

# 사소한 추구 Trivial Pursuit

Jimin Han

*"People failed to notice unfamiliar entities amidst their familiar daily lives."* \_The Screwtape Letter

The "Trivial Pursuit" project shifts its focus away from the main subjects in photographs and instead leads attention towards the peripheral objects in the background, using them to redefining the meaningless routine photos and turn them into something meaningful.

This project began as I organized my collection of everyday photos spanning approximately 15 years. Initially, I contemplated how to categorize the main subjects of these photos and whether some should be discarded. During this process, the photos gradually faded from my memory. However, upon revisiting them after, I found that it was the trivial elements, rather than the main subjects, that caught my attention and began to take on new meaning as they collided with my memories.

while I was revising my works, in the work "Collection: Horizon and Horizontal," instead of the female surfer who initially dominated the photograph, my gaze fixated on a hazy horizontal line. This led me to recall the description of the horizontal line from "Madame Bovary" as an enigmatic dual space, visible from a distance but, upon approaching, receding into the distance like an illusion.

The horizontal line in the photo, when viewed from afar, hints at possibilities for the future, but up close, it seems to dissolve into memories of the past, leaving me with a new message in the photograph.

Accompanying each image in the artwork is a text-image, "The Text: 더 텍스트," consisting of objective facts and stories about the selected trivial objects. This text-image serves as a bridge between language and imagery, revealing the hidden uniqueness of these objects and offering viewers an opportunity to uncover the significance of these passing, supporting characters in the artwork.

Since the inception of this project, I have consistently chosen ordinary photographs from everyday life, exploring the collection of ordinary routine through the process of assembling, transforming, and categorizing the small details within them.

The act of collecting is sometimes intertwined with psychological mechanisms related to anxiety. Human anxiety can, at times, appear as a paradoxical process. However, to me, this anxiety is the source of aesthetic value in the pursuit of freedom. With this in mind, I have used the word "collection," signifying "수집품" (collectible), in the titles of each photograph, emphasizing the concept that these seemingly insignificant fragments of individual lives connect with the artistry of each image.

"Trivial Pursuit" is an exploration of the boundary between the ordinary and the extraordinary, delving into what significance is revealed when "trivial things" return to each individual.