



## HONORARY DEGREE CITATION

*Do Ho Suh*

DOCTOR OF FINE ARTS

Growing up as the son of one of Korea's most celebrated classical painters, artistic greatness would seem to be your destiny. And yet, despite a childhood immersed in an aesthetically-minded household—your Mother also a leading figure in the preservation of Korean heritage and culture - your first love was not fine arts, but fish. Destiny ultimately prevailed when you turned from marine biology to the life of an artist, setting in motion a globe-spanning creative journey to explore conceptions of home and migration, individual and collective identity, and the boundaries between personal and public spaces.

In seemingly constant motion between your studios in Seoul, New York and London, it is fitting that your creative process is often most active in transit, during your time in the places in between. Your work, "Seoul Home/L.A. Home/New York Home," a finely detailed reproduction of your childhood home made out of diaphanous, transparent silk can, aptly, be transported in a suitcase.

Your work is represented in major museum collections around the world, including The Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York, the Tate Modern museum in London, the Walker Art Gallery in Minneapolis and the Seattle Art Museum. With numerous one-person exhibitions in New York City, at the Venice Biennale Architecture Exhibition and the Liverpool Biennial, you have brought your art to the world, and the world to your art.

And now Western Washington University is privileged to provide a home for your artwork, "Cause and Effect" in its sculpture collection. Its cyclonic tower of stacked human forms, ultimately resting on the tiny feet of a solitary figure, will inspire reflection about the interconnected nature of human action, its scope and consequences.

For your internationally renowned contributions to contemporary sculpture and art, which evoke in arresting scale and dazzling imagery new understandings of the places and feelings we call "home," the precincts of individual and collective identity, and the fluid borders of culture and citizenship in an increasingly global society, Western Washington University is proud to confer upon you the degree of Doctor of Fine Arts, *honoris causa*.

DATED this 9th day of June, 2012.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce Shepard".

Bruce Shepard, President

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dennis Madsen".

Dennis Madsen, Chair, Board of Trustees