

Bias

There's an expression that the world is like a kaleidoscope. A kaleidoscope is a children's toy in which different images are formed through a magnifying glass. The world is like a kaleidoscope, because the different images are as diverse and complex as all the things that take place in the world. For me, the world is more like a kaleidoscope rather than a magnifying glass. The Chinese characters for 'kaleidoscope' are 萬, which means 10,000, 華, which means 'to illuminate', and 鏡, which means 'to see'; thus the word 'kaleidoscope' in Chinese characters signifies the mirror which opens up to near-infinite (10,000) images.

Through the use of different colored threads, patterns and images, the 'glasses' in my work represent kaleidoscope, or the near-infinite images of people today. The images and patterns in different colored threads on the lenses of the glasses are an expression of the individual value system in this reality.

In other words, people hear and see what they want to hear and see, which I think refers to the individual character and taste. No one can be completely neutral to everything unless he or she is a new-born. An individual's opinions are formed throughout his or her life as an integration of personal taste and information gathered through various means such as the media or press, as well as through his or her environment and surrounding people including family, friends and acquaintances. Such subjectivity does not always propose 'correct' standards, as it also consists of biases, stereotypes and fixed ideas.

In this project, I put glasses of different shapes and colors on human figures. I wanted the glasses to signify individuals' different subjectivity and value system. I also tried to express the fact that although there is no absolute and right subjectivity and value system, it defines what is right to the individual and functions as the premise for his or her directivity in life. Some wear red glasses and feel that the world appears red to them, while some wear yellow glasses and feel that it appears yellow to them. There's an idiom that says "Do not look at the sky through a flute". It means that one shouldn't be so narrow-minded and see the world as it appears through a small flute hole. My work asks the viewer if his or her world hasn't been shaded through a pair of colored glasses, like someone looking at the big world through a tiny flute opening

Hopefully, the glasses as kaleidoscopes invite the viewer to think about how individuals see the world through their subjective glasses of narrow insight and perspective. I also question myself if I haven't been looking out at the world through a flute opening in a well. I hope for this project to prompt the viewer to reflect on their own lives and to ask if their own world hasn't

become confined through the narrow perspective of stereotypes.