

Miara Sung

Philosopher and Poet

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Professional Profile

Miara Sung (she/they) is a Korean/American philosopher and poet. Her research centers on computability theory, ethics, race, and sexuality. She is currently working on a philosophical monograph, *Madness and Consent*, a synthesis of concepts in mathematical logic, Deleuzian repetition, Badiouan event, and Joseon dynasty intellectual history. The project aims toward a left metaphysics that affirms its political commitments through mathematical and computational formalisms.

Poetry plays a central role in her practice, informing both her philosophical method and her performance work.

Research and Artistic Interests

Philosophy of computation; moral philosophy; metaphysics of uncomputability; ethics of artificial intelligence; race and sexuality; poetry and performance; recursion and repetition; political economy of technology; interdisciplinary methods between computer science, philosophy, and literature.

Lectures, Readings, and Performances

- Lecture on racism in artificial intelligence, University of Washington, 2019.
- Poetry performance and reading, Seattle Lit Crawl 2018, with Shankar Narayan.
- Poetry performance and reading, Seattle Lit Crawl 2019, with Emmanuelle Pierrot. Performance explored the recursive and repetitive aftermath of sexual assault under the theme “No, rape and calculation.” Manuscript available on request.
- Poetry performance and reading, Oakland EM Wolfman, with Emmanuelle Pierrot. 2019.

Publications and Writing

Poetry

- “Bodily Subsumption (i think i was supposed to die),” *Abolishing Capitalist Totality: What Is to Be Done under Real Subsumption?*, Minor Compositions, 2026.

Philosophy and Theory

- “How to Solve Moral Conundrums with Computability Theory.” arXiv preprint, 2018.
- “The Phenomenology of Being-Racist.” Unpublished essay, 2020. Available online.
- “Parasite Is the First Sexual Critique of Capitalism.” *Tropics of Meta*, 2020.
- “Acceleration and Time.” *Centre for Experimental Ontology*, 2021.
- *Madness and Consent*. Manuscript in progress, expected 2026.

Teaching Experience

- Instructor, *The Poetry of Computer Science, the Computer Science of Poetry: Philosophy of Computation*. University of California, Berkeley. Fall 2017; Spring 2018. Author of a textbook developed for the course under the same name.
- Teaching Assistant, *The Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs*. University of California, Berkeley. Spring 2016; Summer 2016; Fall 2016; Spring 2017; Fall 2017; Spring 2018.

Academic and Institutional Activity

- Student Worker Representative, UAW 2865, 2016-2018.
- Founder, Philosophy of Computation at Berkeley, 2017-2021.
- Developer, Mimbres School for the Humanities, 2025-2026.

Artistic and Technical Projects

- *6180 the moon*, video game developed with the Korean indie studio Turtle Cream. Puzzle-platformer structured around a recursive loop connecting the top and bottom of the screen. The project explores recursion not as stultification, but as a potentially liberating and unbounded mechanic. Selection at Experimental Gameplay Workshop at the Game Developers Conference 2013, IndieCade 2013, A MAZE Johannesburg 2016, BitSummit 2016. Best indie game at Tokyo Game Show 2014.

Other

- “Software Engineers Must Think Deeply About Ethics.” *The Daily Cal*. 2017.
- “Destory Chancellor’s Mansion, Not People’s Park.” *The Daily Cal*. 2021.

Education

- Hankuk University of Foreign Studies — M.A. in English Translation and Interpretation. 2024, on leave.
- University of California, Berkeley — B.A. in Computer Science. Equivalent coursework in poetry, philosophy, and linguistics. 2014-2023. (On leave, 2018-2022)
- University of West Georgia — Coursework in poetry. 2012-2014.

Fields

Philosophy; poetry; performance and lecture-based art; computation and ethics; interdisciplinary research across computer science and the humanities.

Languages

English (native), Korean (native), German (basic)