

# Contemporary Gugak Orchestra

Friday, October 11, 2013 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM (IST)

New Delhi, India

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## Event Details

**Korean Cultural Centre India** presents Contemporary Gugak Orchestra on **11<sup>th</sup> October, 2013** at **Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi** at **11am and 6:30 pm**. The Creative Gugak was born more than a half century ago by emphasizing the goal of creating a future for tradition and providing a listener-oriented environment. Gugak Orchestra performance is the part of celebration of **Indo-Korean 40<sup>th</sup> Diplomatic year**. The Contemporary Orchestra will perform *Arirang Fantasy*, *Whisper of winds in the bamboo woods*, *The song of mountains*, *Mirth and Pansori* by renowned Korean composers – Lee Inwon and Kye Seongwon and Lee Sangkyoo, Park Beomhoon.

The National Gugak Center, located in Seoul, is the primary institution of learning for Korean traditional music. With a history dating back to the Eumseongseo music institute of the Silla Kingdom in the 7th century. It is dedicated to "preserving and promoting traditional Korean music". The Contemporary Orchestra, which is one of the 4 main orchestras at the Center is based on traditional Gugak and is heavily promoted through performances.

and the Korean War. It has become a masterpiece which represents Korean orchestral piece. **'Whisper of winds in the bamboo woods'** is composed by Lee Sangkyoo, who graduated from Gugak National School and created his unique world of the court music. This piece was composed in 1978 and received Korean President's Award in Composition. Lee was interested in modern Korean poems, and this work is inspired by the poem 'Whisper of winds in the bamboo woods' written by Shin Seokjeong. Topographically Korea is very mountainous. Lee Keonyong composer of **'The song of the mountains'**, pictures Korean mountains and expresses the Korean musical tradition of simplicity and energy. Park Beomhoon is a representative composer of **'Mirth'** who reinterprets shaman music through the orchestra. His works such as "Sinnaerim", "Sinmodeum", and "Sinmaji" depict gods in shamanism directly or indirectly. Agricultural community festival is connected with shamanism. Samullori is a percussion music rooted to the agricultural community festival. The composer represents a modern music community through this piece. **Pansori** is a vocal art that is performed by one person who sings, narrates, and makes gestures while telling a story. The text of pansori is set to rhythm and melody. The sung portion of pansori is called "sori," while the spoken portion (usually explanatory passages) is called "aniri." A third component, the "ballim" (physical gestures), rounds out the theatrical aspects of this performance. Pansori is performed to rhythmic accompaniment played on the barrel drum by a drummer who shouts out cries of encouragement to the pansori singer. New pansori compositions, called "changjak pansori," have emerged in modern times. One composition, about the daily lives of anti-Japanese nationalists, was popular shortly after Korean independence from Japanese colonization. These days, pansori texts about the realities of modern life are seeing popular reception among the younger generation. In 1964, the art of pansori was designated as National Intangible Cultural Asset No. 5. In 2003, it received the honor of being a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Asset.

The band will also perform in Mumbai on 13<sup>th</sup> October and in Chennai on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2013.

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