



oh-licht
catalog 2023

Cover:
nubes with red accents
45 x 55 x 35 cm

mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, rattan, brass, led-bulb, textile cable



way home
(6 meter, Ø 10 cm)

mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, rattan, brass, led-strips, cable

Way home is a 6 meter long tube made of mulberry paper and rattan, in which led lights are installed. About 1500 white leaves are glued onto the surface. For me Way home symbolizes a path that shows where I come from and where I am going. The path is flexible and can be put in any shape or simply be laid down straight.

From Paper to Light

One needs a warm light to get through the long, dark winters in northern Germany. oh-licht's light sculptures began when the handcrafter Setbyol Oh created a lantern without a plan using some paper that she brought from Korea and hung it up in her house. At that time, Oh lived in Sylt in northern Germany. "In the winter in northern Europe, the days are shorter and we spend a longer time indoors, so we try to make the house cozy, basically we create a space where we want to stay for a long time. I think most households usually have 4 to 5 lights in a room. It appears to be an imitation of the warm light of the sun. It's because, I think, they miss the sun all winter and the lighting soothes these nostalgic feelings. Of course it is different from the joy of the sun, but the light has its value as it provides warmth and comfort." When Oh needed a light to warm up her house at the time, she could not find any light that she liked. Ironically this reminded her of the desire to create, resulting finally in her own creation.

To create her lantern, she used traditional Korean paper named hanji, thus demonstrating her natural draw to materials from Korea where she was born and raised. Her long stay in Germany provided Oh with an opportunity to explore her origins and so opting to use the most traditional Korean material seems to be fate. In fact, hanji disproves the distinctions about the fragility of paper; it has been used for hundreds of years in Korea, pasted on doors and windows, as well as used for wallpaper and to make lamps in traditional houses. The traditional process of boiling and drying the fiber from the bark of trees gives the paper not only durability but also a beautiful surface that is expressed through its natural properties. Hanji is made from the fibers inside the stems of one-year-old mulberry trees. The fibers also act as drainage pipes delivering water from the roots to the leaves. The mulberry trees that grow in countries such as Korea where there is high humidity and a large difference in temperature between the winter and summer, are especially strong and resilient to moisture. I was fascinated by the natural and at the same time scientific characteristics of the material, which simply retains the quality of wood."

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The light work that started by chance has become the biggest part of her life, and now she works on making lanterns and lamps for more than five hours a day daily. Producing a single light work requires a lot of labor. At first, she creates a basic frame using wood or thick paper and then attaches hanji onto it. When the hanji dries, she dismantles the inside structure by pulling it out through a hole, and then places a brass structure inside connecting the lightbulb to the shape. One by one she glues the pieces of wrinkled papers onto the shape. The method she uses to paste the wrinkled papers to balance the shape and size of the lighting decides the overall harmony. The way she sits at the table in her studio and folds and pastes the papers onto the structure one by one is a beautiful form of labor and also feels like a practice of meditation.

Round lanterns and lamps big and small, sometimes with irregular shapes stretching out as if they were alive, and colored white, green, red and yellow, are a variation and play on nature. Placed on a table or suspended from the ceiling, oh-licht's lighting emits a beautiful and warm light illuminating the dark, shedding its unique presence within the space. As it is not too dazzling for the eyes, one can sit next to it and enjoy a quiet contemplative moment. Oh says that craft is the point where art and technology meet; it is an act of creating something with your own skills. "I feel craft starts with the exploration of materials. I think it takes a very long time to master one material and grasp its properties in our bare hands. When this process is added to the act of creation, I think it becomes a craft work." Shunsuke in the novel *At the Foot of the Volcano* by Japanese author Masashi Matsuie states, "Sometimes it's good to depend only on lamps at night. It's actually easier to talk than on a bright night." Like a relaxing night depending only upon lamps, there will be endless stories and landscapes unfolding today under the beautiful lanterns of oh-licht.

Text by Sunyoung Park

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loulou_L
Ø 55 cm

mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, rattan, brass, led-bulb, textile cable

The first lighting object from oh-licht was loulou. The name comes from a friend who is depicted in the image. This series comes in 5 different sizes:
mini: approx. 15 cm, small: approx. 25 cm, medium: approx. 35 cm, large: approx. 55 cm, x-large: approx. 65 cm.

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jukro _orange
Ø 30 cm

mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, rattan, brass, led-bulb, textile cable

Jukro is my favorite green tea from Korea. In the picture, the each leaves have been dyed orange and the edge are white with a gradient of orange colors. It glows very intense orange when light is on.



snowman
45 x 30 x 30 cm
mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, rattan, brass, led-bulb, textile cable
Snowman consists of two round frames. The lower leaves point to the earth,
and the upper leaves rise toward the sky



loulou_xl_red/white
Ø 65 cm
mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, rattan, brass, led-bulb, textile cable
This lighting object has two lighting colors.
Down has white light and up has red light.



oolong with purple accents
⌀ 30 cm, high: 55 cm
mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, rattan, brass, led-bulb, textile cable
This oolong was the first significant commissioned work on Sylt.
Customers have the possibility to choose the color combination.





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mehwa_gelb
 Ø 37 cm, high: 23 cm

mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, rattan, brass, led-bulb, textile cable

Plum blossom is called Mehwa in Korean. The intensely yellow glowing Mehwa appears slightly whiter without light because the tips of the petals are white and gradually turn yellow towards the back. In the picture, Mehwa is displayed in a traditional Korean house. This was my first exhibition in Seoul in 2022.



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san_4
45 x 45 x 45 cm

mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, bamboo, brass, led-bulb, textile cable

The San series was created specifically for the two exhibitions in Seoul 2022.
San means mountain in Korean. I imagine many mountains when I think of my
hometown.



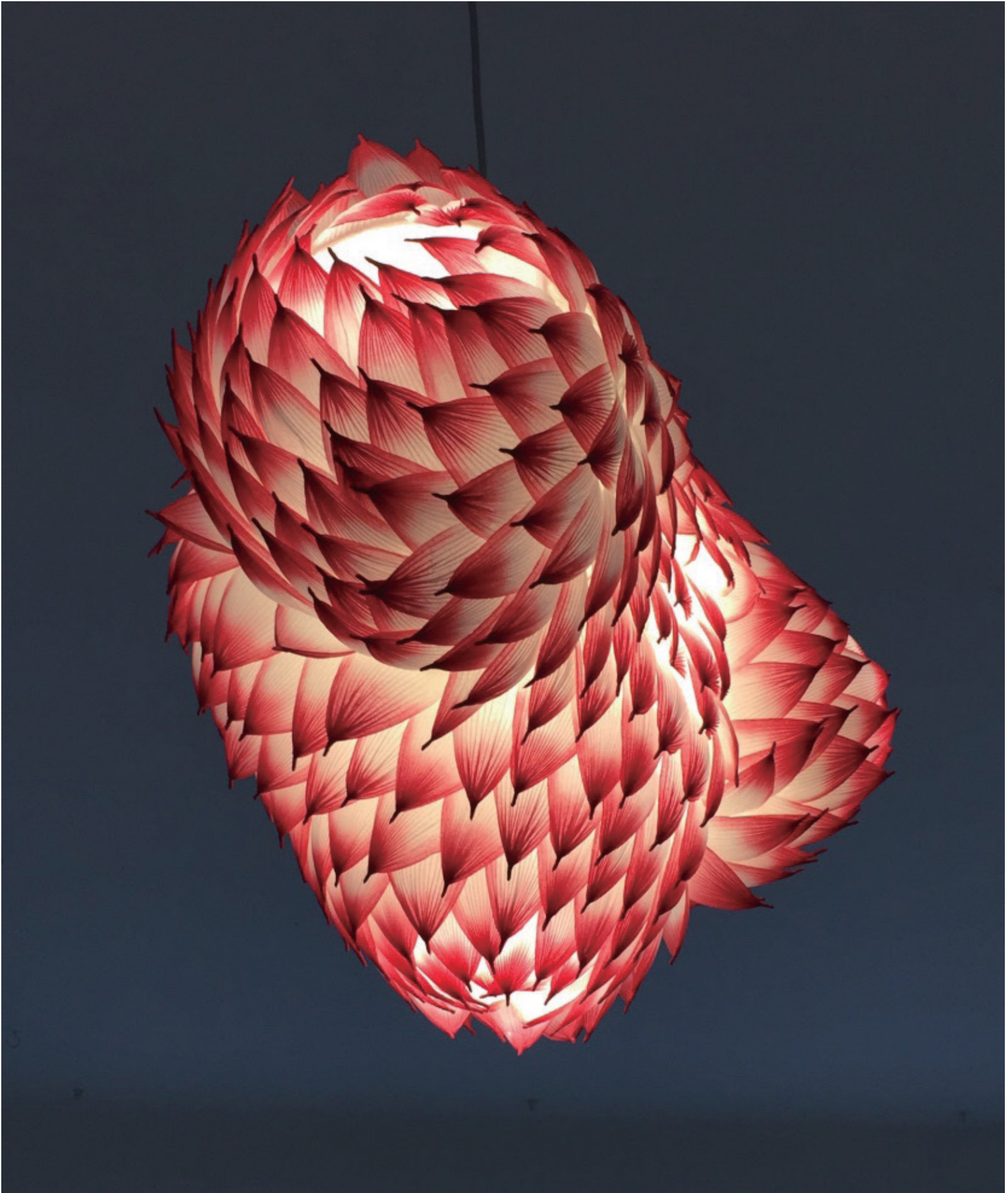
miniloulou_white
Ø 15 cm

mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, rattan, brass, cable, adapter

oh-licht's best-selling miniloulou has about 120 leaves attached and is light as air.

nubes
45 x 55 x 35 cm
mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, rattan, brass, led-bulb, textile cable
The Nubes series features amorphous shapes. Each piece is unique



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nubes_red
45 x 45 x 35 cm

mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, rattan, brass, led bulb, textile cable

This was a commissioned work for a well-known writer. She saw the object specially made for her, and described it as "like a living being." I believe this is the power of handmade objects.



SUSU
65 x 55 x 45 cm
mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, rattan, brass, led bulb, textile cable,
dimmer, wooden pole



Kapoor
165 x 55 x 55 cm

mulberry paper, pleated silk paper,
rattan, brass, led strips, textile cable,
wooden pole

Kapoor is an homage to the artist Anish Kapoor. It is a 6 meter long tube made of mulberry paper and rattan, in which led lights are installed. Each pleated silk paper is then attached to the surface, followed by several rounds. The form is completed by tying it together. Inside the tube, a 3 meter led strips runs through, emitting a soft light. This sculpture is delicately placed on a tripod made of wooden pole.

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oh-ring_white
Ø 80 cm

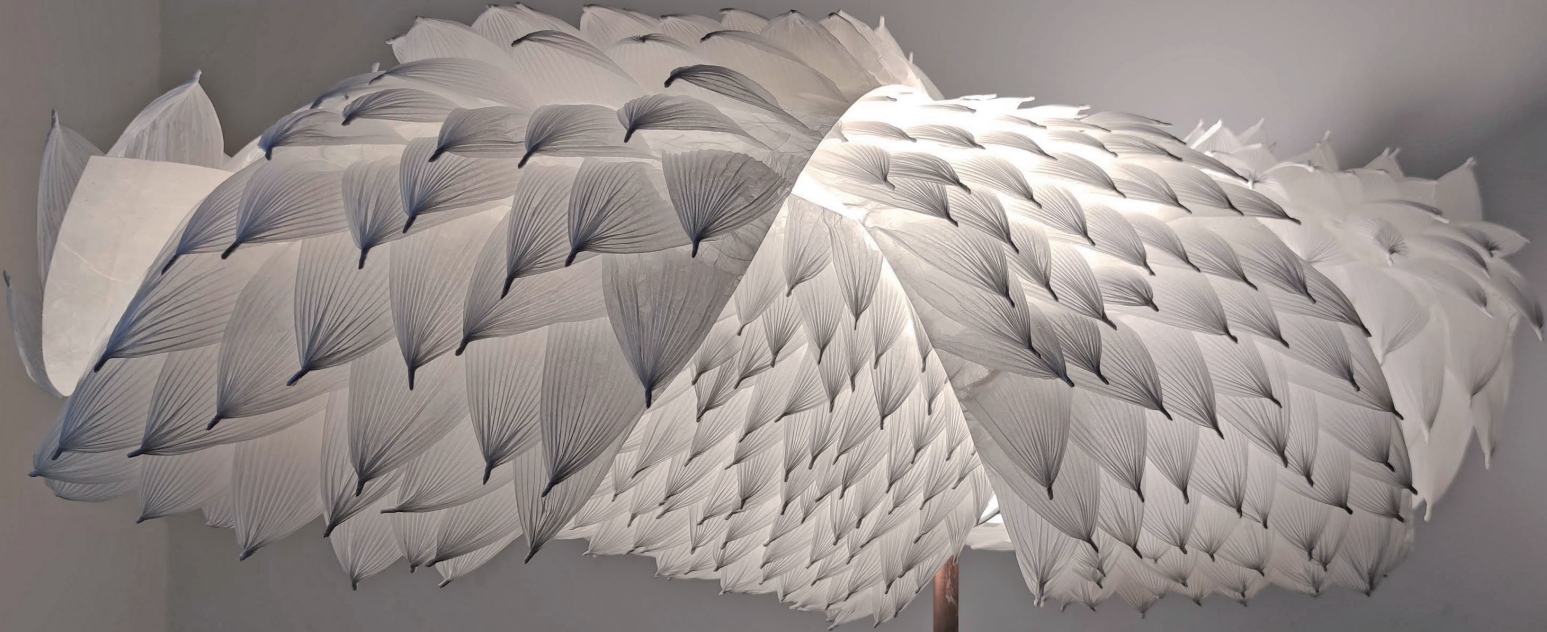
mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, rattan, brass, led strips, cable,

This design makes an amusing presence at a restaurant in Berlin. Originally the object looks white and in the picture is illuminated with blue light. There are various light colors to choose from.

hokusai
160 x 70 x 30 cm

mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, metal, magnets, led-bulb, cable

"This lighting object reminds me of Hokusai's wave."

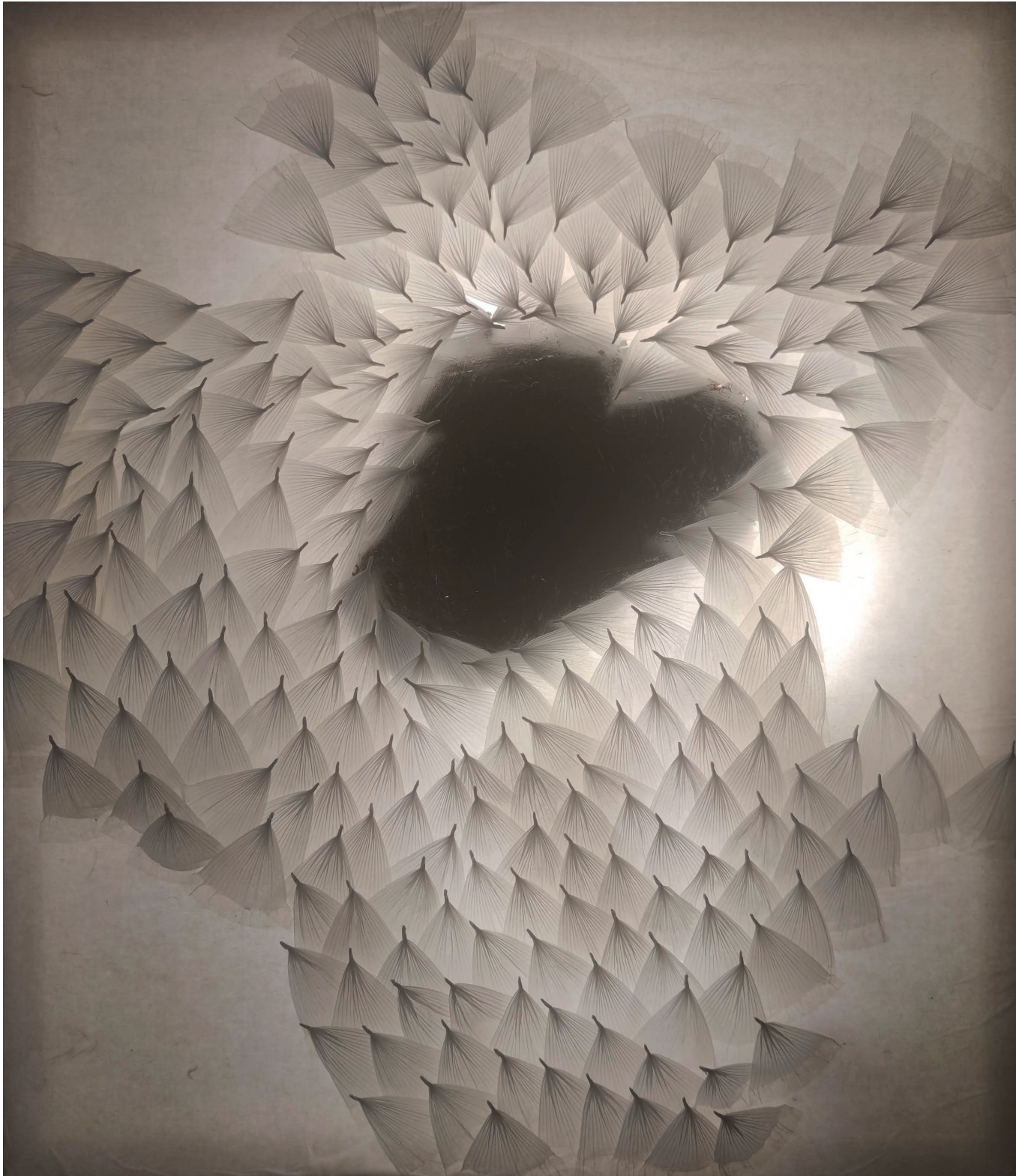


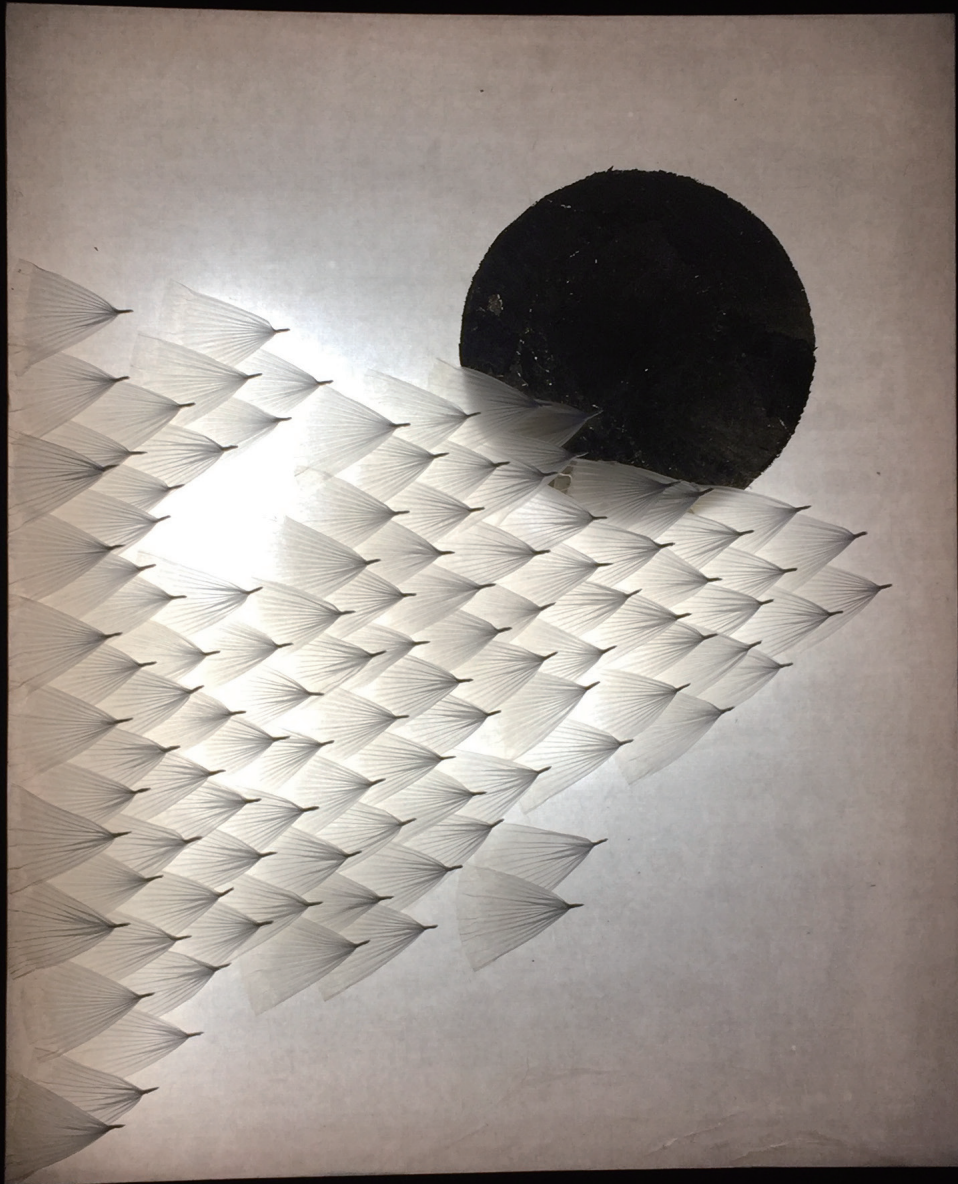
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winternight
65 x 49 x 5 cm

mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, wooden frame, silver leaf, led strips, cable

This work was inspired by a walk in the winter night.





migratory bird
55 x 35 x 5 cm

mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, wooden
frame, ink, led strips, cable

The individual leaves take on their own will
and motion, or intention

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the white paper
52 x 37 x 5,5 cm

mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, wooden frame, led strips, cable

The paper used for the background is the first created when I began practicing paper making.



drop
65 x 65 x 85 cm

mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, rattan,
brass, led bulb, textile cable

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candleholder
49 x 18 x 13 cm
mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, watermark paper, chrome, led-bulb, cable



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sum
49 x 18 x 13 cm
mulberry paper, pleated silk paper, watermark paper, metal, led-bulb, textile cable



oh-licht

All lighting objects are made after the order.