

Elements of Nature

Chae Sung-Pil
Lee Gil-Rae
Kim Chang-Young



OPERA GALLERY

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In today's society, we are all aware of the effects of consumerism and throw away society has on the world around us. In homage to Earth Hour, Opera Gallery is delighted to present an eco-friendly display of contemporary triumph in an exhibition bringing together the bright and promising talents at the forefront of contemporary Korean art.

Chae Sung-Pil creates visual displays of tautology, his mountains are made of earth, and land is made up of soil. Crafting the 3rd dimension on a two-dimensional plane, one could almost meander through the barren landscapes. In an industrialized society, it is difficult to see traditional eastern depictions of landscape settings, such as mountains or hills. However, Chae revives these subject matters and techniques in his works. His use of soil expresses his childhood memories and nostalgia, and longing to go back to his homeland after many years of living abroad. With soil collected from different locations globally, Chae's medium is truly unique.

Lee Gil-Rae constructs enormous forests of copper, capturing this rapidly depleting resource for eternity. His works construct a surreal, leafless forest that one can meander, the intricate exterior mimicking the curves and notches of aged tree bark harmoniously.

Kim Chang-Young's illusionistic sand creations portray serene beach scapes, a wistful memory of a once strolled beach, patterns trailed in the sand, left in the wake of a moving tide or howling winds, lovingly crafted in mixed media. As part of a creative process to preserve the elements of faded memories, Kim solidifies moments, which might otherwise be washed away and sees this as a method of expressing how humans and nature can co-exist side by side.

Join Opera Gallery for this homage to Earth Hour and eco-friendly display of contemporary triumph in an exhibition that promises to please even the most lax of environmentalist.

OPERA GALLERY

Chae Sung-Pil

Chae Sung-Pil is known for his use of soil to create images of landscapes.

When Chae creates works of landscapes not only does his use of soil make his works so unique, but also the subject matters within his works.

Especially in an industrialized society, it is difficult to see traditional eastern depictions of landscape settings, such as mountains or hills. However, Chae revives these subject matters and techniques in his works. His use of soil expresses his childhood memories and nostalgia, and longing to go back to his homeland after many years of living abroad. Chae particularly focuses on his choice of media and collects soil from different parts of the world. He then uses the collected soil to create his own paint, and also works with gold and silver dust.

He uses his spilling method in which he drips water into his works to create a marvellous depiction of land and earth.

Though the media he uses appears ordinary or mundane, he uses parts of nature to create his works, including paper, which is ultimately created from wood, fire, silver dust made from metal, soil, and water, which are collectively known as the five elements.

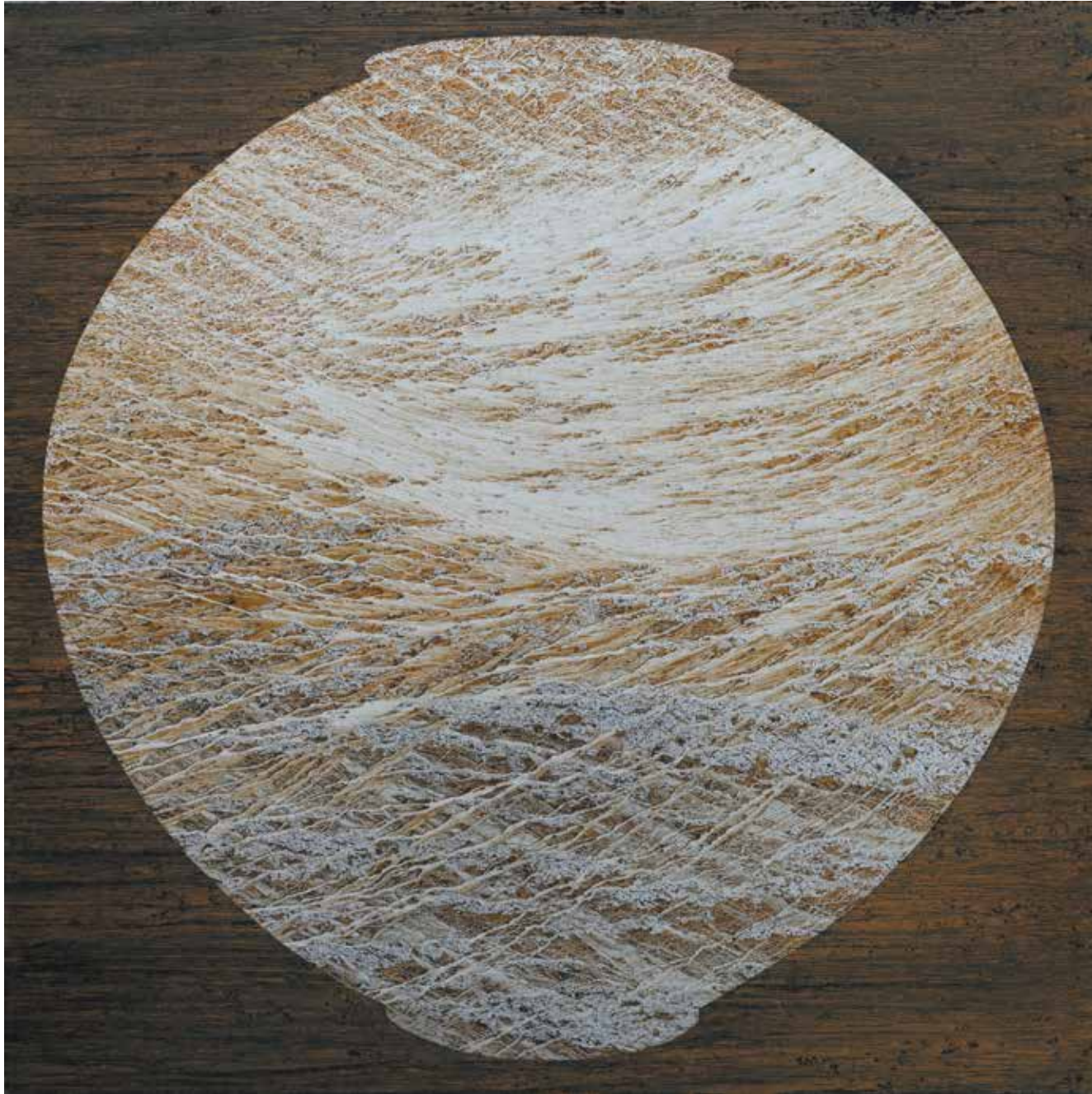
Everyone is influenced by their own culture and environment depending on where they grew up or lived, therefore have their own memories concerning their surroundings.

Chae aims to stir a sense of nostalgia and longing for the past among the people who view his works.

Rêve de terre II-3, 2009

Soil, India ink and silver pigment on canvas
158 x 158 cm - 62.2 x 62.2 in.





Terre et lune (121004), 2012
Soil, India ink and silver pigment on canvas
158 x 158 cm - 62.2 x 62.2 in.



Rêve de terre (120917), 2012
Soil, India ink and silver pigment on canvas
227 x 182 cm - 89.4 x 71.6 in.



Terre anonyme (120617), 2012
 Soil, India ink and silver pigment on canvas
 182 x 227 cm - 71.6 x 89.4 in.



Origine (090909), 2009
 Soil, India ink and silver pigment on canvas
 130 x 158 cm - 51.2 x 62.2 in.



Rêve de terre (120830), 2012
Soil, India ink and silver pigment on canvas
200 x 300 cm - 78.7 x 118.1 in.



Terre de vent (110820), 2011
Soil, India ink and silver pigment on canvas
194 x 259 cm - 76.4 x 102 in.



Terre de vent (120927. I et II), 2012
 Soil, India ink and silver pigment on canvas
 182 x 227 cm (x 2) - 71.6 x 89.4 in. (x 2)



Terre de vent (121001), 2012
 Soil, India ink and silver pigment on canvas
 200 x 300 cm - 78.7 x 118.1 in.



Terre de vent (120111), 2012
 Soil, India ink and silver pigment on canvas
 89 x 115 cm - 35 x 45.3 in.

Chae Sung-Pil

Born in 1972, Jindo, Korea
Work and lives in Paris, France

EDUCATION

- 2012 Currently enrolled in Doctoral program
in Plastic Arts - Université Paris 1, France
- 2005 Master 2 (DEA) in Plastic Arts - Université
Rennes 2, France
- 2003 M.A in Oriental Paintings - Seoul
National University, Korea
- 1998 B.A in Oriental Paintings - Seoul
National University, Korea

RESIDENCY PROGRAM

- 2011- Participated in the residency
program at Young-Eun Museum,
Kwang-Ju, Korea
- 2006 - Participated in the atelier program in
the City of Rennes, France
- 2008 Participated in the residency
program at Cité Internationale des
Arts, Paris, France



PREVIOUS EXHIBITIONS AWARDS & HONORS

- 2004-06 Art Salon, Saint-Grégoire, France
- 2004 Grand Prize, Art Salon, Saint-Briac-
sur-Mer, France
- 3rd Prize, Art Salon, Vitré, France

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 Yong-Eun Museum of Contemporary
Art, Kwang-Ju, Korea
- Galerie Aroa, Neuilly-sur-Seine, France
- 2010 Galerie Christine Park, Paris, France
- 2009 Gallery Sejul, Seoul, Korea
- 2008 Galerie Aroa, Neuilly-sur-Seine, France
- Gallery I, Seoul, Korea
- 2007 Galerie Aroa, Neuilly-sur-Seine, France
- Galerie Saphir, Chevreuse, France
- Galerie Brasilia, Paris, France
- 2005 *Clay and Chinese Ink*, Galerie Monik
Rabasté, Saint-Briac-sur-Mer, France
- Forest of Yon-Woo*, Saint-Briac-sur-Mer
- City Hall, Saint-Briac-sur-Mer, France
- Forest of Yon-Woo II*, Galerie Orangerie
du Thabor, Rennes, France
- Forest of Yon-Woo III*, Noyal-sur-
Vilaine City Hall, Noyal-sur-Vilaine,
France
- 2002 *Boundary-from the Earth II*, Gong
Gallery, Seoul, Korea
- 1999 *Boundary-from the Earth*, Moin Gal-
lery, Seoul, Korea

GROUP & FAIRS EXHIBITIONS

- 2012 *Korea tomorrow*, Hangaram Museum
(Seoul Arts Center), Seoul, Korea
- Familiar Scenery*, Opera Gallery Seoul,
Seoul, Korea
- Sonamu*, Ara Gallery, Seoul, Korea
- Sonamu*, Galerie 89, Paris, France
- Daegu Art fair, Daegu, Korea
- Doors Hotel Art Fair, Seoul, Korea
- Monochrom in Korea*, Gallery
Dorothea van der Koelen, Mainz,
Germany

The Rite of Spring, Galerie Maubert,
Paris, France

- 2011 KIAF (Korea International Art Fair),
Seoul, Korea
- Galerie Maubert, Paris, France
- Galerie Aroa, Neuilly-sur-Seine, France
- 2010 *Very Strong, Very Sweet*, Gallery
Interalia, Seoul, Korea
- 2008 Art Shanghai, Shanghai, China
- Gallery mel contemporary, Vienna,
Austria
- KIAF, Seoul, Korea
- Galerie Aroa, Neuilly-sur-Seine, France
- 2007 Art Salon (Espace Champeret),
Paris, France
- Invitational Exhibition (Lo specchio la
trottola gli astragali), Rome, Italy
- Chinese Ink and the Scent*, Galerie
Aroa, Neuilly-sur-Seine, France
- 2006 Art Salon, Baugé, France
- Art Salon, Villevêque, France
- International Art Fair Mac 2000,
Paris, France
- Art Salon, Saint-Grégoire, France
- 2005 Art Salon, Saint-Briac-sur-Mer, France
- Art Salon, Saint-Grégoire, France
- 2004 *BOZ' ART 4^{ème}*, Galerie Sillons d'Art,
Saint-Briac-sur-Mer, France
- The 19th International Art Fair, Vitré, France
- Open Studio, Trélazé, France
- Art Salon, Saint-Grégoire, France
- 2002 *From Korea to Japan*, Gallery
Chuwha, Tokyo, Japan
- 5+8, Insa Art Plaza, Seoul, Korea
- 2001 *50106*, Seoul National University
Cultural Center, Seoul, Korea
- Five Colours*, Hyundai Department
Store, Ulsan, Korea
- Exhibition Exchange: Pecking
University & Seoul National
University, Beijing, China
- 1999 *The New Shape*, Dukwon Gallery,
Seoul, Korea
- 1997 *Shout of a Mute*, 21st Century Gallery,
Seoul, Korea

Lee Gil-Rae

Lee Gil-Rae graduated from Kyunghee University after studying in the department of art education, later going on to gain his Masters in the discipline of sculpture. For twenty years Lee Gil-Rae had used nature as his muse to craft sculpture from steel and copper pipe.

With rapid deforestation Lee Gil-Rae's trees narrate the artificial nature that city dwellers so closely identify with. The man-made and constructed simulation of nature is apparent in all towns and cities. Nature is removed and confined to make room for the ever expanding population. In his persistent need to create organic forms Lee Gil-Rae takes it one step further in creating man-made nature.

He constructs enormous forests of steel and copper, capturing this rapidly depleting resource for eternity. His works construct a surreal, leafless forest that one can meander, spiralling branches unnatural in structure but organic in aesthetic, draw the viewer to witness the intricate exterior that mimics the curves and notches of aged tree bark harmoniously. His sprawling branches fan out, tipped with wisps of copper representing the needles of the pine trees in true homage to Mother Nature.

Lee Gil-Rae has participated in several exhibitions in Korea, America and Japan and features in numerous permanent collections.

Zoomorphic pine tree 2, 2012
Copper welding, unique piece
230 x 150 x 87 cm - 90.6 x 59.1 x 34.2 in.





Landscape 1, 2012
Copper welding, unique piece
114 x 42 x 25 cm - 44.9 x 16.5 x 9.8 in.



Pine tree, 2012
Copper welding, unique piece
204 x 115 x 59 cm - 80.3 x 45.3 x 23.2 in.



Old pine tree 2, 2012
Copper welding, unique piece
87 x 113 x 8 cm - 34.2 x 44.5 x 3.1 in.



Pine tree Mt. 3, 2009
Copper welding, unique piece
78 x 147 x 5 cm - 30.7 x 57.9 x 2 in.



Annual ring-shaped pine tree 2, 2008
Copper welding, unique piece
89 x 93 x 6 cm - 35 x 36.6 x 2.4 in.

Lee Gil-Rae

Born in 1961, Korea
Works and lives in Seoul

PERMANENT COLLECTIONS

Seoul Kwachon National
Museum of Contemporary Art
Seoul Museum of Art
Seoul Savina Museum of
Contemporary Art
Samsung Foundation of Culture
CJ Foundation of Culture
Daegu Health College
Seoul Supreme Prosecutors
Office Memorial Sculpture
Anseong Memorial Sculpture
Park, Yeongdong Sculpture Park
Jinhae Jangbok Mountain Park
Outdoor Sculpture,
Bucheon Dodang Park
Seoul Hanjin Haemoro, Hanjin
Heavy Industries &
Construction Office Building
Seoul Marriott Hotel, Gapyung
Ecopia, Daegu Banwoldang,
Moonkyung STX Resort
Pohang Valueplus,
Nampo Art Museum

EDUCATION

1989 B.A from Departement of Art
Education, Kyung Hee University,
Seoul, Korea
1993 M.A. from Departement of Sculpture,
Kyung Hee University, Seoul, Korea

AWARDS

1995 Special Award in Jung-Ang Biennial
1990 Dong-A Art Award in the Dong-A
Festival
1989 Special Award in the 8th Great Art
Exhibition of Korea
1988 Participation Award in the 11th
Jung-Ang Great Art Exhibition
1987 Special Award in the 5th Great Art
Exhibition of the Youth

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2012 BK Gallery, Seoul, Korea
2010 Savina Museum, Seoul, Korea
2008 Savina Museum, Seoul, Korea
2007 Art-Space Camerata, Seoul, Korea
Korean Contemporary Art Festival,
Seoul Art Center, Hangaram Art
Museum, Seoul, Korea
2003 Galerie Bhak, Seoul, Korea
2001 Galerie Bhak, Seoul, Korea
1997 Kumho Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea
1991 Ye-Hyang Gallery, Seoul, Korea



GROUP EXHIBITIONS

<p>2012 Korean Artist Project Google Art Projects 2 <i>Tasty Land</i>, Yangpyeong Art Museum, Yangpyeong, Korea <i>Haiti Charity-Auction</i>, Seoul Auction Gangnam, Seoul, Korea</p> <p>2011 <i>The Moving Arts Village</i>, Nampo Art Gallery, Goheung, Korea <i>POMA 2011 Art Way Project</i>, Pohang Museum of Art, Pohang, Korea <i>Remember You</i>, Hyundai Arts Center, Ulsan, Korea Daegu Art Fair Special Exhibition of Modern Sculpture, Exco, Daegu, Korea</p> <p>2010 Seoul Art Exhibition Sculpture, Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea International Sculpture Symposium Special Exhibition, Incheon City Museum, Incheon, Korea <i>Republic of Korea, Seeking the Future</i>, Andong Cutural Arts Center, Andong, Korea</p> <p>2009 <i>Our Garden</i>, The 5th Open-Air Sculpture Exhibition, Gimhae Arts and Sports Center, Gimhae Cosmetic Jam, Insa Art Center, Seoul, Korea <i>New Morning</i>, Seoul Art Center Gongpyeong Gallery, Seoul, Korea <i>Special Exhibition for the Year of Ox</i>, Jang Eun Sun Gallery, Seoul, Korea</p> <p>2008 <i>Sehan-Do in My Mind</i>, Photohouse Gallery, Seoul, Korea <i>Space and Urban Design Exhibition</i>, Old Seoul Station Museum, Seoul, Korea <i>Hwaum Project</i>, Seoul Art Center, Concert Hall, Seoul, Korea <i>Arts and Play</i>, Seoul Art Center, Han- garam Art Museum, Seoul, Korea</p> <p>2007 International Sculpture Symposium in Ichon, Ichon Seolbong Park, Ichon, Korea <i>Korea-China-Japan Modern Arts Exhibition</i>, Nowon District office, Seoul, Korea The 1st Open-Air Sculpture Exhibition, Pyramid Square in COEX Trade Center, Seoul, Korea <i>Art-Garden</i>, Sejong Center for the Performing Arts, Seoul, Korea</p>	<p>2006 <i>Art-Park</i>, Seongnam Art Center, Seongnam, Korea</p> <p>2005 <i>Blue in the stream</i> (Outdoor project), Seongnam Art Center, Seongnam, Korea <i>Melting Zone</i>, Davinchi Gallery, Seoul, Korea</p> <p>2004 <i>Should say not all Still Life</i>, Gana Art Center, Seoul, Korea</p> <p>2003 Seoul Auction Fair 2003, Seoul, Korea</p> <p>2002 <i>Exhibition of Dong-A Art Award</i>, Sang Gallery, Seoul, Korea Members of Dong-A Artist Association Exhibition, National Museum of Contemporary Art, Kwa Cheon, Korea <i>Sculpture and Space</i>, Korea First Bank, Seoul, Korea</p> <p>2001 <i>Exhibition of Korean Contemporary Sculpture</i>, Chunchen MBC, Chunchen, Korea <i>Artists Today</i>, The World Ceramic EXPO Open-Air Pavilion, Seoul, Korea</p> <p>2000 Miami International Art Fair, Galerie Bhak, Florida, U.S.A <i>Unification 2000</i>, The National Assembly Building, Seoul, Korea</p> <p>1999 Exhibition of Jung-Ang Art Award, Hoam Art Museum, Seoul, Korea San Francisco International Art Fair, Galerie Bhak, San Francisco, U.S.A.</p> <p>1998 <i>200 sculptors' Artworks Exhibition</i>, Sun Gallery, Seoul, Korea <i>Drawing Crossing Exhibition</i>, Kumho Museum, Seoul, Korea Pusan International Art Festival, Pusan Museum of Art, Pusan, Korea</p> <p>1997 International Ceramic Biennial, Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea <i>Exhibition of Dokushima University</i>, Dokusima University Museum, Japan</p> <p>1996 <i>Members of Dong-A Artist Associa- tion Exhibition</i>, National Museum of Contemporary Art, Kwa Cheon, Korea Asia Modern Art Festival, Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea</p> <p>1995 <i>Young Artist in Korea</i>, Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea</p> <p>1994 <i>Finding Han River</i>, Gallery Jo-Hyung, Seoul, Korea</p>
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Kim Chang-Young

Born in 1957 in Daegu, South Korea, Kim Chang-Young has been living in Japan since 1982. In 1984 and 1986, he respectively graduated from the Sokei School of Art and the Tokyo School of Art (both in Japan).

Considered one of the most reputed Korean contemporary artists today, Kim specializes in re-creating beach scenes, complete with the remnants of human interaction. The artist uses mixed media, including real sand, to re-create his impressions of sandy coasts; it is common to find his paintings filled with human footprints, wind dunes and other natural formations.

As part of a creative process to preserve the elements of faded memories, Kim solidifies moments which might otherwise be washed away and sees this as a method of expressing how humans and nature can co-exist in harmony.

He gives us clues to understand his work:

“perhaps my works remind you of photographs of a sandy beach having been explored; yet they are oil paintings.

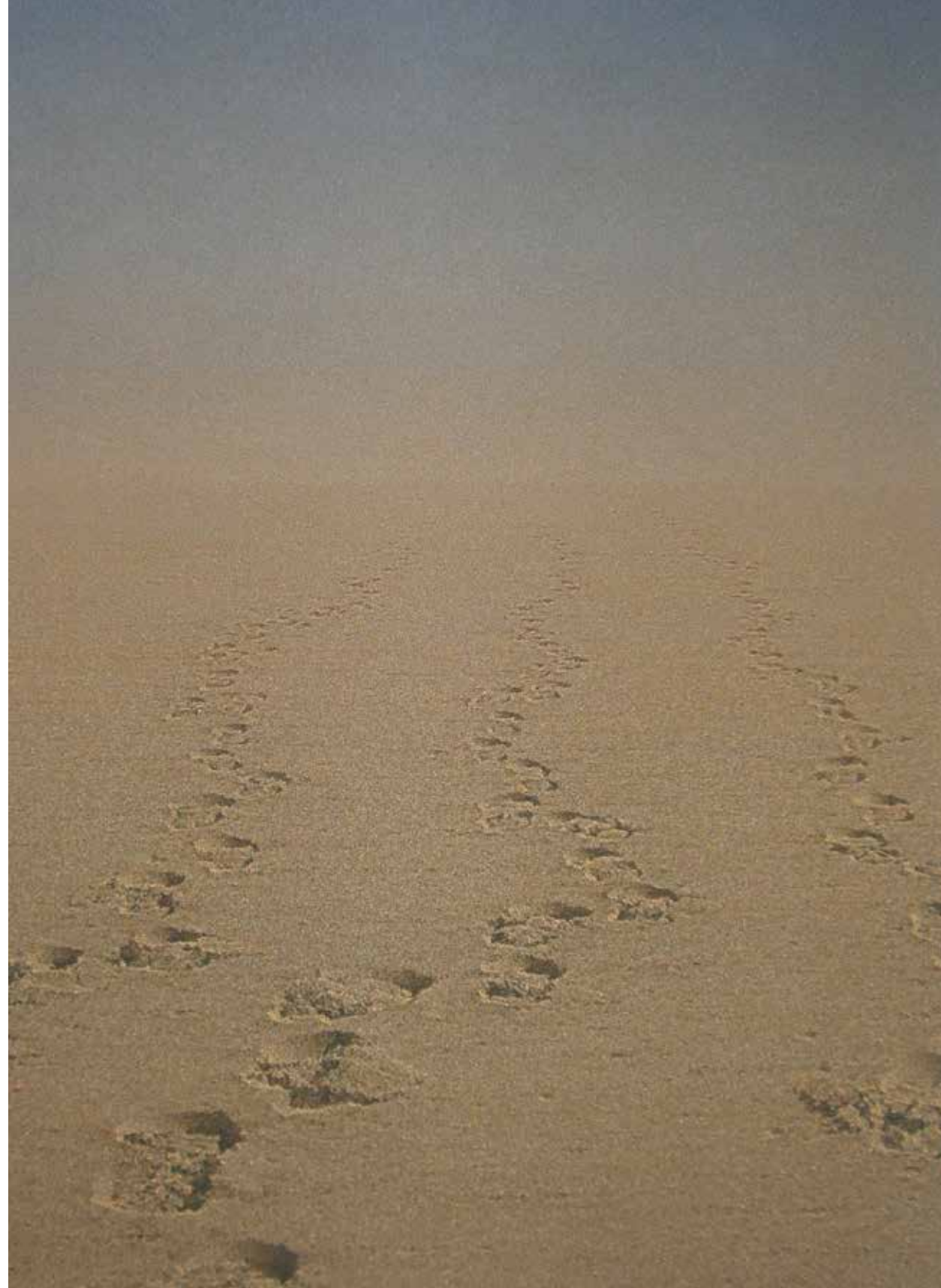
If you study them, I think you will understand their meaning.

Eventually, the footprints will be washed away by the waves.

There are no people present, but just as the footprints are proof of a human presence, I like to think I’m recording the memory of their nearness”.

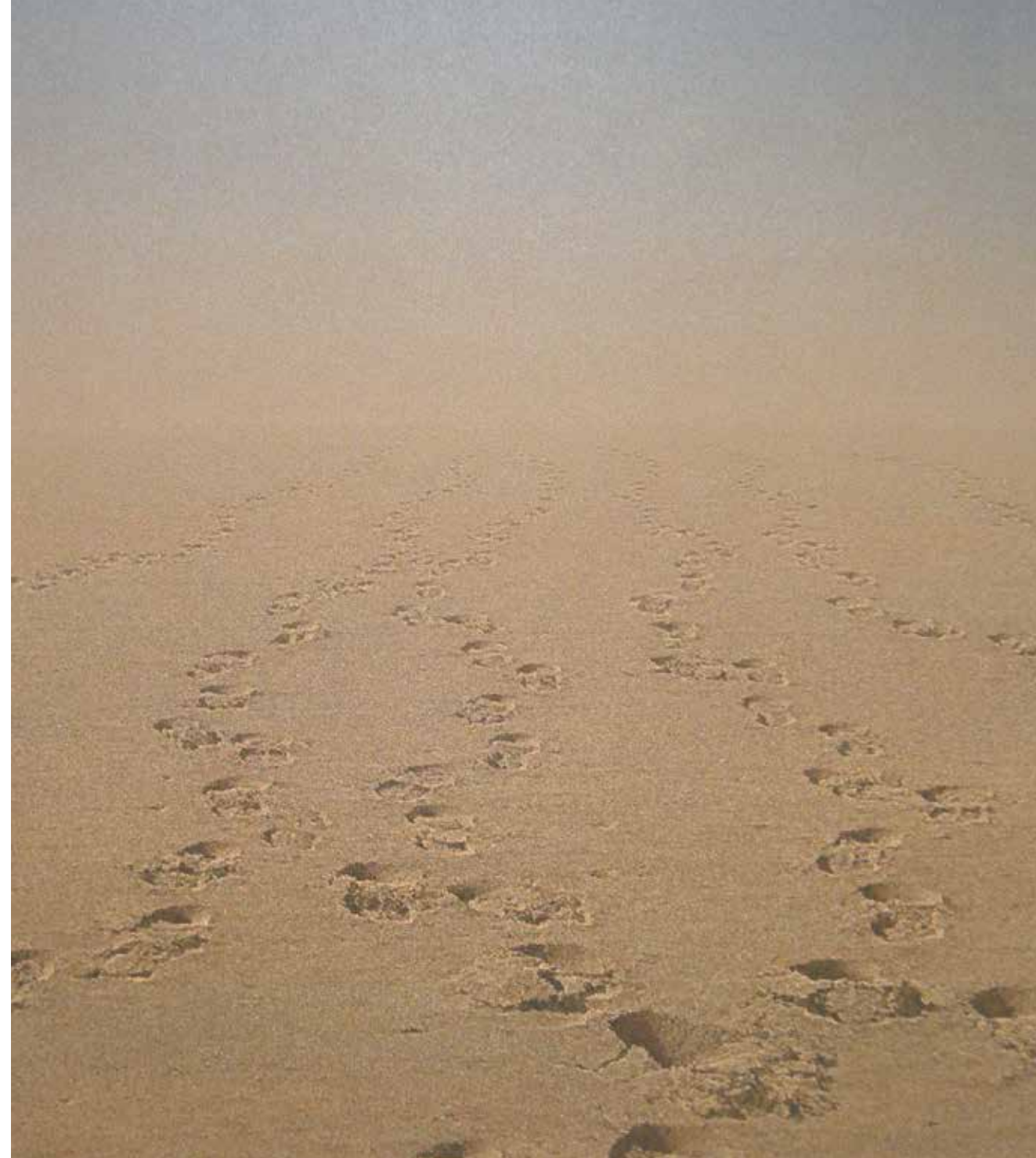
Kim Chang-Young has participated in several exhibitions in Japan, Korea and Germany; his genius has captivated collectors from all over the world.

From where to where (1105-A), 2011
Sand and oil on canvas
122 x 86 cm - 48 x 33.9 in.





From where to where-hill (1104-BD), 2011
Sand and oil on canvas
82 x 152,5 cm - 32.3 x 60 in.



From where to where (1106-AB), 2011
Sand and oil on canvas
118 x 100 cm - 46.4 x 39.4 in.



Sand Play (1011-R), 2010
 Sand and oil on canvas
 77 x 102 cm - 30.3 x 40.2 in.



Sand Play (1102-B), 2011
 Sand and oil on canvas
 87 x 140 cm - 34.2 x 55.1 in.



Sand Play (1105-D), 2011
 Sand and oil on canvas
 98 x 144 cm - 38.6 x 56.7 in.



Sand Play (1104-E), 2011
 Sand and oil on canvas
 100 x 160 cm - 39.4 x 63 in.

Kim Chang-Young

Born in Daegu, Korea, in 1957
Lives in Japan since 1982

EDUCATION

1984 Graduated from Sokei School of Art, Japan
1986 Graduated from Tokyo School of Art, Japan



SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2012 Galerie Bhak, Seoul, Korea
2008 Galerie Bhak, Seoul, Korea
2007 Galerie Bhak, Seoul, Korea
2006 Galerie Bhak, Seoul, Korea
2005 Art Space Aoki, Sizuoka, Japan
2003 Galerie Bhak, Seoul, Korea
2002 Gallery Move, Yokohama, Japan
Art Space Aoki, Sizuoka, Japan
2001 Galerie Bhak, Seoul, Korea
Korea Art, Pusan, Korea
1999 Galerie Bhak, Seoul, Korea
Nishimura Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
1998 Gallery Move, Yokohama, Japan
1997 T.S Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
1996 ABC Gallery, Osaka, Japan
1994 Nima Sand Museum, Simane, Japan
1992 Gallery Hyundai, Seoul, Korea

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2011 Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea
Dream Worlds, Opera Gallery, Dubai
2009 Seongnam Arts Center, Seoul, Korea
2008 Changwon Asian Art Festival, Seoul, Korea
Hyun Gallery, Seoul, Korea
2006 KCAF (Korea Contemporary Art Festival) VI, Seoul, Korea
2004 Yoyonome Contemporary Art, Mazuzakaya Museum, Nagoya, Japan
2003 National Museum of Contemporary Art, Gwacheon, Nagoya, Japan
1999 Joong-Ang Grand Art Exhibition, Hoam Museum, Seoul, Korea
Reading Nature, Saitama Prefectural Museum of Art, Saitama, Japan
1995 *-ing Exhibition*, Machita International Print Museum, Japan
1994 Kawakuchi Contemporary Art Museum, Saitama, Japan
Hyoko Modern Art Museum, Kobe, Japan

COLLECTIONS

National Museum of Contemporary Art, Korea
Hoam Museum, Korea
Hansol Foundation of Culture, Korea
Hisoshima Contemporary of Art, Japan
Saitama Prefectural Museum of Art, Japan
Saitoh Memorial Kawaguchi Museum of Contemporary Art, Japan
Sharjah National Museum, UAE
Yokohama Business Park, Japan
Totori Prefectural Hall, Japan
Kannami Government Hall, Japan
Okinawa Chatan Culture Center, Japan
Ushigome Kugurazaka Station Mural Painting, Japan
ORIX Training Center Blue Wave, Mural Painting, Japan
Nihon Seimei Training Center, Japan
Shinjuku-ku Kenkomura, Japan

OPERA GALLERY