

## EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

ART & PHILOSOPHICAL INQUIRY  
EXPLORING WAYS OF THINKING

Foster critical reasoning with ACI's latest educational resource inspired by the lens-based work of artist Jin-me Yoon



## LEARN ABOUT

THE BIG QUESTIONS  
*through the art of*

JIN-ME YOON

How are images constructed? In our interconnected world, what does it mean to be "in relation"? How do sites of significance impact our conceptions of history? For more than three decades, Vancouver-based artist Jin-me Yoon (b.1960) has addressed these questions, exploring the deepest corners of philosophical thought in her photography, video, performance, and installation work. Her site-specific art encourages deep reflection on personal experiences of representation, the connections between humans and the non-human world, and the entanglements between lived experiences and official histories. This month, ACI is delighted to spotlight our newest Teacher Resource Guide—the first in our library to connect Canadian art to a philosophy curriculum. Through engagement with Yoon's work, students are invited to consider their own perspectives on the things that matter most: their explorations of the self, their relationships with others, and the shared histories we all embody.

[Download our newest Teacher Resource Guide](#)

— The Art Canada Institute Education Team

## AVENUES TO EXPLORE

## Visual Perspectives



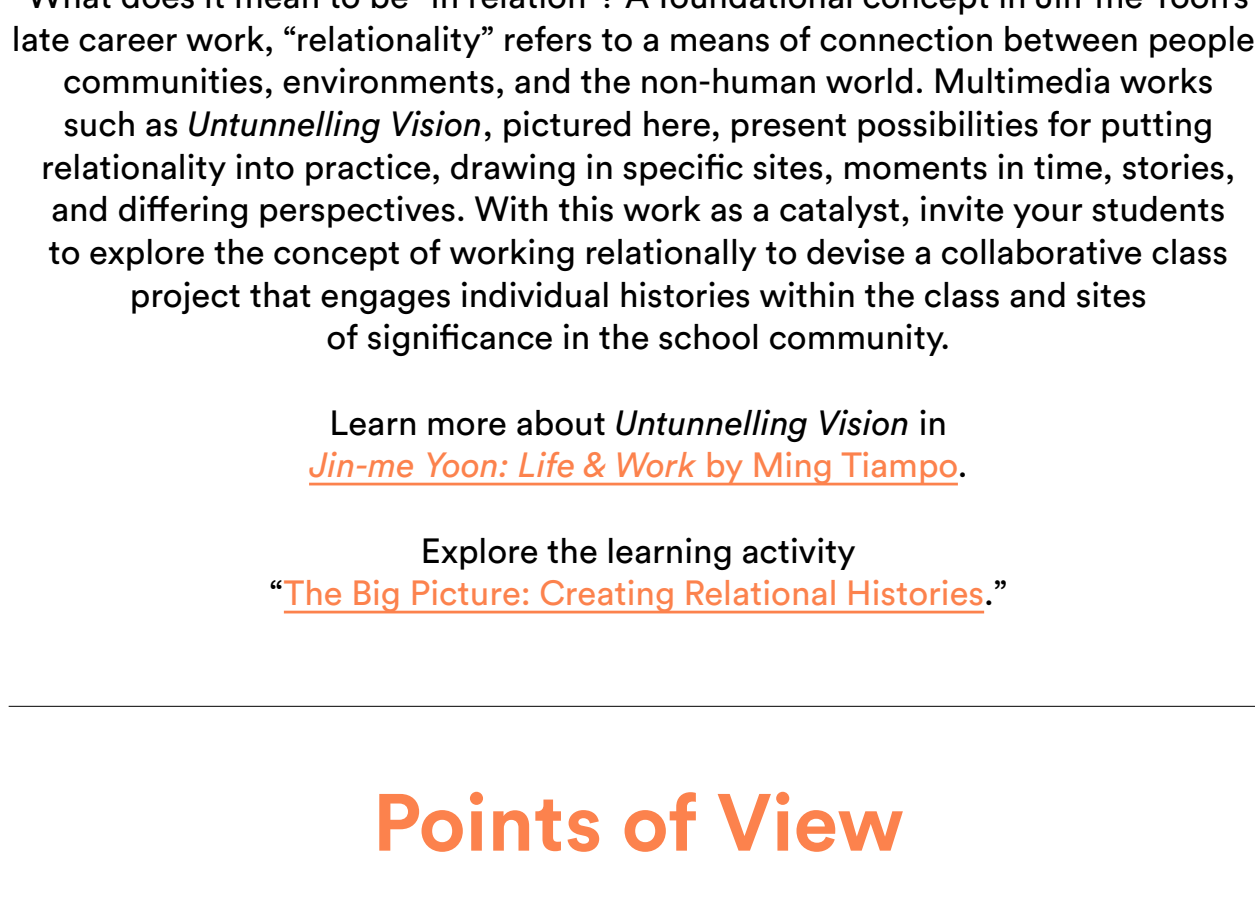
Jin-me Yoon, *Souvenirs of the Self (Banff Springs Hotel)*, 1991.

Can we exercise agency in representation? This question is at the core of Jin-me Yoon's photographic work *Souvenirs of the Self (Banff Springs Hotel)*. In this image, the artist poses in front of the landmark hotel, which is situated within a breathtaking mountainous landscape. Her stiff pose and presence as a racialized woman challenge the underlying assumptions attached to such iconic views of the Canadian Rockies, probing the impact that constructed images have on external perceptions of identity and nationhood. This work serves as a powerful springboard for students to critique the modes of representation that they, too, have inherited, prompting them to create their own self-portraits against significant backdrops.

Read more about *Souvenirs of the Self* in  
[Jin-me Yoon: Life & Work by Ming Tiampo](#).

Explore the learning activity  
“[Terms of Inclusion: Perspective and Representation](#).”

## Relational Histories



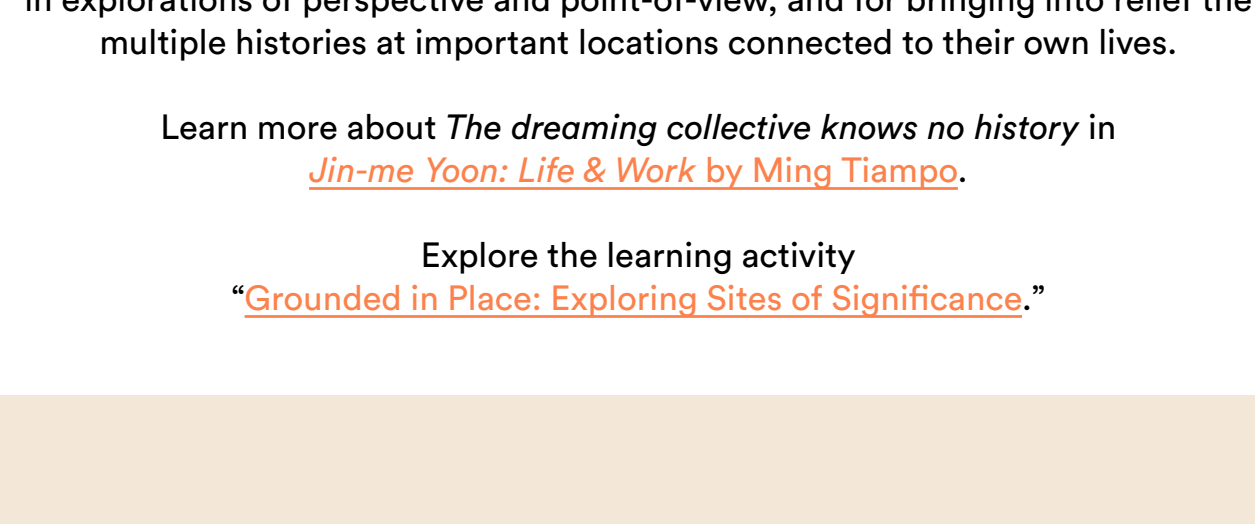
Jin-me Yoon, *Untunnelling Vision*, 2020.

What does it mean to be “in relation”? A foundational concept in Jin-me Yoon's late career work, “relationality” refers to a means of connection between people, communities, environments, and the non-human world. Multimedia works such as *Untunnelling Vision*, pictured here, present possibilities for putting relationality into practice, drawing in specific sites, moments in time, stories, and differing perspectives. With this work as a catalyst, invite your students to explore the concept of working relationally to devise a collaborative class project that engages individual histories within the class and sites of significance in the school community.

Learn more about *Untunnelling Vision* in  
[Jin-me Yoon: Life & Work by Ming Tiampo](#).

Explore the learning activity  
“[The Big Picture: Creating Relational Histories](#).”

## Points of View



Jin-me Yoon, *The dreaming collective knows no history (US Embassy to Japanese Embassy, Seoul)*, 2006.

How might sites of historical significance be understood if we looked beyond established narratives? Jin-me Yoon's mid-career works, such as *The dreaming collective knows no history (US Embassy to Japanese Embassy, Seoul)*, mark the beginning of her exploration of the “horizontal axis”: a physical vantage point that enables the artist to adopt a different point of view. In this work, the artist takes to the ground, exploring how representations of “official” histories have obscured lived experiences. Yoon's gripping body of video works produced from this vantage point offer powerful visual starting points for students to engage in explorations of perspective and point-of-view, and for bringing into relief the multiple histories at important locations connected to their own lives.

Learn more about *The dreaming collective knows no history* in  
[Jin-me Yoon: Life & Work by Ming Tiampo](#).

Explore the learning activity  
“[Grounded in Place: Exploring Sites of Significance](#).”

## SUBMISSIONS NOW OPEN



Which “big questions” have inspired your students to create art? We encourage you to submit student work to the Canadian Art Inspiration Student Challenge.

Submissions are now open for the 2023–2024 edition of the ACI's flagship educational initiative. Students from Grade 7 through Grade 12 are eligible to submit original works of art in any medium. The deadline to submit during the fall semester is December 15, 2023.

Learn more about how to submit your students' work  
to the [Canadian Art Inspiration Student Challenge](#).

For project ideas, consult our free-to-download [Student Creativity Booklet](#).

As a bilingual organization, we are proud to offer our materials in both French and English, including this newsletter. Use the sign up links below to receive emails in your preferred language.

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Art Canada Institute

Launched in 2013, the Art Canada Institute is the only national institution whose mandate is to promote the study of an inclusive multi-vocal Canadian art history to as broad an audience as possible, in both English and French, within Canada and internationally. The ACI works with more than fifty of Canada's leading art historians, curators, and visual culture experts who are dedicated to the creation of authoritative original content on the people, themes, and topics that have defined Canadian art history.

We are creating a central digital resource to tell the world about Canada's most important works of art and where they are located. By functioning as an online art museum, a [digital library](#), and an interactive Canadian art encyclopedia, the ACI is an indispensable resource on Canada's visual heritage.

Visit us at [aci-iac.ca](http://aci-iac.ca)

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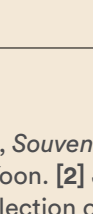
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Image Credits: [1] Jin-me Yoon, *Souvenirs of the Self (Banff Springs Hotel)*, 1991. Collection of the artist. Courtesy of the artist. © Jin-me Yoon. [2] Jin-me Yoon, *Untunnelling Vision* (video still), 2020. Single-channel video, 21 minutes, 26 seconds. Collection of the artist. Courtesy of the artist. © Jin-me Yoon. [3] Jin-me Yoon, *The dreaming collective knows no history (US Embassy to Japanese Embassy, Seoul)* (video still), 2006. Single-channel video, 18 minutes, 9 seconds. Collection of the artist. Courtesy of the artist. © Jin-me Yoon.