



Korea University International Summer Campus (KU ISC) 2018

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June 26, 2018 ~ August 2, 2018

ISC398 - Introduction to Modern Korean Art

I . Instructor

Professor : Charlotte Horlyck
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Office : TBA
Office Hours : Mon-Thurs 2-3pm, or as per email arrangement

II. Textbook

Required Textbook : Charlotte Horlyck. *Korean Art from the 19th Century to the Present*. London: Reaktion Books, 2017.
: Chung, Hyun-min. *Modern Korean ink painting*. Elizabeth, NJ; Seoul : Hollym, 2006.
Ciclitira, Serenella (ed.). *Korean eye: contemporary Korean art*. Milano : Skira ; New York, NY : Rizzoli International, 2010.
Kim, Youngna. *Tradition, Modernity and Identity: Modern and Contemporary Art in Korea*. Seoul and New Jersey: Hollym, 2005.
Recommended Additional Readings : Kim Youngna. *20th century Korean art*. London: Laurence King, 2005.
Starkman, Christine and Lynn Zelevansky. *Your Bright Future. 12 Contemporary Artists from Korea*. The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. 2009.

Note that readings which are not in the textbook, such as journal articles and chapters from edited books, will be made available on Blackboard.

III. Course Description and Objectives

Over the past ten to fifteen years, modern and contemporary Korean art has become increasingly prominent on the global arts scene. Contemporary Korean artists are regularly included in major museum exhibitions and their art works are sold at important international art fairs. This course is a response to this new and exciting field.

The course explores the development of Korean art in the 20th and 21st centuries through detailed explorations of a diverse range of visual material, including paintings, sculpture, photography, installation work and video art. The lectures examine significant artistic styles and movements which developed in South Korea, including abstract art, Monochrome art, Minjung art and feminist art, and seeks to place them within a broader historical, political and cultural framework. Prominent artists will be discussed in detail, including Kim Whanki, Kim Ki-chang, Park Seo-bo, Park Soo-keun,

Suh Do-ho, Kimsooja and Lee Bul, among many others. Art traditions of North Korea will also be covered through examinations of posters, oil paintings and sculptures produced by Mansudae artists. References will be made to Korean artists' engagement with cultural and stylistic trends in Japan, Europe, America and the Soviet Union.

Classes will range from formal lectures to seminar-style sessions. Museum and gallery visits also form an important part of the course and joint excursions will be made to the Arario Museum and the painter Ko Hui-dong's house.

By the end of the course, students will:

- have gained a broad understanding of art produced on the Korean peninsula during the 20th and 21st centuries
- be able to identify and critically analyze key works of art from this period using appropriate vocabulary.
- will be able to situate modern and contemporary Korean art works within a broader context of East Asian cultural and artistic traditions and within a wider set of theoretical framings, including issues of modernity, nationalism, globalization and gender.

IV. Grading

Attendance	:	5%
Midterm Exam	:	30%
Final Exam	:	40%
Presentation	:	20%
Participation	:	5%

V. Class Outline

Date	Topic	Chapter	Remarks
June 26 (Tue)	Orientation Day		All readings not in the Textbook will be made available in the Blackboard portal
June 27 (Wed) to June 29 (Fri)	<p>This week, key historical events of the 20th and 21st centuries are mapped out, and the foundations for the development of modern Korean art are outlined.</p> <p>We will also critically assess the study of modern and contemporary Korean art by Western and Asian scholars, explore research trends and introduce useful publications and websites. We will consider the following questions: What is 'modern Korean art'? What are the origins of 'modern art' in Korea? Are questions of modernity pertinent to the development of modern Korean art?</p>	Clark, John (ed.). <i>Modernity in Asian art</i> . Broadway, NSW: Wild Peony, 1993, pp. 1-17.	

July 2 (Mon)	<p>This week focuses on the Colonial Period (1910-1945) when Korea was under Japanese rulership.</p> <p>Though a subject of much debate, the beginning of the Japanese colonial period is by many seen as the start of the modern period (<i>kundae</i>), coinciding with the rise of so-called ‘modern art’. This week we will explore the at times uneasy relationship between the new and the old as reflected in Western forms and methods of art versus traditional Korean ones. This was a time when literati traditions conflicted with Western-style oil painting. New subject matters were also introduced, including portraits of women, and the reclining nude.</p>	<p>Charlotte Horlyck. <i>Korean Art from the 19th Century to the Present</i>. London: Reaktion Books, 2017. Chapter 2 In Search of the New, pp. 13-40.</p>	
July 3 (Tue)	Early Korean oil painters		
July 4 (Wed)	The rise of art exhibitions and museums	<p>Chung Hyun-min. <i>Modern Korean ink painting</i>. Elizabeth, NJ ; Seoul: Hollym, 2006. Chapter 2: The Modern Art Era in Korea: 1920s-1940s, pp. 60-76.</p>	
July 5 (Thu)	<p>Visit to the early 20th century oil and ink painter Ko Hui-dong’s (고희동) house near Changdokkung Palace. Departure 2:50pm, return to KU Campus at 4:50pm.</p>	<p>Optional: Kee, Joan. “Contemporary Art in Early Colonial Korea: The Self Portraits of Ko Hui-dong,” <i>Art History</i> 36, number 2 (April 2013), pp. 392-417</p>	TBC
July 9 (Mon)	<p>This week we will explore explore the rise of abstraction during the 1950s and 1970s.</p> <p>After the Korean War (1950-53), many South Korean artists were keen to embrace ‘modern art’. It led to an interest in abstract art, and from the 1950s onwards an increasing number of oil as well as ink painters began to engage with abstraction.</p>	<p>Charlotte Horlyck. <i>Korean Art from the 19th Century to the Present</i>. London: Reaktion Books, 2017. Chapter 4 Abstract Painters of the</p>	

		1950s-1970s, pp. 97-132.	
July 10 (Tue)	Visit to the Leeum Museum of Art	Departure 2:50pm, return to KU Campus at 4:50pm.	TBC
July 11 (Wed)	Korean Monochrome artists	Optional: Kee, Joan. <i>Contemporary Korean Art. Tansaekhwa and the urgency of method.</i> Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2013. Introduction: The Urgency of Method, pp. 1- 33.	
July 12 (Thu)	Revision	Lew, June-sang. "Forty Years of Fine Arts in Korea: 1945- 1985." <i>Korea Journal</i> , vol. 26, no.1, January 1986, pp. 4-11.	
July 16 (Mon)	Mid-term		
July 17 (Tue)	This week's core themes are arts and culture in North Korea, and Minjung Art of 1980s South Korea. The end of the Korean War saw the division of the Korean peninsula along the 38th parallel which gave rise to the establishment of the two Koreas: the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) in the north, and the Republic of Korea (ROK) in the south. In the North artists were instructed to produce art that supported the Communist regime, leading to works that were markedly different from those made in the South.	Hoffmann, Frank. "Brush, Ink and Props: The Birth of Korean Painting," in <i>Exploring North Korean arts</i> , edited by Rüdiger Frank, 145-180 Nürnberg: Verlag für moderne Kunst, 2011.	
July 18 (Wed)	View <i>A State of Mind</i> , directed by Daniel Gordon		
July 19 (Thu)	Turning our attention to South Korea, we will address arts produced during the 1980s when artists became involved with the	Charlotte Horlyck. <i>Korean Art from the</i>	

	minjung movement. It resulted in the production of artworks with strong political and nationalistic content.	<i>19th Century to the Present.</i> London: Reaktion Books, 2017. Chapter 5, Art and Politics of the 1980s and mid 1990s, pp. 133-164.	
July 23 (Mon)	<p>This week we will explore arts of the late 1990s and early 21st century through discussion of leading Korean artists who have featured prominently on the local and international arts scene in recent decades.</p> <p>One of the first Korean artists to reach international fame was the video-artist Paik Nam-June. This week will look at his life and his works, and assess his impact on younger Korean artists.</p>	Kirker, Anne, Nam June Paik in Seear, Lynne (ed.). <i>APT 2002 : Asia-Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art.</i> South Brisbane, Qld. : Queensland Art Gallery, 2002, pp. 78-81.	
July 24 (Tue)	Visit to Arario Museum	Departure 2:50pm, return to KU Campus at 4:50pm.	TBC
July 25 (Wed)	Works by contemporary Korean artists are characterized by their adoption of an increasingly wide range of materials and artistic approaches that span new media, performance and installation. Among them are Jheon Socheon, Kimsooja, Lee Bul, Cho Duck-hyun and Suh Do-ho, among others.	Charlotte Horlyck. <i>Korean Art from the 19th Century to the Present.</i> London: Reaktion Books, 2017. Chapter 6, Contesting Form and Content, pp. 165-200	
July 26 (Thu)	Revision	Kang, Sumi. "The Aesthetics of Countercurrents and Dynamism: The Internal-External Trajectory of Korean Contemporary	

		Art." In <i>100.art.kr</i> , edited by Jong- gil Gim et al., 610-613. Paju- si: Open Books, 2012.	
July 30 (Mon)	In this lecture we will look at works by yong(er) artists and assess the ways in which their work reflect issues pertinent to contemporary Korean society.		
July 31 (Tue)	Summation of key points		
Aug 1 (Wed)	Final exam		
Aug 2 (Thu)	Graduation		