

For More Information:

Lilian M Raji
The Lilian Raji Agency
(646) 789-4427 ext 701
lilianraji@lmrpr.com

**SO YOUNG PARK
Biography**

So Young Park is originally from South Korea. She attended Kon-Kuk University in Seoul and earned a BFA and a MFA in metal and jewelry. In 1999, she opened her own studio called DuDuRim in Seoul. She participated in solo and group exhibitions as a metalsmith and jewelry artist throughout Korea from 1997 to 2000.

So Young graduated with a second MFA in metal and jewelry design from the Rochester Institute of Technology in 2003. Upon completion of her studies at RIT, she taught metalsmithing both at Syracuse University and RIT as an adjunct professor from 2003 to 2007. In 2006, So Young decided to start her career as a jewelry artist. She has also taught at many workshops throughout the United States and South Korea. Currently she is running her own jewelry and metals studio called So Young Park Studio. She is actively participating in shows and exhibitions, nationally and internationally, as a jewelry and metalsmithing artist.

Her works are publicized in the Lark Book series: 1000 Rings, 500 Brooches, 500 Wedding Rings, 500 Gemstone Jewelry, and Showcase 500 Art Necklaces by Linda Darty. She also has work shown in Art Jewelry Today 2 by Jeffery B. Sunyder, The Art and Crafts of Making Jewelry by Joanna Gollberg, and her cuff was shown on the cover many other different magazines and catalogs, including the SOFA New York and Chicago Catalogs, Lapidary Journal Jewelry Artist and In-Design Magazine.

ARTIST STATEMENT OF THE GENIUS OF NATURE

Nature reveals the beauty of the eternal cycles of life. In order to bear fruit, plants must progress through many stages of life and different parts of the plants body are required to be sacrificed for the fruit. However, this sacrifice does not signify the end of life, but gives birth to new life. In doing so this process creates the eternal cycles of life. Each leaf aides a plant for eternal survival. Spending time in nature renews the extrasensory connection with life, and reveals the eternal cycles of it. Nature reveals how rebirth transcends the tragedy of death.

When I look at a blooming flower, I feel enthusiastic towards exploring the inner mysteries of life. Dried plants have strong physical forms and in their special way reveal a deep sense of isolation. I see the flower as a symbol of creation, optimism, life, and magical power. Forms such as flowers, branches and tree trunks offer many possibilities for art created from organic shapes and natural figures. I hope to express the inner beauty of the plant forms rather than a realistic representation.

My view of nature created passion in my soul and was a major factor towards enabling me to transform my artwork. The natural world offers an awe-inspiring power for my work. My artistic symbolism of the natural nativity serves as a spiritual messenger for the eternal cycles of life.