

# Seeking New Directions: Korean Folk Painting

Korean folk paintings, exist as an important aspect of modern Korean art. Mainly drawn by common people since the end of the Joseon Dynasty, such folk paintings are infused with creativity, symbolism, decoration and humour, with most of the artists remaining unidentified. Although the artists were deeply involved in the lives of ordinary people and expressed their social and community-based realities, folk painting was looked down upon as an expression of commoners with little or no knowledge or training in painting, writing or the fine arts. Yet, this genre has stood the test of time, overcoming general prejudice, to establish itself as an important pillar of Korean art traditions.

Nowadays, folk artists are divided into traditional folk artists and contemporary folk artists. Traditional folk artists reflect the lives, wishes, and thoughts of their ancestors while contemporary folk artists recreate traditional folk themes introducing contemporary

sensibilities and in the process, sometimes, even recreating artistic vocabularies.

In the late Joseon Dynasty, the folk paintings which ordinary people kept at home, were mainly paintings reflecting the lives of the aristocrats. The paintings were filled with decorative items, humour, originality that were complemented and enhanced by the beauty of blank spaces. The paintings also finely express the five cardinal colours which represent Korea's traditional color spectrum. Contemporary folk paintings have continued to exist over time, changing and evolving, based on the changing times. This exhibition aims to showcase the beauty of Korean folk painting by juxtaposing traditional folk painting and the contemporary folk painting selected from the repertoire of the Folk Painting Promotion Association of Korea.

- **InJoon, Kim**, Exhibition Director,  
Busan International Art Fair (BIAF), Busan



**CHO, MYUNG-JIN** (조명진)  
Portrait of a Beauty



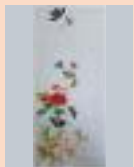
**JUNG, SEONG GEUM** (정성금)  
Lotus flower



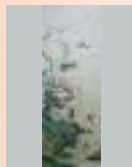
**JUNG, SO-RAN** (정소란)  
Yeongmodo (翎毛圖) - LOVE II



**KIM, JUM-SOOK** (김점숙)  
Rise of Sun and Moon



**KIM, MI-YOUNG** (김미연)  
Aspiration



**KIM, SUNG-HEE** (김성희)  
Flower and Birds



**KIM, YEON-WOO** (김연우)  
Chrysanthemum and a Cat



**KWAK, KYOUNG-HEE** (곽경희)  
Beautiful Woman



**OH, HYUN-SOOK** (오현숙)  
Tiger

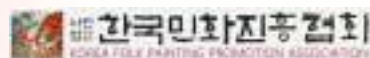


(손유경)  
It's raining flower rain



**SONG, DO-YOUNG** (송도영)  
Clouds and Dragon

Presented in association with :



The exhibition will be on view at The Gallery @ InKo Centre from  
**20 July to 20 August 2018.**

10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m, Monday to Saturday.