

Korean Interdisciplinary Arts Festival “Non-Sense Music #2”



Borders

2018/05/11 - 20

Opening: May 11st, 6pm

Kunstquartier Bethanien, Mariannenpl. 2, 10997 Berlin

Biho Ryu
Hayoun Kwon
Helena Parada Kim
Hwang Kim
Nahoon Park
Soyoung Chung

Curator: Joanne Kim

Organized by

Kulturabteilung der Botschaft der Republik Korea
KAMS (Korea Art Management Service)

Supported by

Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Republic of Korea
Korea Sports Promotion Foundation

Program Partner: SOMA ART SPACE

From May 11 to 20, 2018, the Kulturabteilung der Botschaft der Republik Korea (Korean Cultural Centre) invites the general audience as well as arts professionals from around the world to celebrate Korean Interdisciplinary Arts Festival in Berlin!

This 10-day-long interdisciplinary arts festival at Kunstquartier Bethanien explores the meaning of “Borders” through the micro-history of six Korean artists. Curated by Berlin-Seoul based **Joanne Kim**, the artists **Nahoon Park** (Choreographer), **Soyoung Chung** (Video, Performance, Installation), **Hayoun Kwon** (VR), **RYU Biho** (Cinematic Poem), **Helena Parada Kim** (Painting) and **Hwang Kim** (Installation, Documentary film) transform the circumstances of time and space into songs, performance and visual delights. Korean Interdisciplinary Arts Festival “Non-Sense Music” was previously launched by Joanne Kim as part of a special project at <ASIA NOW – Paris Asian Art Fair> during Paris art week in 2017.

On the opening day of May 11st at 6pm, three performances by Artist RYU Biho (Poet reading by actor and dance performance), Hwang Kim (Letter reading by North-Korean refugee and documentary film screening) and Soyoung Chung (VJing and Live music in collaboration with berlin-based composer Stellan Veloce) are scheduled.

This year’s theme “Borders”, boundaries and edges act as another layer through which to interpret of an area or idea. Drawing on notions of borders within political discourse and popular culture, these 6 Korean artists’ interdisciplinary art works aim to reflect on the ambivalence of Borders – both as boundaries of our social or personal relations and as those imposed at the edges of nation states.

PHOTO : <https://drive.google.com/open?id=11HDnIHUkk-ZZWAan1ftoA0pJwDQtzvj2>

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As a virtual reality video artist, **Hayoun Kwon** is interested in the notion of individual and collective memory. Much of Hayoun Kwon’s innovative film work is documentary and political, grounded in personal stories and linked to geopolitical questions of borders and territoriality—particularly, in Kwon’s words, “the moment when reality seemed to tip over into fiction.” Her work <DMZ, 489 Years> (Digital color film, 11 mins, 2015) gives us access to the DMZ and immerses us in the heart of the personal memory of a soldier. He tells us his experience in a research mission and the discovery he made in the field full of mines. Hayoun Kwon's animated film allows us to see a forbidden place, a place where nature has totally reclaimed its hold. Her work was presented during the “Cinéma du Réel” Festival at the Centre Pompidou (Paris) in 2014, and “Doc Fortnight” at MoMA (New York) in February 2017. Winner of the Prix Découverte des Amis du Palais de Tokyo in 2015, Hayoun Kwon has also been awarded the first Prize of the 62nd International Short Film Festival (Oberhausen, Germany, 2016), the Arte Creative Newcomer Award during the European Media Art Festival (Osnabrück, Germany, 2014) and the Prix Jeune Création in 2012. Since her graduating from Le Fresnoy in 2011, she is being represented by the Galerie Sator, Paris. Hayoun Kwon lives alternately in France and South Korea.

The quest for assertion of one's cultural identity is an underlying theme at the core of **Helena Parada Kim's** work. The multicultural upbringing of the artist- she is half Korean and half Spanish and grew up in Germany- fuels her creative inspiration in various ways. She uses photographs of members of her mother's family to produce her work. Using family portraits as a source of inspiration for her painted work, she carefully transcribes the rich and colorful texture of the elegant Hanbok (traditional Korean dress) she saw in her mother's albums. The feminine figures adorned with these rich and delicate garments fascinate the artist, who has never met them in person. Meanwhile, noted Renaissance painters such as Tiziano Vecelli, Diego Velazquez as well as 17th Century Dutch Still Lifes paintings profoundly influence Parada Kim's work. They are painted with close attention to the detail of the clothing but with much less detail in the faces. The artist has chosen to give them consistency through their cultural identification, rather than their personal existence. Helena graduated Kunstakademie Dusseldorf and was Materstudent of Prof. Peter Doig. Her works exhibited in Choi & Lager gallery in Seoul & Cologne, Vestfossen Kunstlaboratorium in Norway and various cities in Germany. She is the award winner of Maxims Art Award (Cologne) and 1st Art Award of Kö Galerie (Düsseldorf).

North Korea is one of the most politically and culturally isolated countries in the world where any foreign influence is systematically rejected. Paradoxically, with the support of pizza-loving leader Kim Jong-il, the first ever pizzeria was opened in Pyongyang in 2010 to provide an authentic Italian experience for a minority of political elites. In response, artist **Hwang Kim** delved into the project <Pizzas for the People>(2011), shot in a style between soap opera and homemade video to demonstrate how to make a pizza. To circumvent censorship and reach a North Korean audience, the film was converted into 500 DVDs to be smuggled into North Korea. The documentary includes production consultation with North Korean exiles and secretly filmed footage of the DVD being smuggled into North Korea. His works have been performed, exhibited and screened in Japan, China, Macao, Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Romania, Hungary, Czech, Egypt, South Africa, Barbican Center in London, Israel Museum in Jerusalem and Festival B:om in Seoul. He has been selected as one of the Next Generation Design Leaders, Arko Young Art Frontier and Pams Choice. He has also been invited to be a jury for "Poster for tomorrow" competition in Paris and Modern Atlanta Prize in New York.

Soyoung Chung questions about the politics of space through art installations, video and public interventions. Leveraging geology, she delves into the underlying layers of time within her surroundings by visualizing each aspect of history. Chung's new installation work <From the northernmost to the southernmost> (2018) analyses the similarities and differences of the volcanic rocks that comprise the soil in each the northernmost tip of South Korea, Cheorwon, and the southernmost tip of South Korea, Jeju Island and its neighbouring islands. In her video <Stone>(2016), Chung investigates political and historical aspects of the history of local materials in the Korean Demilitarised Zone (DMZ). Currently based in Seoul, she graduated from Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris, France. Chung has held many solo exhibitions at Art Sonje (2016), D project space (2013), OCI Museum (2011), Project Space Sarubia (2008), Kumho Museum of art (2007) among others, took part in group exhibitions such as Nottingham New Art Exchange(2017), Songeun Art Space (2016), Seoul Museum of Art (2015), Tripostal in Lille, France (2015).

Furthermore, she participated in renowned residency programs, including the Delfina Foundation in London(2017), Berlin ZK/U(2017), Le Cyclop in France (2014), SeMA Nanji Residency (2012) etc. Chung also won the Songeun Art Awards in 2016.

In contrast to the four artists above, who confront the geographical and political borders and boundaries to engage with diverse communities, the two artists below examine those living at the margins of society, explore psychological thresholds and the edge of consciousness.

RYU Biho explores human emotions such as mourning, suffering, despair and empathy, evolving from personal and political conflicts or ideological confrontations. Biho's inspiration to Cinematic Poem <A Prophet's Words> (single channel video, 13min 30sec, 2018) was the tragic image of a little boy from Syria who drowned while escaping his county by the sea and was found dead on a holiday beach in southern Turkey. After Biho visited this site in person, he wrote the poem accompanying to this film by referring to the ancient myth of Orpheus' tragic journey into the netherworld. For the artist, the image of the day is a symbol of our contemporary tragic reality. Biho creates the framework of an immersive spatial installation with various staging methods ("mises en-scène") to offer an omniscient viewpoint with video projections and a meditative sound works. Biho is the award winner of 'Sungkok Artist of Tomorrow' by Sungkok Art Museum in 2013 and he has exhibited at Nam June Paik Art Center, Gyeonggi Museum of Modern Art, The special project for the 20th anniversary of the Gwangju Biennale in South Korea and La Friche Belle, Marseille. He participated in the residency program in Künstlerhaus Bethanien with the support of Korean Arts Council and plans on attending BibaoArte this summer.

Choreographer **Nahoon Park** plans on a special performance on Friday, May 18th, 2018. The Parknahoon company's performance includes installation art, dance, and participation of the audience, all of which are inspired by the Korean traditional lotus leaf and basket, which are the important Korean motifs. For the past 10 years, "Three aris" has toured all over the world to introduce Korean contemporary dance. Nahoon Park dance company is the one of the leading modern dance companies in Seoul. His team has been on the list of cutting-edge artist teams by Arts Council Korea, SFAC(Seoul Foundation for Arts and Culture) and ARCO art theatre since 2003. Park's choreography team received various grants, such as the best choreography team by critics in 2004 in Korea and selected to participate in workshops abroad, such as the Korea-Finland Connection project (2012) and various projects in Germany, Singapore, China and Japan. His prominent art project "Three airs" got awarded as the 3rd best project by PAMS(Performing Arts Market Seoul) in 2007, and invited to MODAFE SaoPaulo in Brazil (2009), S,t petersberg in Russia (2013), California in USA (2015), Mallorca in Spain and Bandung in Indonesia (2017). He is currently based in Seoul and teaching at Sungkyunkwan University, Seoul.

Artists' website

Hayoun Kwon <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qad-hmC4t7M>

Helena Parada Kim <http://www.helenaparada.de/>

Hwang Kim <http://www.hwangkim.com/>

Nahoon Park <http://www.parknahoon.com>

Soyoung Chung <http://www.soyoungchung.com/>

RYU Biho <http://www.ryubiho.com/>

Curator

Joanne Kim is a Seoul-born, Berlin-based independent curator, currently working as a guest curator at Kulturabteilung der Botschaft der Republik Korea. Kim is interested in the formal qualities and relationships between image, sound and technology. Kim was the program director for the launch of "ASIA NOW - Paris Asian Art Fair" in 2015 then curated the special project "KOREAN PLATFORM" in 2017 which introduced Korean cutting-edgy artists with exhibitions/performance/conversation program in collaboration of Busan biennale and KAMS(Korean Arts Management Service). In May 2017, Kim curated DSL Collection's highlight exhibition "Staged" and DSL Collection Virtual Reality Museum Project in Busan, South Korea. Since 2016, Kim has worked as an art consultant with various art organizations in South Korea such as KAMS(Korean Arts Management Service) and Busan Art Fair. Previously, Kim held the art director position at the K11 Art Museum (Shanghai) from 2013 to 2015. In addition to being a key liaison between the K11 Foundation and other international art organizations, Kim successfully led over 30 museum exhibitions and relating art education programs including "Master of Impressionism – Claude Monet" (Made a record of 350,000 visitors) and Media art exhibition with 5 Chinese and 5 French artists, "Metamorphosis of the Virtual 5+5" (Selected as the 10 must see exhibition by The New York Times). Kim was a researcher at the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism (Seoul, South Korea) from 2006 to 2008. She received her Masters of Arts Management and her Bachelor degrees of Arts Management and Chinese Literature from Sookmyung Women's University.

Organizer

THE KOREAN CULTURAL CENTER (Kulturabteilung der Botschaft der Republik Korea)

The Korean Cultural Center in Berlin is the cultural department of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Germany, headquartered in Berlin under the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the Republic of Korea (MCST). Since its foundation in 1994, the KCC has been working towards enhancing cooperation and understanding between Korea and Germany through cultural and educational activities. With the KCC's centralized location in Leipziger Platz, Berlin, KCC's dedicated team develops various cultural projects, introduces new opportunities to expand our programs in Germany, and encourages cultural exchange. The KCC's facilities include the exhibition area 'Galerie damdam,' a library with multimedia resources, children's reading area, and computer workspace, a cinema, various seminar rooms, and the concert hall 'Space Godo.' KCC offers a range of courses in the fields of Korean music, arts, literature, language etc., and hosts numerous events in Germany related to Korean culture, sports, and tourism. (<http://kulturkorea.org/de>)

Venue

KUNSTQUARTIER BETHANIEN

The central deaconess institute ‚Bethanien‘ was constructed during the years 1845-47, commissioned by the pious King Friedrich Wilhelm IV who was known as the ‚romantic of the Prussian throne‘. Since 1973 it is predominantly cultural, artistic and social institutions working in the main building. KUNSTQUARTIER BETHANIEN presents group shows and topical exhibitions that deal with cutting edge social and cultural processes and their relation to contemporary art. Central aspects here include the contextualization of projects that take diversity, internationality and local issues into consideration. Around six exhibition projects are realised per year, currently in collaboration with institutions, curators or artist groups. The exhibitions are accompanied by guided tours, films, discussions and artists‘ talks. KUNSTQUARTIER BETHANIEN is a facility of Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg district council. (<http://kunstquartier-bethanien.de/>)

Program Partner

SOMA ART SPACE

SOMA is an independent contemporary art and culture space and initiative encourages collaborations among networks between cultural professionals and artists and academics and social activists from all over the world with the larger aim of supporting sustained dialogue. SOMA means Moon rays in the oldest language Sanskrit, the world of Moon is not as bright as it naturally should be, it is rather directed as the shadow of the Sun. The art practices and themes lay under the moon side – women, non-west, less-told stories, issues from less-mentioned regions are SOMA's main interest to showcase, yet this founding concept doesn't imply that it stands for any established doctrines or ideologies. SOMA defines itself as a platform where the true, mindful dialogue begins by presenting the art works strongly connected with the oldest question and matter of human being Who we are, Where we are, Where is our soul now. SOMA believes the open-warm-heart-feeling tactic will lead to its vision rather than the cold-systemized-think way. The not-for-profit art-socio space SOMA is located in multicultural Kiez, Kreuzberg, Berlin, was founded in 2014 by the journalist and artist Nabi Nara. In 2015, SOMA presented within ONS program of the Netzwerk freier Berliner Projekträume und -initiativen at KW Institute for Contemporary Art. In 2017, SOMA received the prize Independent Art Space by Senate Department for Culture and Europe Berlin, the long-term curatorial programm 'Yellow Matters' is supported by Senatsverwaltung für Kultur und Europa Berlin. (<http://somaartspace.de/>)

Hayoun Kwon



DMZ, 489 Years, Digital color film, 11 mins, 2015

Trailer : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qad-hmC4t7M>

Helena Parada Kim



Nurses and cranes, 180x250 cm, oil on linen, 2017

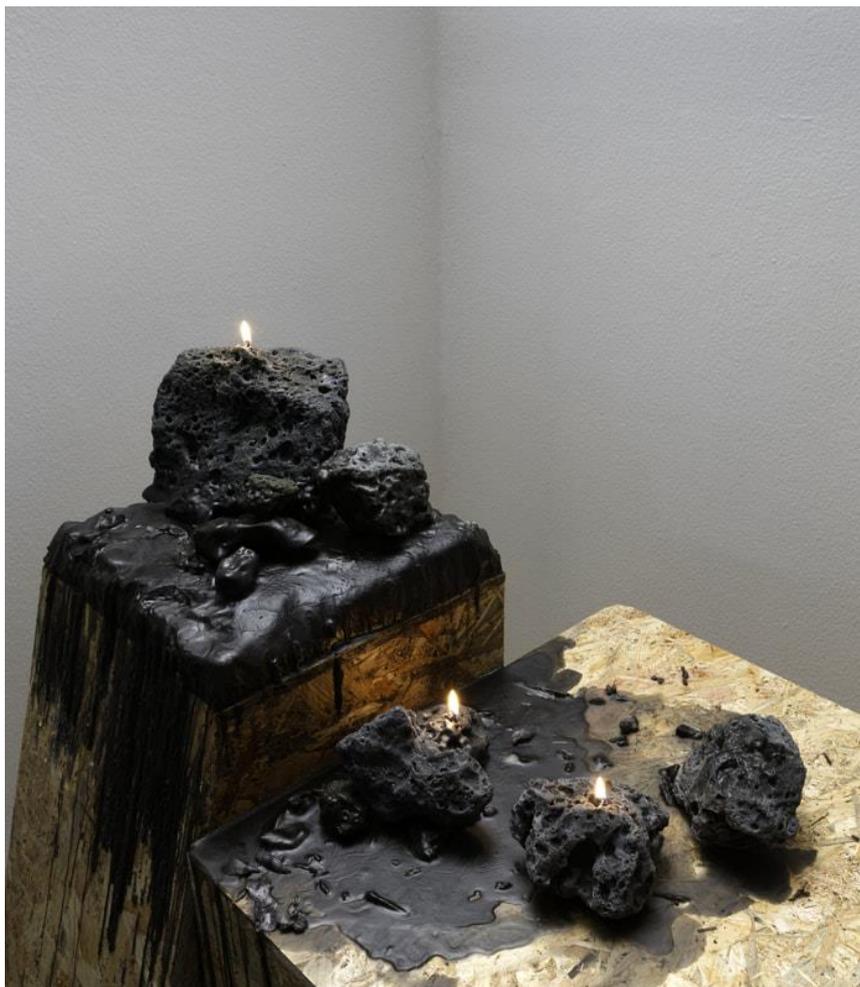
Hwang Kim

Pizzas for the People, installation, documentary screening with performance (30mins)

VIDEO : <https://youtu.be/od5XoQFxxWo>

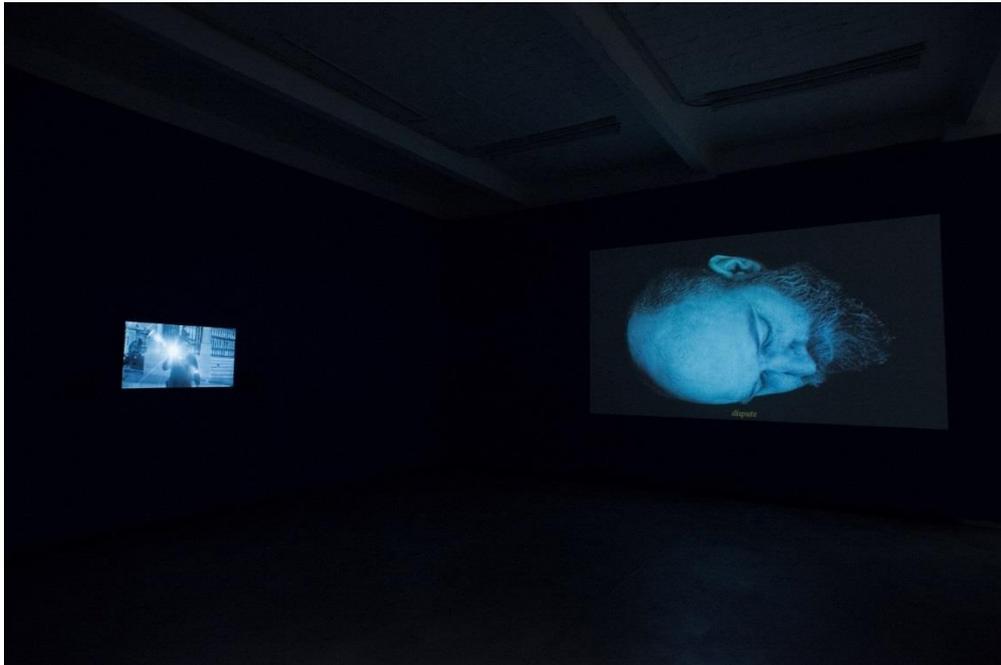


Soyoung Chung



Mountain Ori, beeswax from Yangji-ri, wig, pigment, variable dimension, 2016

RYU Biho



Prophet's Words, single channel video (13min 30sec), 2018
<https://youtu.be/PZEWsWq6tew>

Nahoon Park



Three airs video : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YBmifnTVHN4&feature=youtu.be>