

19.6.2017

MONDAY

Chennai  
City Express

Exhibit



## Korean flower art

An exhibition of the unique Korean technique of ggotggozi or flower art will take place at The Gallery @ Inko Centre. The inauguration will be on June 28 at 6 pm. The exhibition will remain open until June 30 from 10 am to 6 pm.

**FOR DETAILS CALL: 24361224**

TUESDAY  
20.6.2017

City <sup>Chennai</sup> Express

# Exhibit

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**FOR DETAILS CALL:**

24361224



WEDNESDAY  
21.6.2017

City <sup>Chennai</sup>  
**Express**

# Exhibit



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**FOR DETAILS  
CALL: 24361224**

SATURDAY

24.6.2017

City

Chennai  
Express

# Exhibit



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# what's on

## Chennai Chronicle 18

SUNDAY 25 JUNE 2017

### workshops

**Date: From July 1**  
**Contact: 2445 6199**

Learn the technique of making flower art, also called as *ggotggozi* in Korea. This Korean art is also said to emphasize simplicity and create innate harmony. Take your creation home.

**Date: June 28 to June 30**

**Time: 4 pm to 5.30 pm**

**Venue: The Gallery at InKo Centre, 18, Adyar Club Gate Road.**  
**Contact: 2436 1224**

Sahitya Academy presents a book reading session for *Siruvār Kathai Kalanjiyam* compiled by R. Kamarasu and C. Sethupathi. Idaimaruthur Manjula will read and discuss the book which is an anthology of children's short stories.

**Date: June 29**

**Time: 5.30 pm**

**Venue: Sahitya Academy, Guna Complex, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 443, Anna**

**Salai, Teynampet.**

Maven is conducting a put mural workshop for everyone above 13 years of age.

Take an enhanced version of a clay pot home.

**Date: June 26 to June 30**

**Time: 11 am to 1 pm**

**Venue: Maven Art Academy, 23/10F, Rathinammal Street, Rangarajapuram Main Road, Kodambakkam.**  
**Contact: 2483 0787**



REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE



MONDAY

26.6.2017

City <sup>Chennai</sup> Express

# Exhibit



## **Korean flower art**

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# Stop and smell the roses

Or maybe flowering onions and lemongrass at a live demo of the ancient art of Ggotggozi or Korean floral arrangement



## FINDING BALANCE

• Rath Jaffer, art director of Inko Centre, explains that the Korean technique follows the principle of 'Line and space'. The concept, termed 'yeoback' or yin-yang, stands for harmony or the balance between the negative and positive. "When I went to Korea and saw it for the first time, I was amazed that there was an organisation exclusively for florists." Subsequently, the artists were brought to India to share their skills, through month long workshops, which interestingly had Korean trainers teaching the technique using local flowers bought from Koyambedu flower market. "Like the flower arrangement, it's all about finding the right balance."



• NAVEENA VIJAYAN

Professional flower artist Kim Joong Ae takes a bunch of pop-pom-like flowering onions, lemongrass and roses, brought all the way from Seoul, and places them neatly on a table. As if performing a surgery, she examines each, and extends her hand to her assistant for a clipper. After running her eye up (and down the long stalks several times, she strips the extra leaves, tosses out the wilted ones, clips the ends of stems, and pins each into a flat needle-pin holder at the base of a ceramic vase. With elaborate Korean instructions, and quick English translations by a translator, the packed hall at Inko Centre witnesses a live demo of the ancient art of Ggotggozi or Korean floral arrangement.

"The tradition goes back to the time of Joseon Yi Dynasty, sometime in the 14th Century," says Kim, sitting at Cafe Mori, at Inko Centre. Many believe that the practice might have had its origin in Buddhist temples and ceremonies, aeons ago, however there are no records available. With the smell of plum coffee and fresh rose wafting in the air, Kim, proudly talks about the skill, which has been carefully passed down generations ("my parents, grandparents all were into flower arranging"). She is the



Petal power Participants and displays at the Ggotggozi exhibition • R RAVINDRAN

chairperson of a 2,000-strong member association, which organises frequent talks, workshops for children and adults, and a bi-annual festival in Korea, which brings together flower experts from all across the world including Japan, China, The Netherlands and the US. Kim and her team – a select group of nine Ggotggozi artists – travel around the world to promote their work, and are in India for a three-day exhibition. Kim is surprised to hear about tightly strung flower garlands, pookalams and the practice of adorning jasmine in the hair. "Our kind of arrangement is very different" is all she manages to respond, in

Korean. While many draw comparisons to the more popular 'Ikebana' or Japanese flower arrangement technique, Kim asserts that while the Korean technique "definitely is influenced by the Japanese one, it was prevalent much before Japanese colonial rule (between 1910 and 1945)".

Over the years, the art has been customised to take a new form, and a unique identity. The Japanese arrangement is comparatively minimalistic. They use very few flowers and stalks, unlike the Korean piece, which looks like a bouquet bursting out of a vase, "but not as crowded as Western flower arrangements as well". The

team worked on combinations of around 80 varieties of flowers such as rose, lily, carnation, anthurium and peony, and branches of azalea, magnolia and willow to make a dozen beautiful art exhibits, using trinkets and vases carved out of tree trunks. Kim shows us her piece, and disappointingly looks at a rose, that has travelled miles away from home and lost its pink colour. She is however hopeful that the flowers, "ambassadors of peace and happiness", will fight the Chennai heat long enough to fulfill what they bloomed for.

The exhibition is on today at Inko Centre, Adyar Club Gate Road.

CHENNAI

**DOWNTOWN**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 2017**

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## **Flower show**

**June 30**

InKo Centre, in association with the Korea Ggotggozi Association, is conducting the third edition of Ggotggozi or Korean floral art exhibition. Flower art by 10 associations from Korea will be exhibited.

**18, Adyar Club Gate Road**

**24361224**



## ART TALK

## THE ART OF SHOWCASING FLOWERS

**B**eautiful flowers are always a delight. The third edition of Ggotgozi or Korean floral art exhibition is here. With flowers imported from Korea, the exhibition presents exquisite examples of Korean flower art by 10 Flower Associations from Korea. The artists believe that the flower art emphasizes simplicity and space in creating harmony of lines. To achieve balance and encourage focus, space is left between flowers and branches, giving rise to a sense of delicacy, airiness and fragility. Korean artists, Kim Joong Ae, Chun Joo Hee, Lee Jong Im, and Ms Oh Jin Hee will present the flower. In fact, there was also a demonstration of the flower art where artists showed how to pick their favourite flowers, explained how to place them, the right amount of water the flowers should be kept in, and the right temperature they should be kept in. In fact, the artists felt that most of the flowers don't last in Chennai for too long because of the weather conditions.

— Mrinalini.Sundar@timesgroup.com

The Gallery, Inko Centre, 18, Adyar Club Gate Road, till June 30, 10am to 6pm



Photo: Praveen Thyagarajan