

## **Short Biography**

Sooyeon Yang (born February 4, 1985) is a PhD student in the Department of History of Religions and Philosophies (Buddhist Studies) at SOAS University of London. She holds an MA in History of Art and Archaeology, as well as Buddhist Studies, from the same institution. Additionally, she earned both her BFA and MFA from Sungkyunkwan University in Seoul, South Korea as an Oriental artist.

Her current research focuses on astrology in Korean Buddhism, specifically its connection to the Seven Stars of the Northern Dipper. Her academic journey stems from her early career as both an artist and art historian, where she explored the intersection of philosophy, religious art, and aesthetics. With a deep passion for Oriental painting, she has pursued a sustained academic career in this field.

As an artist, she has participated in and organized numerous exhibitions, experiences that have enriched her scholarly perspective and contributed to her PhD research. She is currently engaged in various workshops and conferences, including the one happened in Bologna University, further establishing her academic foundation and preparing for a future dedicated to research and education.