

SOLUNA

FINE ART

Obangsaek: Indigo

Date: 27 February – 19 March, 2020

Opening: 27 February 2020

Soluna Fine Art is pleased to present *Obangsaek: Indigo*, an in-depth exploration of the connections between the colour Indigo and the Korean culture. The gallery will exhibit eight artists from Korea: **Choi Myoung Young, Choi Sun, Jang Young-Sook, Kim Woo Young, Kim Yongchul, Lee Kyouhong, Park Jisook, and Park Yoon-Kyung**: vary in age, background and medium, the artists apply the colour indigo into their works with different intentions and motives. The exhibition title comes from the traditional Korean colour spectrum (the Five-Orientation-Colour), often seen in folk arts and traditional textile patterns, and represents the Yin-Yang and Five Elements theories. *Obangsaek: Indigo* starts from 27 February to 19 March, with an opening on 27 February.

The colour indigo or blue is associated with the element wood and the direction east. In the Korean flag, this colour symbolizes “Eum” or “Yin”, which is “cool, feminine” energy. The “Eum” energy is associated with the moon and is passive, yielding and receptive, which also inspired the name of this gallery Soluna (luna, moon feminine noun in Spanish). Indigo/blue is balanced by red in the Korean flag. While red represents the passionate energy of life, indigo/blue represents its opposite, silence and calming energy. This exhibition will be part of the Obangsaek Series, a series of five exhibitions aim to explore and analyze art works constructed with the Five-Orientation-Colour, all created by emerging and established Korean contemporary artists.

Choi Myoung Young is a leading figure in the Dansaekhwa movement and contemporary Korean art. Choi’s artistic practice began taking shape while studying at Hongik University. In 1962, he graduated and co-founded the artist collective “Origin” with **Suh Seung Won** and **Lee Seung Jio**. Whilst each artist had a distinctive style, they were united in expanding the boundaries of Korean abstract art. Choi’s focus was the tactile experience of placing pigment onto the plane while letting go of all other intentions. With form, content and individual expression put aside, the artist was absorbed by subtle characteristics of his own actions. Using his bare hands, he would experiment with the quantity of color, as well as the pressure, speed and motion when it was applied to the surface.

Choi Sun graduated from the art college of Hongik University, one of the nation’s most prestigious art education institutions, which leads major discussions and trends in the Korean art world. Choi’s works have continuously questioned the conventional definitions of art and searches for value beyond materiality. Choi applies invisible materials, such as breath, as well as other unconventional mediums involving the body. In recent years, he has obtained paints from social and environmental disasters. Choi’s recent solo exhibitions include Gallery D (2018, Geoje); CR Collective (2017, Seoul); and Art Space Hue (2016, Paju).



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Jang Young-Sook (b. 1951) received her B.F.A and M.F.A degrees from Hongik University in Seoul, Korea. She worked as a professor at Hongik University Graduate School of Fine Arts from 2005 to 2015. Her works are recently exhibited in White Wave Art Center (Seoul, 2016), Kim Nae Hyun Art Gallery (Seoul, 2012) and Posco Art Center (Seoul, 2008); she also participated in over 160 group exhibitions world-wide, including USA, Poland, Singapore, Japan, Brazil. Her work is found in the collections of the National Museum of Contemporary Art, Korea; Posco Art Museum, Korea; Hallmark Cards, Inc.; USA and more.

Kim Woo Young was born in Busan, South Korea, and received his B.A and M.F.A in Urban Design and Industrial Design from Hongik University. Continuing his studies he soon enrolled at the School of Visual Arts in New York City and received his B.F.A(1992) and M.F.A (1994) in photography. Not only is he a mature photographer, but also a trained architect, city planner, and pioneer in revolutionising the style of photography in Korea. His years in New York gave him the opportunity to experiment with different techniques and mediums in photography. His images of nature taken in the rain resulting in an illusion of deeper dimension, using other methods such as formation in collage or painting with the composition of charcoal and lacquer on photographic paper; and one major modification was presenting images of nature in an abstract form onto an acrylic panel through silk screen printing.

Kim Yongchul was born in 1949 in South Korea and received both his BFA and MFA at Hong-Ik University, under the department of Painting. Kim started making paintings with the now representative heart image through his solo exhibition in 1984, later with other symbols of positivity including flowers and birds to send the message of hope and peace in the era full of conflict and split. Before retirement, Kim was a professor of the painting department at Hongik University. His work is exhibited at important institutions and galleries worldwide, include The Brooklyn Museum, Kyoto Art Museum, Seoul Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Korea National Museum of Contemporary Art.

Lee Kyouhong was born in Jindo Island, Korea in 1972. He completed his BFA at Kookmin University, Seoul in 1999. In 2005, Lee earned his Master's degree from Edinburgh College of Art in UK. Awards received include a short-listed of Coburg Glass Prize in Germany and CERAMIX Glass Art Awards Special Jury award in Korea. He also created large-scale, site-specific commissions including those at Haeinsa Temple, Jinbu Railway Station, St. Clara Abbey, Gachon University Hospital, Korea University Hospital, Shinsa-dong Catholic Church in Korea. His work is exhibited and collected internationally including the permanent collections of the Kunstsammlungen der Veste Museum in Coburg, and Alexander Tutsek-Stiftung Museum in Munich, Germany.

Park Jisook was born in 1963 and received her Ph.D., M.F.A., and B.F.A. from Hongik University in Seoul. She is currently a professor in the Arts Education department at Seoul National University of



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Education. Working with pencil, pen or ink in combination with acrylic, Park believes in dynamic and

creative freedom: Allowing the network of lines, dots and organic forms to flow freely onto her canvas. Her works have been exhibited widely in Japan, Beijing, China, Germany, France, and New York, and commissioned by numerous institutions including Faber-Castell (250th anniversary), Perrier-Jouët and others. Many arts institutions collect her work including the National Hyundai Museum, Hongik University Museum of Contemporary Art and the Sungkok Art Museum; Korean embassies in Myanmar, Japan and Sweden; and the corporate collections of Siemens, Daewoo Motors and Lego Korea.

Park Yoon-Kyung was born in South Korea in 1976, and received her MFA from both the Goldsmith University of London and Hongik University in South Korea. During her time in London, Park discovered the method of painting on silk and chiffon, which then became the huge turning point for her artistic career. By applying multiple layers of paint on translucent materials, she cleverly combines the recto and the verso of a canvas, exposing the space behind and turning all three spaces into one work. Much like **Lucio Fontana** and his well acclaimed Spatial Concept Series, Park's work breaks down the boundaries between dimensions, but in a more delicate and subtle way.

About Soluna Fine Art

An international forum for new ideas in Asian contemporary art, Soluna Fine Art presents an innovative program dedicated to cultivating a dialogue between artists, viewers and institutions. Embracing its prime location in the heart of Sheung Wan, Hong Kong, the gallery provides a foundation that supports the presentation of work by emerging to established Asian contemporary artists with significant global recognition. In addition to a distinguished primary program, Soluna Fine Art is proud to offer its art advisory service and works by Post-War and Contemporary artists through the gallery's exclusive network. With a great depth to knowledge and research capabilities, Soluna Fine Art offers artworks of the highest quality to Collectors, Museums and Institutions.

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Gallery opening hours: Monday - Saturday, 10am - 6pm

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