

Korn Gallery  
Dorothy Young Center for the Arts  
Drew University  
Madison, NJ 07940

For Immediate Release

## Richard Choi: *A Prayer in Three Acts*



Exhibition: January 23 - March 6, 2026  
Free Admission

Artist Talk and Reception: Thursday, January 29, 4 - 6 PM

The Korn Gallery is pleased to announce the exhibition, *A Prayer in Three Acts*, by artist-in-residence Richard Choi, on view January 23 through March 6, 2026. The Gallery is located in the Dorothy Young Center for the Arts at Drew University and is open Tuesday through Friday 12 - 4 pm, and by appointment. The exhibition, curated by Rory Mulligan and Rebecca Soderholm, includes still photography, video and mixed media installations which will actively evolve throughout the duration of the exhibition.

**About the artist:**

Born in Los Angeles, California, Richard Choi is an artist living and working in Yonkers, NY. His work has been exhibited nationally and internationally including exhibitions at the International Center of Photography in New York, NY and the Les Rencontres d'Arles Photography Festival in Arles, France. His video piece, *Trampoline*, was the subject of Alexander Nemerov's essay titled *The Hushed Place: Richard Choi's Trampoline* published by Terra Foundation in Volume 4 of their Terra Foundation Essay series of books. He holds a B.F.A. from Art Center College of Design and an M.F.A. from Yale University.

**About the exhibition:**

*A Prayer in Three Acts* is a dynamic exhibition by Richard Choi that explores the ways in which faith manifests in daily life. The exhibition begins with a selection of photographs and videos from a body of work titled *What Remains* and will quietly shift, without announcement, over the course of his residency at Drew University.

*What Remains* presents a series of short videos replaying everyday moments in American lives: a man lays on his bed playing a recorder and stroking his cat; a mother prays with her children; a lady sketches her daughter across a dining table; a woman winds a clock in a room full of them. The videos are casual, handheld and naturalistic, maintaining the authenticity of the encounter, but as we enjoy the flow of time, there is a sudden stutter accompanied by the sound of a camera shutter, and a single photograph is made, freezing life for a fraction of a second to extract a single image, before the world resumes its motion.

The role of chance recurs in the rotating exhibitions in *Three Acts*. From the chance encounters with strangers that Choi finds in public, which extend into their private realms, to the moment he disrupts the flow of time the video embodies by freezing the image in stillness, the role of chance in photography is on full display in this body of work. Engaging with the world without control is intrinsic to the nature of Choi's form of documentary photography. It requires the artist and those in his images to remain open to chance and human connection. As Toni Morrison has written:

[...] I was longing for and missing some aspect of myself, and that there are no strangers. There are only versions of ourselves, many of which we have not embraced, most of which we wish to protect ourselves from. For the stranger is not foreign, she is random; not alien but remembered; and it is the randomness of the encounter with our already known—although unacknowledged—selves that summons a ripple of alarm.

This theme continues in the latter two rotations of this exhibition. While the artist wishes for the content of these iterations to remain unknown, the exhibition will continue to reveal how Choi plumbs the ways in which many of us seek hope and dreams in the external world. Throughout these rotations a kind of prayer becomes visible among maker and subjects. The artist seeks out manifestations of his ideas by sifting through the ever moving current of strangers and time,

seeking something unknown but firmly held. Those on the other side of Choi's camera, and unseen in further installations, uncover a distinctly American vision of prayer: leaning into chance, hoping fortune will reward their faith—just as the artist places his faith in strangers and their dreams.

For more information please call: (973) 408 – 3758

Korn Gallery, Drew University, 36 Madison Avenue, Madison, NJ 07940

[www.drew.edu/korngallery](http://www.drew.edu/korngallery)