

Koo Hye-sun



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Template:Korean name

Ku Hye-sun (born November 9, 1984) is a South Korean actress, singer-songwriter, director and artist. She gained widespread recognition in the television dramas Pure in Heart (2006), The King And I (2007), Boys Over Flowers (2009), Take Care of Us, Captain (2012), Angel Eyes (2014) and Blood (2015).

Early life

Ku Hye-sun's family consists of her mother, father, and one older sister. While growing up, Ku initially dreamed of becoming a singer. She eventually formed a vocal band with college friends, but due to her gaining popularity through the internet as a model she put those goals on hold.

Career

As actress

Ku Hye-sun entered the entertainment industry after gaining popularity on the Internet as an ulzzang. She used to be a trainee under SM Entertainment, before switching over to DSP Media and preparing to debut in a girl group called Ria. But after it didn't work out she then signed under YG Entertainment. Originally set to debut as a singer (supposedly in a three-member girl group with 2NE1's Park Bom and Sandara Park), YG Entertainment CEO Yang Hyunsuk advised Ku to pursue acting rather than music. She made her debut in a CF for Sambo computers and then made her television debut in the KBS horror series *Anagram*, and continued to appear in one-act dramas. Her performance as Hye-jin in the 2004 MBC sitcom *Nonstop* 5 attracted the audience's attention.

Ku Hye-sun



In May 2013.

Born November 9, 1984 Incheon, South Korea

Other names Goo Hye-sun

Alma mater Sungkyunkwan

> University · Seoul Institute of the Arts

Occupations Actress · singer-

songwriter · director ·

artist

Years active 2002-present

Agents **YG** Entertainment

Partners Park^[1]

Ahn Jae-hyun (m. 2016) **Spouse**



In December 2008

Ku soon rose to fame in the 2006 television drama *Pure in Heart* and surprised critics with her performance in the historical drama *The King and I*.^[2] She then starred in the martial arts drama *Strongest Chil Woo*.^[3]

Ku rose to	o fan	ne for	her	role as	Geum
Jan-di in	the	mega	hit	KBS2	drama

Korean name				
Hangul	000			
<u>Hanja</u>	000			
Revised Romanization	Gu Hye-seon			
McCune- Reischauer	Ku Hyesŏn			
Website	http://www.kuhyesun.com			

Boys Over Flowers opposite Lee Min Ho, [4] which gained her pan-Asia popularity. [5]

After a year in limbo with no broadcasting slot, her first pre-produced drama *The Musical* finally aired in September 2011. [6][7][8] Ku next starred as a female pilot in the SBS series *Take Care of Us, Captain*, [9][10][11][12] followed by *Absolute*

Darling, the Taiwanese drama adaptation of the manga *Absolute Boyfriend*. [13][14]

After two years break from acting career, Ku appears in <u>MBC</u> channel's two-part documentary drama *Heo Nanseolheon*. She took part in the program's narration and production as well. [15]

Ku then made a small screen comeback acting in SBS's wekeend drama <u>Angel Eyes</u> in 2014. She played a legally blind woman who gets her vision back in an operation and decides to embrace life with passion by becoming an emergency rescue worker. [16]

In February 2015, Ku starred in KBS's vampire drama *Blood*. She plays an arrogant genius physician who entered medical school at a young age of 17. However, *Blood* suffered low ratings in Korea and Ku was criticized for her bad acting. On November 6, 2015, Ku was confirmed to be starring in a Chinese drama *The Legendary Tycoon* which tells the life story of Run Run Shaw, a self-made entertainment mogul from Hong Kong. [20][21]

Ku was cast in the MBC's weekend drama *You're Too Much* alongside <u>Uhm Jung-hwa</u>. [22] However, she left the show after two weeks due to health reasons. [23]

As singer-songwriter

In recent years, Ku has displayed her vocal talents through soundtrack releases as well as digital singles. In 2005, she released her first single "Happy Birthday to You" for <u>Nonstop 5</u>. In 2006, she released the track "Sarang Ga" ("Love Story"), which became the title song of <u>Pure in Heart</u>. In 2012, Ku released her first self-composed soundtrack, titled "Fly Again" for <u>SBS</u>'s <u>Take Care of Us, Captain</u>, which she stars in.

Ku released her first album *Breath* in 2009, an album of <u>new-age music</u> which included her composed song for her friend and singer, <u>Gummy</u>, entitled "Around the Alley". She then released her self composed and written digital single "Brown Hair" in 2010, with the music rearranged by bossa nova pianist Choi In-young. [24] In 2012, Ku released "It's You" and its music video. She not only wrote the music and lyrics of "It's You", but also

filmed and edited the music video.^[25] In 2014, Ku released her 5th digital single "Happy", which is also a remake to <u>Seo In-guk</u>'s song "Were We Happy".^{[26][27]} She released another self-written single titled "Must" the same year, which also serves as the soundtrack of her film *My Daughtr*.^[28]

In 2015, she released a second album titled *Breath 2*, which serves as a follow up to her 2009 album *Breath*. The title track "After 10 Years 100 Years" is a remake of the OST from the film *The Peach Tree*. Ku held her first concert the same year. 30

In 2016, Ku released the song "Written and Erased", which is a collaboration song of Ku with The Blind. On April 28, she released her first regular album *And Spring* that consist of 11 tracks including her singles "Stupid", "Brown Hair", and "It's You." [31]



In July 2009

As director

Ku made her official debut as a director through her <u>short film The Madonna</u>. The film which was centered around the topic of assisted suicide, debuted at the 2009 <u>Puchon International Fantastic Film Festival. [32]</u> The film was featured in several film events, including the Asiana International Short Film Festival and the Pusan Asian Short Film Festival where it won "Audience Award" category. [33] *The Madonna* also won the "Spotlight Award" at the 12th Short Shorts Film Festival which was held in Tokyo from June 10 through 20, 2010. [33] She shared that the reason of herself making film was "It's not like I dreamed of becoming a filmmaker since I was young. I'm interested in many things, including music, art and literature, and I thought I could incorporate all those things by making a film." [32]

The following year, Ku directed her first feature-length film *Magic*. [34][35] The film was invited and screened at the 6th Jecheon International Music & Film Festival (JIMFF) from August 12 to 17, 2010^[36] and the 23rd Annual Tokyo International Film Festival. [37] She continued directing short films such as *You* (2010) *Fragments of Sweet Memories* (2012), [38] as well as trailers for film festivals. *Fragment of Sweet Memories* was selected as one of Korea's outstanding 3D films, and was shown at the Cinemountain in Busan Cinema Center during the International 3D Festival (I3DF), which Ku serves as the promotional ambassador of. [39][40] The film was also selected as a finalist for the Seoul Senior Film Festival, and received citation from the Mayor Park Won-soon.

In 2011, Ku established her own company, Ku Hye-sun Film, under which she would produce and film her projects. [41] Her second directorial feature *The Peach Tree* was the first film made under her newly established production company. [42][43][44][45] She also wrote the theme song and novel version of the film. [46] On October 25, 2012, she was awarded the Minister Commendation at the 14th Annual Republic of Korea Design Award for *The Peach Tree*. [47]

In 2013, Ku directed a short film for Samsung Galaxy S4, as part of the project "Story of Me and S4". [48][49] The same year, she served as the jury for the 9th Jecheon International Music and Film Festival. [50]

In 2014, Ku released her fifth directed film, <u>Daughter</u>. Not only did she took part in producing, script-writing and directing of the movie, she also plays the main character as a mother who gives her daughter an oppressive corporal punishment. The film aims to address and make known to society the problems of child abuse. *Daughter* was invited to Busan International Film Festival. [53]

As artist and an ambassador

Aside from her acting and directional works, Ku participates in a wide range of projects, including writing and drawing as well as ambassador activities. In recognition of her versatility and talents, Ku was voted as the Best Female Artist in the Entertainment Industry in 2012. [54] She also received the Korea Fulfillment Award, and the Ministry Award for "sharing happiness" for her charitable acts. [55][56]

In 2009, Ku published her first illustrated novel *Tango* (III), centered around a 20-something young girl who goes through two separate relationships to finally mature into a woman. The book was a bestseller, selling 30,000 copies within a week. [57] Its release coincided with her first solo art exhibition, also titled "Tango" which was held in July 2009 at La Mer Gallery and attracted a total of 10,000 visitors. The exhibition featured around 40 of Ku's illustrations, some from her novel. [58] She held her second art exhibition in 2012, titled "Afterimage" at the Hangaram Design Arts Center in the Seoul Arts Center. [59] She donated all proceeds from the sale of her artwork toward purchasing "clean cars" (germ-free automobiles) for the Korea Leukemia Patient Group. [60][61][62]



In May 2013

From 17–31 August 2013, she held exhibition entitled "Anything That Leaves Yearning Is All Beautiful". [63][64] The same year, Ku attended the Hong Kong Contemporary Art Fair. [65] The illustration poster of her cat 'Mango' will be sold

at this exhibition, where the profit will be donated to charity organization 'Community Chest Hong Kong'. [66][67] Ku was also appointed as the 2013 Cheongju International Craft Biennale (CICB) ambassador, [68] as well as the ambassador for ArtisTree, an organization to encourage arts. [69]

Personal life

On March 11, 2016, Ku was confirmed to be dating her <u>Blood</u> co-star <u>Ahn Jae-hyun</u> since April 2015.^[70] The couple officially registered their marriage at the Gangnam district office on May 20, 2016 and married on May 21, 2016.^[71] They announced that instead of holding a wedding party, they would donate the money to the pediatric ward of <u>Severance Hospital</u>.^[72] The pair is confirmed to be appearing in the upcoming reality show *Newlywed Diary* produced by Na Young-seok, which will showcase their married life.^[73]

Filmography

As actress

Television series

Year	Title	Role	Network	
2004	Nonstop 5	Hye-sun	MBC	
2004	Drama City – Anagram	Nurse		
2005	Drama City – Everybody Cha Cha Cha		KBS2	
	Ballad of Seodong	Eun-jin	SBS	
2006	Pure in Heart	Yang Guk-hwa	KBS1	
2007	The King and I	Queen Je-heon/Yoon So-hwa	SBS	
2008	Strongest Chil Woo	Yoon So-yoon	KBS2	
2009	Boys Over Flowers	Geum Jan-di	NB32	
2010	Ku Cine	Herself	Mnet	
2011	The Musical	Go Eun-bi	SBS	
2012	Take Care of Us, Captain	Han Da-jin	303	
2012	Absolute Darling	Guan Xiao Fei	GTV	
2014	Heo Nanseolheon	Heo Nanseolheon/ Documentary narrator ^[74]	МВС	
2014	Angel Eyes	Yoon Soo-wan	SBS	
2015	Blood	Yoo Ri-ta/Yoo Chae-yoon	KBS2	
2017	You Are Too Much	Jung Hae-dang (up until Episode 6, replaced by Jang Hee-jin)	MBC	

Film

Year	Title	Role	Notes
2007	August Rush	Girl on couch (cameo)	American production
2014	Daughter	San	Also director and screenwriter

Narration

Year	Title	Network	Notes	Ref
2012	The Hospice for the Children Who Live for Today	SBS		[75]
2013	Prime	MBC	I Love Wood segment	[76]
2014	Miracles in December	KBS1	Angel Bread segment	[77]
2016	Rookie	KBS2		

Reality show

Year	Title	Role	Episode	Network	Notes
2017	Newlywed Diary	Cast	Episode 1-6	tvN	with Ahn Jae-hyun

Music video

Year	Song Title	Artist
2002	"We Make a Good Pair"	Sung Si-kyung
2004	"The Reason I Close My Eyes"	Taebin
2006	"Forget You"	Soul Star
2007	"Yesterday Is Different from Today"	Kim Ji-eun
2010	"Touch Your Heart"	<u>Fahrenheit</u>
2010	"Brown Hair"	Ku lika aug
2012	"Marry Me"	Ku Hye-sun
	"With Laughter or with Tears"	Seo In-guk
2013	"It's You"	Ku Hvo cup
	"Нарру"	Ku Hye-sun
2014	"She's So High" ^[78]	Beatburger
2014	"Floral Rain"	
2015	"After 10 Years 100 Years"	Ku Hye-sun
2015	"A Day Without Sound"	

As director

Feature film

Year	Title	Credited as	Cast	Ref.
2010	Magic	Director, screenwriter, cameo	Im Ji-kyu Seo Hyun-jin Kim Jung-wook	[34]

2012	The Peach Tree	Director, screenwriter, music director	Cho Seung-woo Ryu Deok-hwan Nam Sang-mi	[43][44][79]
2014	Daughter	Director, screenwriter, actor	Ku Hye-sun Shim Hye-jin	[52]

Short film

Year	Title	Credited as	Cast	Ref.
2009	The Madonna (aka The Cheerful Caretaker)	Director, screenwriter, editor	Seo Hyun-jin Kim Myung-soo Jun Tae-soo	[32]
2010	You	Director, screenwriter	Nam Sang-mi Choi II-hwa	
2012	Fragments of Sweet Memories (3D)	Director, screenwriter, music director	Yoo Seung-ho Choi II-hwa Ryu Young-jae Yang Hyun-mo Yang Kyung-mo Seo Hyun-jin	[38][80][81][82]
2013	White Dog (Samsung Galaxy S4)	Director, singer of theme song	Cristina Fernandez Lee Moon Mason Ku Hye-sun	[49]
2018	Mystery Pink	Director, Screenwriter	Seo Hyun-jin, Yang Dong-geun Yoon Da-kyoung, Hyun Seung-min, Park Jeong-uk	

Trailer

Year	Event	Cast	Ref.
2009	7th Asiana International Short Film Festival	Seo Hyun-jin	
2011	13th International Women's Film Festival in Seoul	Ku I bio oun	
2013	14th Persons with Disabilities Film Festival	Ku Hye-sun	[83][84]
2014	10th Jecheon International Music & Film Festival	Ku Hye-sun, Seong Seung-han, Choi In-young	[85]

Discography

Albums

Year	Album	Label	Notes	Ref.
2009	Breath			[86]
2015	Breath 2	YG Entertainment	Singer, composer	[29]
2016	And Spring			[31]

Singles

Year	Title	Album	Label	Notes	Ref.	
2005	"Happy Birthday To You"	Nonstop 5 OST	EMI	Singer	[87]	
2006	"Sarang Ga (Love Story)"	Pure in Heart OST	YG Fatastainment		[88]	
2010	"Brown Hair"		Entertainment	Singer, composer	[89]	
2012	"Fly Again"	Take Care of Us, Captain OST	Pony Canyon	Composer		
	"Marry Me"		YG Entertainment	Singer, composer	[90][91]	
	"Flying Galaxy"				[92]	
2013	"It's You"				[25]	
	"Нарру"				[27]	
201.4	"Floral Rain"					
2014	"Must"				[28]	
2015	"A Day Without Sound"			Singer	[93]	
2016	"Written and Erased"			In collaboration with The Blind		
	"Winter Story"				for Newlywed Diary	[94]
	"Summer Day"			ioi Newlyweu Dialy	5.1	

Concert

Year	Concert	Artist	
2000	With You	Ku Hye Sun participated in Isao Sasaki's concert	
2009	Over the Rainbow	Ku Hye Sun, Isao Sasaki	
2015	Summer, Autumn, Winter, and Spring	Ku Hye Sun, Choi In-young	

Bibliography

Year	Title	Notes	Ref.
2009	Tango	Novel	[57][58]

2010	Ku Hye-sun's The Story Behind the Making of "Magic"	Non-fiction
2012	The Peach Tree	Novelization
2017	Ku Hye Sun's Music Collection	Music Book
2018	Ku Hye Sun's Scenario Collection	Scenario Book

Art exhibitions

Year	Title	Location	Notes	Ref.
2009	Tango	La Mer Gallery, <u>South</u> <u>Korea</u>	Solo exhibition	[58]
2012	Red Bull Collective Art	Gwanggyo Gallery, Cheonggyecheon	Participation	[95]
2012	Aftarimaga	Hangaram Design Arts Center, Seoul Arts Center		[59]
2013	Afterimage	Harbor City Gallery, Hong Kong	Solo exhibition	[65]
	Anything That Leaves Yearning Is All Beautiful	Korean Cultural Center in Shanghai		[63][96]
2016	Dark Yellow	MBC Sangam-dong, Mapo- gu, <u>Seoul</u>	Participated in "We, [] (Face)" the DMC Festival 2016	[97]
2017		Hangaram Art Museum, Seoul	Solo Exhibition	[98][99]
2018	Mystery Pink	Hangaram Art Museum, Seoul	Solo Exhibition	

Fashion

- André Kim's Fashion Show with Song Chang-eui (2009)
- Lie Sang Bong's Fashion Show at CICB (2013)

Ambassadorship

- 2012: Goodwill Ambassador for International 3D Festival^[39]
- 2013: Promotional Ambassador for Cheongju International Craft Biennale [68]
- 2013: Promotional Ambassador for Artistree^[69]
- 2013: Honorary Ambassador for 14th Persons with Disabilities Film Festival [100]
- 2015: Honorary Ambassador for Seoul 2015 International Blind Sports Association (IBSA) World Games^{[101][102]}
- 2015: Honorary Ambassador fir Korean Leukemia Association [103][104]

Awards and nominations

Year	Award	Category	Nominated work	Result
2006	KBS Drama Awards	Best New Actress ^[107]	Pure in Heart	Won
2007	43rd Baeksang Arts Awards	Best New Actress (TV)		Nominated
2007	SBS Drama Awards	New Star Award ^[108]	The King and I	Won
	26th Pusan Asian Short Film Festival	Audience Award	The Madonna	Won
	4th Andre Kim Best Star Awards	Best Female Star ^[109]		Won
	6th Yahoo! Taiwan Asia Buzz Awards	Best Asian Actress ^[5]		Won
2000		Excellence Award, Actress in a Mid-length Drama ^[110]		Won
2009	KBS Drama Awards	Netizen Award, Actress	Boys Over Flowers	Won
		Best Couple Award with Lee Min-ho ^[111]	<u>l'iowers</u>	Won
	14th Asian Television Awards	Best Drama Actress	-	Nominated
	3rd Mnet 20's Choice Awards	HOT Drama Star (Female)		Nominated
2010	12th Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia	Spotlight Award ^[33]	The Madonna	Won
2010	23rd Tokyo International Film Festival	Best Asian-Middle Eastern Film	Magic	Nominated
2011	5th Mnet 20's Choice Awards	Hot 20's Voice	_	Nominated
	31st Brussels International Fantastic Film Festival	Orbit Competition	The Peach Tree	Nominated
2012	SBS Drama Awards	Top Excellence Award, Actress in a Drama Special	Take Care of Us, Captain	Nominated
2012	2012 Korea Fulfillment Awards	Grand Prize (Daesang) ^[55]	Herself	Won
	14th Annual Republic of Korea Design Award by Ministry of Knowledge Economy	Design Merits Division-Minister Commendation Award ^[47]	Herself	Won
2013	Ministry of Health and Welfare	2nd Happiness Sharing Talent Award ^[56]	Herself	Won
2014	Ministry of Gender Equality and Family	Grand Prize in Gender Equality	Herself	Won
	2014 CRS Droma Awards	Excellence Award, Actress in a Drama Special	Angel Eyes	Nominated
	2014 SBS Drama Awards	Best Couple Award with Lee Sang-yoon		Nominated
		Best Actress of the Year 2014		Won
	2014 Asian Drama Awards Pilipinas	Best Couple Award with Lee Sang-yoon		Nominated

Year	Award	Category	Nominated work	Result
	The 6th Seoul Senior Film Festival	Best Young Director	_	Won
2015	KBS Drome Awards	Excellence Award, Actress in a Mid-length Drama	Blood	Nominated
	KBS Drama Awards	Best Couple Award with Ahn Jae-hyun		Nominated
	2015 Asian Drama Award Pilipinas	Best Actress 2015	Angel Eyes	Won

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External links

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- Ku Hye-sun (https://www.imdb.com/name/nm3316287/) at IMDb

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