

How Art Transforms Brokenness Into Beauty

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I recently received an announcement regarding a TED talk given by a teacher/friend of mine from college, Lily Yeh. I also babysat her son during those years. Lily was my professor in art college, and I stayed in touch with her after I joined the Unification Movement. I always tried to visit her whenever I was back in the Philadelphia area.

I could say a lot about Lily – about her early life as the daughter of a general in *Chiang Kai-shek's* army or about her struggle to become an accomplished artist in the United States, about the *Village for the Arts and Humanities* – an 18-year project she worked on in a poverty-stricken area in Germantown, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; or I could talk about the NGO she established called *Barefoot Artist International* (working with the most vulnerable people in Rwanda, Mexico, Kenya and in China). But I need not share about these things because they are all covered in her TED talk. What I do want to share though, is my reflection regarding her TED talk.

Lily talks about the place of comfort which she refers to as the “Dustless World” – a place of beauty, peace and serene happiness. The “Dustless World” I believe can also be referred to as the world without shadows or the original ideal world. Lily’s explanation of her work is amazingly honest. Her simple activities are an expression of hope. This is, I believe, one way art can be used by God.

Please view Lily Yeh’s TED talk: **How art transforms brokenness into beauty.** [Click here](#). You can also view the full-length documentary about her life, filmed by her son Daniel (the same son I changed diapers for). [Click here](#)