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For Release: Immediately

## GEORGE BILLIS GALLERY

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# KE-SOOK LEE

STEPPING FORWARD

APRIL 5 - MAY 7, 2011



**Ke-Sook Lee** will exhibit her installation at the **George Billis Gallery, 521 West 26th Street, between 10th and 11th Avenues, from April 5 - May 7, 2011.** An artists' reception will be held at the gallery on **Thursday, April 7th from 6 - 8 p.m.** Gallery hours are **Tuesday through Saturday, 11-6 p.m.**

Ke-Sook Lee's work is inspired by personal experiences, yet comments on universal issues of domesticity and feminism. "Stepping Forward" is inspired by the memory of a summer rainstorm that stripped the bark off a tree near her home. The sight of the discarded bark reminded Lee of womens' struggle to maintain grounded and strong for their families, like the roots of a tree, while shedding constraints to grow as individuals.

*Stepping Forward*, (partial installation view), hand-embroidered thread, mulberry paper, recycled fabric, and pigment, dimensions various

Lee marks her bark-like forms of mulberry paper and recycled fabric with thread, a medium she prefers for its connection to her history. The women of her grandmother's generation who

were not taught to write instead expressed themselves through hand-embroidery. As she makes her marks, she focuses on the experience of sewing, stating, "I am interested in relinquishing conscious control of my hand, letting the thread and needle respond to my memory and experience of my womanhood."

Ke-Sook Lee was born and raised in Korea and immigrated to the United States in 1964. She received a B.F.A. in Applied Arts from Seoul National University in 1963 and received a second B.F.A. in Painting from the Kansas City Art Institute in 1982. She currently lives and works in Kansas. This is her fourth solo exhibition at the George Billis Gallery.

The George Billis Gallery marks it's twelfth year in the Chelsea art district and recently opened a second gallery in the burgeoning gallery district of Culver City in Los Angeles. For more information please contact the Gallery via e-mail at [gallery@georgebillis.com](mailto:gALLERY@georgebillis.com) or visit our website at [www.georgebillis.com](http://www.georgebillis.com)

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