

## NEW LARGE KOREA EXHIBITION AT NIKOLAJ KUNSTHAL PRESENTS NEW ASPECTS OF A COUNTRY IN RAPID DEVELOPMENT



### **New large exhibition of Korean artists opens to a new approach to Korea, a country with a wide range of cultural diversity.**

From gaming industry with interactive games that give you points for being social, to painted animal hides, a borderland in flames, water as a remedy for healing, live cake performance and archaeological finds with LEGO readymades. Korea is so much more than what the media daily depict. With no less than two exhibitions, this summer at Nikolaj Kunsthal offers the opportunity to gain insight into the Korean imperial dynasty, while at the same time getting a comprehensive view of what is happening on the Korean visual art scene these years.

On the occasion of the 60 years of diplomatic relations between Korea and Denmark, the exhibition *The Way A Hare Transforms Into A Tortoise / KOREA IN DENMARK* focuses on the landscape of contemporary Korean visual art. Here, you can experience an interactive game where your score is determined by how good you are at mingling with the other computer-generated characters moving about in the room; in another work, water in different forms is presented as an important healing remedy for the

artist, who himself, as a child, was a fire victim. With significant art events such as The Seoul Mediacity Biennale and the biennales at Gwangju and Busan, Korea represents a highly interesting country to turn one's attention to in terms of contemporary art.



## THE HARE AND THE TORTOISE

The title of the exhibition, *The Way A Hare Transforms Into A Tortoise / KOREA IN DENMARK*, refers to Aesop's Fables and the story of the race between the hare and the tortoise. In this story, the tortoise is the winner, because the hare feels too confident of winning and takes a nap midway through the race. The exhibition includes all floors of the exhibition centre, together providing a variety of insights into Korean cultural identity which has, since the Korean War, developed rapidly in the South and grown into a major economic force, with a flowering popular culture, recognised far beyond its own borders.

The exhibition has been curated by Helene Nyborg Bay in co-operation with Korean curator Inseon Kim and features nine artists of whom some have created new works specifically for Nikolaj Kunsthal.

**PARTICIPATING ARTISTS ARE:** Yoon Kalim, Beak Jungki, Lee Chunghyung, Jang Junho, Rohwajeong, Chu Mirim, Jang Jongwan, Kwon Hayoon and Cho Hyun, all of whom live and work in Korea.



## **KOREA IN DENMARK / WELCOME TO THE MOON PALACE**

We are happy to also be able to present Welcome to the Moon Palace. As a part of the narrative of Korean history, the Korea In Denmark exhibition features an additional exhibition in the Reading Room of Nikolaj Kunsthal, based on an art project taking its point of departure in the archaeological digs at Wolseong (Wol = Moon, Seong = Palace). Here, three artists have interpreted some of the archaeological finds excavated in Wolseong in the city Gyeongju, dating back to the Silla Kingdom (57 BC to 935 AD). Silla was one of the three Korean kingdoms back then, and Wolseong, or The Moon Palace, occupies a

central position in Korean history. The three artists have used the excavations of the palace to interpret the cultural-historical finds to give them a new place in the art history and the story of modern Korea, a country that is constantly developing.

Located in the heart of the city with an exhibition area of some 1,000 square metres, Nikolaj Kunsthal is one of Copenhagen's most prestigious exhibition sites. The exhibition takes up the entire exhibition area and features works in various media, e.g. video, installation, performance and works on paper.

#### **PARTICIPATING ARTISTS ARE:**

Lee Sang Yoon, Yang Hyun Moh, Lee In Hee

#### **PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

Opening date: Friday June 28 2019 4-8pm

Exhibition period: June 29 – September 8 2019

Opening hours: Tuesday – Friday 12-6pm, Saturday – Sunday 11am-5pm

#### **CO-OPERATIONS**

The exhibition has come into being in close co-operation with various partners who have also supported the exhibition financially. Among these are The Korean Embassy in Denmark, Samsung, Scan Global Logistics, The Agency for Culture and Palaces, and Korean Arts Council.