

Looking Out From Within

Landscape & Minhwa



Calligraphist and painter, Soon-jin Park, has always been inspired by the colours and scent of Nature. "Just as much as I love Mother Nature, I am fond of the warm coziness of staying indoors," says the artist who has to her credit a BFA in Oriental Painting from Dankook University and an M.F.A from Chung-Ang University Graduate School, Korea. Soon-jin Park, is an accomplished artist who currently teaches Calligraphy and Oriental Painting at InKo Centre, Chennai.

Soon-jin's landscapes offer a unique perspective underscored by the theme of "in-and-out." She sometimes paints the scenes of an inside reality overlapping with that of the outside, in an attempt to portray both the space which she occupies and the scenes that she looks out at, within one frame, on one sheet of paper. Another important aspect in Soon-jin's work is the overly simplified shape of objects resulting in a very individualistic style of landscape painting.

Soon-jin Park has recently expanded her repertoire to include *Minhwa*, or Korean traditional folk painting. *Minhwa* paintings, which typically depict a richly nuanced interplay between interesting folk stories and practical instruction, is an extraordinary, unconventional form of traditional Korean art which illustrates the common people's freedom of expression and reveals their thoughts and dreams. Encompassing a variety of subjects and methods of expression, *minhwa* displays a strong adherence to symbols and events drawn from everyday life. *Minhwa* ranges from bird and flower paintings to the tiger and the dragon and the ten longevity symbols. Though *minhwa* paintings are roughly drawn, their strong lines, vivid colours, bold, unconventional wit and innate optimism combine to create a philosophy that is uniquely Korean. Soon-jin Park reinterprets the objects of traditional *Minhwa* and incorporates them into her work with a distinctive contemporary twist.

Monday, 14 May | 6.30 p.m. | The Gallery @ InKo Centre

**The exhibition will remain open until 16 June 2018.
(except Sundays) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.**



18, ADYAR CLUB GATE ROAD, CHENNAI 600 028.

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