

# PRESS RELEASE

**Hangaram Art Museum, Seoul Arts Center**



**U·S·B: Emerging Korean Artists in the World 2009**

5 November – 6 December 2009

**Opening Reception: Wednesday, 4 November 2009, 5pm-7pm**

**Participant artists:** Sunah CHOI, Hongseon JANG, Hyojin JEONG, Donghoon JUN, Taebum HA, Eunok HWANG, Eemyun KANG, Chosil KIL, Jeuno JE KIM, Songhe KIM, Daehun KWON, Changwon LEE, Kakyoung LEE, Sekyung LEE, Sunhwa LEE, Wonho LEE, Youngmi LEE, Hyojun NAM, Asa OH, Jaye RHEE, Eva SHIN, Haeri YOO, Jieun YOON, Sun YOU

**Director:** Mijin KIM

**Curators:** Minseok SEO, JW STELLA, Kyongfa CHE

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Seoul Arts Center - Hangaram Art Museum is pleased to announce 'U·S·B: Emerging Korean Artists in the World 2009', the contemporary art exhibition which features a collective of 24 new generation of the Korean diaspora artists, who were either born in the 70s or 80s, and based outside Korea: Europe, the Americas and across Asia, working actively within the international art scene but not being exposed to the public in Korea.

The title of the exhibition, 'U·S·B' is a metaphor for connectivity and mobility of these artists who live or travel around the globalized world with changing borders, merging cultures, the new channels of communication, the growing power of social networks and media, and emerging technologies for ecosystem.

Not only the social and cultural environment in which each artist resides, but their proximities to Korea are different: some of the artists were born and grew up in Korea before leaving the country; the others have never or hardly lived in Korea while being a Korean national. The Exhibition provides an opportunity to look into their various artistic languages, sensitivities and interests cultivated and transformed through negotiations with diverse social systems, political power and cultural values.

The Exhibition gathers more than 100 new and existing works of the artists, of which media encompass painting, video, installation, animation, photography and sculpture.

By bringing together their articulations and perspectives, this exhibition aims to portrait the new generation of the diaspora artists in the 21<sup>st</sup> century; exploring not only how travelling and living in between cultures influence the constitution of self, but also the state of negotiation and complexity within a subject, which can not be embraced by a single national identity.

This Exhibition is organised by Hangaram Art Museum, Seoul Arts Center in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Korea.

### **Note to Editors**

- ▶ The Exhibition is organised by Hangaram Art Museum-Seoul Arts Centre (SAC) in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Korea and curated by Minseok Seo (curator of SAC), Kyongfa Che (independent curator), JW Stella (independent curator) under the supervision of Mijin Kim (Artistic Director of SAC).
- ▶ The 24 participant artists have been selected from 180 nominees by a network of curators, critics, researchers and overseas Korean Cultural Centres in Europe, the Americas and Asia.
- ▶ In conjunction with the Exhibition, a Symposium will take place on Friday, 6

November from 2 pm to 6 pm.

- \* Title: 'The Internationality and Locality of Korean Contemporary Art'
- \* Panels: Tobias BURGER (Chief Curator of Nam June Paik Art Center),  
Mijin Kim (Artistic Director of SAC), Jinsang Yoo (Art Critic),  
Shim Chung (Art Historian), Kyongfa Che (Guest Curator of U·S·B),  
JW Stella (Guest Curator of U·S·B)
- \* Moderator: Minseok Seo (Curator of SAC).
- ▶ Diverse educational programmes will run throughout the Exhibition such as  
'Artist's Talk', 'Curator's Talk', 'Exhibition Tour' in every weekdays (except  
Mondays).
- ▶ The curatorial team and artists will be available for interview by appointment,  
subject availability.

**For further information and inquiry, please contact:**

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