding species in their contemporary South Korean habitats to demonstrate how these plants have been finding their unique ecological statuses despite over seventy years of anthropogenic geographical and ideological partition. The findings have been documented as botanical specimens and artistic writings, which the artist considers as 'visual notations' to Toh and Shim's publication to be presented as artwork.</p>	
Keywords	Plants, Humans, Vegetation Zones, Botanical History, Artistic Research