

KEUN TAI KIM

b. 1953, South Korea, works and lives in South Korea

Born in 1953, Kim Keun Tai graduated from Chung-Ang University's Department of Painting and is a recognized artist as a next-generation monochrome painter. Kim Keun Tai contemplates Eastern philosophy and encapsulates it on canvas with a simple yet profound resonance. Monochrome canvases devoid of form, such as white and brown, resemble ancient porcelain or moon jars. Much like a shaman performing rituals, he practices spirituality through visually revealing the world of immaterial lines. The temporality and performative nature revealed in the artist's attitude and process towards his work, along with the rustic and affectionate beauty rooted in Korean nature, are characteristics of Kim Keun Tai's work. This Korean beauty revealed in his work has also drawn attention in the global art market. Kim Keun Tai has long equated his paintings with porcelain. Indeed, the pure white light of Kim Keun Tai's works, as seen from the surface, bears a striking resemblance to the pristine brightness of porcelain, but it doesn't merely stop at color. A simplicity, modesty, and honesty that are never lacking regardless of what is contained within, the pure and straightforward porcelain, is perhaps akin to the ultimate essence that Kim Keun Tai seeks through his work. The thickly layered paint, constantly applied and then erased, is closer to an attitude towards life of trying to empty and erase rather than painting onto the canvas. The more he empties, the more the artwork transcends the flatness of the canvas's limitations, unfolding into a world without beginning or end. The artist claims that everything is consumed, leaving behind the essence, which he expresses through his paintings.

1953 Born in Seoul, Republic of Korea

1981 B.F.A. Painting, Chung-Ang University

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2023 Discussion,, Art Chosun Space, Seoul, Korea

2022 Nirvana, Leeahn gallery, Daegu, Korea

2021 KOAN, Soluna Fine Art, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong

Seon-ri Seon-gyeong, Noblesse Collection, Seoul, Korea

The Gaze of Contemporary Art, Yangpyeong Art Museum, Yargpyeong, Korea

2020 Soom, Kyeol, Chosun Ilbo Art Museum, Seoul, Korea

Soom, Kyeol, Date gallery, Busan, Korea

2017 DISCUSSION, Choi&Lager gallery, Seoul, Korea

KIM KEUN-TAI, Chosun Ilbo Art Museum, Seoul, Korea

2016 DISCUSSION, Tong-In Auction gallery, Seoul, Korea

2015 Discussion-wall, Godo gallery, Seoul, Korea

2012 Discussion-wall, Godo gallery, Seoul, Korea

2010 Discussion - Nature, Daewoo Gallery, Seoul, Korea

2002 Discussion - Nature, Ye Mac Gallery, Seoul, Korea

2000 Discussion - Chosun Dynasty Ceramics, Sungkok Art Museum, Seoul, Korea

1997 Discussion Or Encounter, Savina gallery, Seoul, Korea,

1988 The 1st Solo Show, Young Artists gallery, Seoul, Korea

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 West Bund Art and Design: Contourless, Noblesse Collection, Shanghai, China
Eloquence of The Visual, Gallery Woong, Seoul, Korea; Tokyo gallery + BTAP, Tokyo,
Japan
Ode to the Moon, Korean Cultural Center, Hong Kong
- 2021 The Review, Chosun Ilbo Art Museum, Seoul, Korea
Layer: Tranquility&Depth, Chosun Ilbo Art Museum & Noblesse Collection, Seoul,
Korea
The Gaze of Contemporary Art, Yangpyeong Art Museum, Yangpyeong, Korea
- 2020 -2020+ (Social Effect of Art), Kwanhoon gallery, Seoul, Korea
Urban Art, Seoul, Korea
Empty Fullness, Park Ryu Sook gallery, Seoul, Korea
- 2019 Korea-Vietnam Contemporary Art Exchanges Exhibition, Vietnam Art Museum, Hanoi,
Vietnam
澁 daam, Whitestone Gallery, Central, Hong Kong
Korean Contemporary Artist Exhibition, Korean Cultural Center, Hong Kong
Kim Keun-tai & Yoo Jaewoong, Dam gallery, Seoul, Korea
- 2018 Untitled Miami, Choi&Lager Gallery, Miami, USA
The Post Dansaekhwa of Korea, Leeahn Gallery, Seoul, Daegu, Korea
Art Central, UNC Gallery, Wanchai, Hong Kong
PyeongChang Winter Olympics Special Exhibition, PyeongChang, Korea
- 2017 The Road, Keun-tai KIM & Eberhard Ross, UNC GALLERY, Seoul, Korea
Three people Three colors Exhibition, Choi&Lager Gallery, Seoul, Korea, Japan,
Germany
Akira Matsuda & Dorrit Nebe & Kim Keun-tai, Dam gallery, Seoul, Korea
The Landscape of Korean Arts, Keumsan gallery, Seoul, Korea
KIAF, Gallery Françoise Livinec, COEX, Seoul, Korea
Art Elysées Art Fair, Gallery Françoise Livinec, Grand Palais, Paris, France
- 2014 Motion Sensor Seoul, Frankfurt Ausstellungsraum Eulengasse, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2007 Sungkok Artist of Tomorrow, Sungkok Museum, Seoul, Korea
- 2004 Zugvogel, Georg-Meistermann-Museum, Wittlich, Germany
Stadtmuseum Oldenburg, Oldenburg , Germany
Stadtmuseum Siegburg, Siegburg , Germany
Kim Keun-tai & Kim Young-ae, Galerie Konrad Mönter, Meerbuch, Germany
- 2003 Discussion - Nature, MANIF Art fair, Seoul Arts Center, Seoul, Korea
- 2002 Discussion - Nature, MANIF Art fair, Seoul Arts Center, Seoul, Korea
Discussion - Nature, Expo Paris - Seoul, Maison des Métallos, Paris, France
- 2000 Discussion - The Earth, MANIF Art fair, Seoul Arts Center, Seoul, Korea
- 1998 Exhibition of International Exchange Between Korea and Austria, Vienna, Austria
- 1997 The 8th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh, Bangladesh Shipakala Academy, Bangladesh
The 33th Asian Modern Art Exhibition, Japan
Exhibition of Seoul Artists' Methods, Seoul, Korea
Seoul Vector, Kwanhoon Gallery, Seoul, Korea
- 1996 Korea's First Exhibition of Local Young Authors, Seoul City Art Hall, Seoul, Korea
Yae Woo 40th Exhibition, Seoul City Art Hall, Seoul, Korea
- 1995 Korean Fine Arts Today, Seoul, Korea
- 1994 Dong-A Art Group Exhibition, National Fine Art Museum, Seoul

- 1993 The 12th Korean Youth Artist Exhibition, National Fine Art Museum, Seoul, Korea
MBC Art Grand Exhibition, MBC Hall, Seoul
Austria - Korea National Exchange Project of Contemporary Arts, Polten, Austria
- 1992 Seoul Spec Contemporary Fine Art Festival, Seoul, Korea
Christ - Exhibition for His Existing Sensitivity, Seoul, Korea
The 10th Selected Korean Grand Art Exhibition, National Fine Art Museum, Seoul,
Korea
Korea-Japan Exchange Exhibition of Artists' Methods, National Fine Art Museum,
Seoul
- 1991 The 10th Selected Korean Grand Art Exhibition, National Fine Art Museum, Seoul,
Korea
- 1990 Chung-Ang Modern Art Festival, Seoul, Korea
- 1988 Seoul Contemporary Art Festival, Seoul, Korea
Seoul-Worlds Contemporary Arts Exhibition, Seoul, Korea
- 1982 Paperwork 36 people Exhibition, Kwanhoon gallery, Seoul, Korea
- 1981 Korean Young Artist Exhibition, Seoul, Korea
Two Aspects Exhibition, Arts Council Korea, Seoul, Korea

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Sungkok Art Museum, Seoul, Korea
PyeongChang Organizing Committee for the 2018 Olympic & Paralympic Games (POCOG),
Pyeong Chang, Korea
KEB Hana Bank, Korea
Chosun Ilbo Art Museum, Seoul, Korea
Nets, Korea

Keuntai Kim is a renowned Korean artist who has devoted his artistic practice to exploring the profound connections between nature, philosophy, and modern aesthetics. A graduate of Chung-Ang University's Department of Painting, Kim has spent decades pondering existential questions about the nature of being and truth, seeking answers through Eastern philosophical thought and the elements of nature.

Throughout his career, Kim Keun Tai has maintained a deep commitment to minimalism and abstraction, drawing inspiration from the natural world and the Eastern concept of 'Wu Wei' (effortless action). His works evoke the quiet beauty of nature, emphasizing the raw materials and elemental forces that shape the world around us. One of his key artistic endeavors is to capture nature's inherent beauty and transcend the boundaries of artificial human creation through simple yet profound gestures.

In his search for authenticity, Kim often uses materials such as stone powder and other organic substances, working them directly onto the canvas with minimal interference. The result is a harmony of texture, color, and form that speaks to the delicate balance between nature's purity and human expression. His works often explore the themes of imperfection, acceptance, and the

beauty of natural processes, resonating with the Eastern philosophies of impermanence and the cyclical nature of life.

As an artist, Kim Keun Tai's work is characterized by its stillness, simplicity, and quiet contemplation, inviting the viewer to reflect on the deeper truths of existence. His paintings evoke a sense of serenity and sublimity, allowing nature to breathe through the canvas. Kim's philosophy is summed up in his own words: "In emptiness there is substance, and in stillness there is sublimity. Not abandoning, not forcing, but letting things be."

Through his continuous exploration of these themes, Kim Keun Tai's work continues to push the boundaries of contemporary Korean art, creating a space for reflection on the natural world and our place within it.

작가 소개

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