



focus

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Editorial

If ‘culture’ is a dynamic space, then what is of interest is what happens in the interstices. We live by shared and learned information patterns that we use collectively to generate rules and meaning. Since culture is defined and reiterated by a set of learned behavioural patterns and norms, new experiences are bound to transform our cultural perceptions. Dialogue within a culture or across cultures can therefore only be a continuous trajectory of assessment and re-alignment where ingrained perceptions are continuously challenged and infiltrated by newly gained information or experience. The transformative power inherent in intercultural exchange, whether imperceptible and gradually aggregated or direct and potentially explosive, is that interstice, which with its dynamic flow, demands an acceptance of change. It is, metaphorically speaking, an invitation to both *mind* and *mine* the gap! This is the fluid interstice that is of interest to InKo Centre as we attempt to meaningfully link India and Korea in an intercultural dialogue through the access points of the performing and visual arts, language, wellness and information provision.

In this issue of focus, read about the programmes and projects in film, theatre and literature that aim to deepen the exploration of what at once defines and defies perceptions. We open our programming year with the 5th edition of the Samsung Women’s International Film Festival (SWIFF), 14-21 July 2012, curated and presented by InKo Centre in association with Samsung India Electronics Private Limited and a host of national and international partners. SWIFF is a unique opportunity to position the Indo-Korean dialogue that InKo Centre is engaged with, within the wider global discussion of what constitutes a ‘woman’s film’. The 5th SWIFF showcases a total of 120 feature, documentary and short films, mainly from India and Korea and 48 countries around the world. With Indian and Korean programmers and curators and 5 International curators for specific geographical areas around the world, the Festival promises a host of exciting, powerful, insightful films. 25 national and international directors are slated to visit the city during the Festival period and this coupled with a host of satellite events across the city, promises an action-packed week of screening, workshops, parallel exhibitions and discussions.

Read about *Woyzeck*, hailed as one of the most original re-interpretations of German playwright George Buchner’s original play. *Woyzeck* by Sadari Movement Laboratory, one of Korea’s most acclaimed and innovative theatre groups, will be presented by InKo Centre with support from The Korea Foundation and in association with AsiaNow Productions at the Hindu Metroplus Theatre festival in Chennai and in Bangalore, this August. The Sadari Movement Laboratory creates a new dynamic interpretation of the play that illuminates the hidden potential of the original - a dynamic constellation of object, body, movement and space- to advance a new language in physical theatre which is at once, surprising and deeply moving

We are delighted to continue a meaningful association with the Sangam House Writing Residency in India and the Toji Foundation in Korea with support from Arts Council Korea. Our writer-in-residence at Toji this September, is Chandras Choudhary, author of the novel *Arzee the Dwarf*, which was short-listed for the Commonwealth First Book Prize and named as one of the “60 Essential Works of Modern Indian Literature in English” by *World Literature Today* magazine in 2010. And, while on the written word, read about Chennai-based publishing house Tara Books and their ‘Korean connection’. Several Korean publishers have bought the rights to titles published by this independent publisher who specializes in books made entirely by hand with a sustained focus on India’s rich visual arts.

Following the extremely enthusiastic response, the weekly and monthly ‘InKo happenings’ – Language classes; Yoga; Taekwondo; Calligraphy and Film screenings, continue at the Centre.

I look forward to greeting you at our events and courses, to receiving your feedback online or over the telephone and to deepening this dialogue with your participation and support.

Rathi Jafer
Director, InKo Centre

view @ InKo

From the award-winning *Ha Ha Ha* which reveal uncomfortable truths in a complex yet candid manner, to the humorous misadventures of *Running Turtle* and the intensity of *Happiness*, it is the refreshing treatment of human relationships, in its many myriad forms, that take centre-stage this quarter.

Ha Ha Ha

Directed by Hong Sang-soo, 2010

하하하

27 July 2012



The film's title is a word play on the Chinese character for "summer" as well as the more obvious connotation in English. Shortly before emigrating to Canada, the aspiring film director Moon-kyung has a drink with his younger friend, the film critic Joong-sik. While talking they discover that they have each recently travelled to the seaside town of Tong-yeong. They agree to tell their stories, recounting only the good memories, not realizing that, they have in fact, spent their time in the same places, with the same people, without ever running into each other. These narrated flashbacks, shot in a purposefully nondescript visual style, set the stage for all the awkward social encounters and petty misunderstandings that animate the film.

Since his debut in 1996, Hong Sang-soo has established himself as one of Asia's most original and talented directorial voices. His films appear ordinary on the surface, but they reveal uncomfortable truths about human relationships in a complex, candid manner. The film is described as a "wry comedy about two friends – a film director and a movie critic – who reminisce about their intertwining lives and relationships". *Ha Ha Ha* was the recipient of the Cannes Film Festival's top prize in Un Certain Regard in 2010 and was also presented to acclaim in the World Cinema section at the AFI Film Festival in Los Angeles in the same year.

Ha Ha Ha



Running Turtle



Happiness



Running Turtle

Directed by Lee Yeon-woo, 2009

거북이달린다

24 August 2012



This film, which was an extremely popular film in Korea, is about a countryside detective trying to capture a legendary prison breaker. Jo Pil-seong is an idle detective who spends his time scratching off lottery tickets in his office, while his wife and children work in a shop. Pil-seong secretly steals 300,000 won from his wife and tells his friend to bet it on a bull named Gomi in a bullfight. Gomi is declared as a winner and Pil-seong's friends celebrate their victory later that night as they wait for him to arrive. Meanwhile, an escaped prisoner named Song Gi-tae intervenes and steals Pil-seong's prize money. When

Pil-seong finds out what has happened he confronts the criminal, but suffers a humiliating defeat Pil-seong reports to his colleagues and his boss that he encountered the infamous Gi-tae, but no one believes him. In an attempt to recapture Gi-tae, Pil-seong decides to recruit his friends to assist him with the capture. He is however much too slow to catch the killer. Fired from his job due to this error Pil-seong now makes it his personal mission to nab Ki-tae at all costs.

Happiness

Directed by Heo Jin-Ho, 2007

행복

28 September 2012



When stricken with a terminal disease, Young-su leaves his careless high life in the city, live-in girlfriend and dwindling business. He retreats to a sanatorium in the countryside in order to treat his illness. There he meets a young woman who is a resident patient in the sanatorium. The duo soon leave the sanatorium together to live in a small but cozy farm house. Their health improves dramatically but when

Young-su's friends from the city come for a visit, he starts to wonder if he should abandon mundane rural village life and return to his former lifestyle.



cinema



FIFTH SAMSUNG WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL PRESENTED BY INKO CENTRE

It is an annual International event that draws in a large audience comprising filmmakers, film curators, film festival directors, film society members, film studies specialists, journalists, students and all those who simply love cinema! 120 powerful feature, short and documentary films from India, Korea and approximately 48 other countries screened over seven days in Chennai. Close to 25 national and international directors visiting the city to introduce their films. The Samsung Women's International Film Festival (SWIFF), curated by InKo Centre and presented in association with Samsung India Electronics Limited and a host of national and international partners is back - Come, be part of the action!

Directors from Korea, India, Germany, Finland, Iran, Guadeloupe, and the Netherlands, our International Curators from the UK and our International Programmer from Korea as well as the Festival Directors of the Network of Asian Women's Film Festivals (NAWFF) from Korea, Japan, Taiwan and Israel will visit Chennai during the Festival period to introduce their films and to interact with the audience and the media.

16 - 21 July
The Empathetic Eye:
a photo exhibition curated by Travelling Lens at Apparao Galleries

17 July
So, what is a woman's film?
- a discussion with the Festival Directors of the Network of Asian Women's Film Festivals (NAWFF) from Korea, Japan, Taiwan and India. at the L V Prasad Film & TV Academy

19 July
Making a Documentary Film:
a workshop by Eugenie Jansen (The Netherlands) at Loyola College



20 July

The FlexibleWoman:
a performance workshop by
Tatjana Turanskyj (Germany)
at the Goethe-Institut

20 July

SpecialScreen

Screening of *Over your cities
grass will grow*

- a film by Sophie Fiennes (UK)
at The British Council

19 - 21 July

ParallelScreen
at Kalakshetra Foundation

MainScreen

This is the main festival screening section with a variety of 120 short, documentary and feature films from 50 countries.

* * Directors, curators and special invited guests are present throughout the Festival period to introduce the films; to participate in panel discussions and to interact with the audience

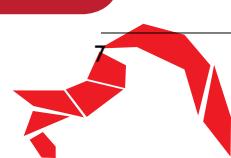
Venue: Auditorium / Screen 1 / Screen 2

Russian Centre of Science and Culture

Screenings : 1100 to 2100 hrs

Entry: Delegate Pass

A total of 31 Award-winning films will be screened at the 5th SWIFF. The complete list is available at www.inkocentre.org/5thswiff/festivalguide



15, 16 July - Screening of films nominated for the Network of Asian Women's Film Festivals (NAWFF) Award 2012

17 July, 1700-1800hrs - Introduction to the Network of Asian Women's Film Festivals and presentation of the NAWFF Award 2012

19 July, 1400-1700hrs - Mirroring Lives: Violence against Women on Screen -a discussion co-ordinated by The Prajnya Trust

19 July, 1800-2100hrs - For Posterity: An introduction to the film restoration project undertaken by the National Film Development Corporation

Venue: Auditorium, Russian Centre of Science and Culture

Entry: Delegate Pass



15-21 July

Director's Cut

An 'in-conversation', interactive session with national and international filmmakers and film curators

Time: 1700-1800hrs, every day **Venue:** Auditorium, Russian Centre of Science and Culture

Entry: Delegate Pass



17-21 July

The Empathetic Eye:

A photo exhibition curated by Travelling Lens, presented in association with Apparao Galleries.

Ami Vitale, Maggie Steber and Andrea Bruce are distinguished photojournalists who have impacted change in the world with the power of their photography. They have variously won prestigious awards such as the Pulitzer Prize, World Press Photo, White House News Photographer of the year, to name but a few. Shooting in some of the most hostile, inhospitable and challenging of terrains, these celebrated image-makers possess the rare ability to separate themselves from the battles and the bloodshed and direct their cameras towards the humanistic stories that are shored up in the aftermath of conflict. As such, the works of these acclaimed photojournalists, provide an astonishing counterbalance to the works of the many talented filmmakers from India, Korea and the world, featured in the 5th SWIFF.

Time: 1100-1830 hrs,

Venue: Apparao Galleries

Entry: Delegate Pass

Opening on 16 July 2012

Entry by invitation.

For further information contact:

Apparao Galleries

T: 044-28332226 / 0726



17 July

So, what is a woman's film?

This is a discussion about the contestable issue of what constitutes a 'woman's' perspective or point of view with Festival Directors from Network of Asian Women's Film Festivals (NAWFF), from Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Israel and India.

Time: 1000-1300 hrs,

Venue: LV Prasad Film and TV Academy

For further information contact:

InKo Centre

T: 044-24361224



19 July

Making a Documentary film:

a workshop by

Eugenie Jansen (The Netherlands)

Loyola College

Time: 1400-1700 hrs,

Venue: Loyola College

For further information contact:

InKo Centre

T: 044-24361224



19-21 July

ParallelScreen

This section features a specially curated package of films, courtesy the Films Division of India, that comment on other arts forms- films on music; on dance; on sculpture as well as films that commemorate remarkable women of extraordinary substance and grace.

Time: 1600-1830hrs

Venue: Tagore Hall, Kalakshetra Foundation

Entry: Delegate Pass

For further information contact:

InKo Centre

T: 044-24361224



20 July

The Flexible Woman:

a performance workshop by

Tatjana Turanskyj (Germany)

The workshop, drawing from Tatjana Turanskyj's feature film, The Drifter, which will be screened at the 5th SWIFF at 1800 hrs, on 18 July, deals with issues relating to unemployment, single mothers and how important it is to adapt to change in a rapidly changing world. With improvisation and re-enactment of some scenes from her film, the director aims to present a slice of our own lives and to thereby open up a space for cultural exchange.

Time: 1400-1800hrs,

Venue: Goethe-Institut



20 July

SpecialScreen

Over your cities grass will grow - a film

by **Sophie Fiennes (UK)**

Time: 1830hrs

Venue: The British Council

Entry: Delegate Pass

For further information contact:

The British Council

T: 044-42050600

To register and for further information contact:

The Goethe-Institut

T: 044- 28331314; 28332343

E: intern2@chennai.goethe.org.



21 July

Closing Film

Screening of the National Award- winning film,

Byaari

Time: 1800hrs,

Venue: Auditorium, Russian Centre of Science and Culture

Entry: Delegate Pass

Festival Venues:

Apparao Galleries

7, Wallace Garden 3rd Street,
Nungambakkam
Chennai - 600 006
T: 044-28332226/0726

Loyola College

227 Sterling Road,
Nungambakkam,
Chennai - 600034
T: 044 2817 8490

The British Council

737, Anna Salai
Chennai - 600 002
T: 044 42050606

Russian Centre of Science and Culture

74, Kasturi Ranga Road
Alwarpet
Chennai – 600 018
T: 044 24990050

The Goethe-Institut

New No. 4, Old No.14,
Rutland Gate,
5th Street Chennai - 600 006
T: 044 28331314

L V Prasad Film & TV Academy

28, Arunachalam Road
Saligramam
Chennai – 600 093
T: 044 65257476 / 65257477

Kalakshetra Foundation

Thiruvanmiyur, Chennai 600041
T: 044-24524057 / 24520836

The comprehensive screening schedule, synopsis, a Festival guide with information about all the related satellite events around the city as well as complete delegate registration details is available on www.inkocentre.org.

Follow us on



theatre

Woyzeck

at the Hindu Metroplus Theatre Festival

InKo Centre, in association with The Korea Foundation and AsiaNow Productions, is delighted to premiere **Woyzeck**, an award-winning and widely-travelled production by Sadari Movement Laboratory, one of Korea's most innovative, contemporary theatre companies, at The Hindu Metroplus Theatre Festival. **Woyzeck** will be presented in **Chennai on 16 August 2012 and in Bangalore on 23 August 2012.**



The Sadari Movement Laboratory (SML) rediscovers and revivifies Georg Büchner's proto-expressionist play about a soldier driven mad by the social order that dominates him. George Büchner's *Woyzeck*, based on the true story of a poor German soldier driven to madness by inhuman military discipline and murders his mistress, remains one of the most enigmatic, shocking and influential works of modern theatre. In this gripping, stripped - down version from Korea, objects, bodies, movement and space combine to create a dynamic physical and visual language, revealing the characters' emotional states with shattering clarity and force. Using chairs as a changeable metaphor, the performers both shape the dramatic space and reveal the characters' emotional states, while Astor Piazzolla's

dynamic tango becomes an integral part of the dramatic flow.

Büchner based his play on the 1821 trial and execution of an ex-soldier who murdered his unfaithful mistress. In this interpretation of Georg Büchner's pioneering tragedy, left unfinished at the author's death in 1837, 11 chairs are imaginatively integrated into the action. They become windows the cast peer through, a tower Woyzeck climbs, a cage to trap him and much else. The play's is structured with several short scenes, separated with brief blackouts in which the chairs are silently and extraordinarily re-positioned. Holding it all together is the movement of the practised cast- evocatively expressive, constantly drawing the eye with its fluency and variety.

Sadari Movement Laboratory is one of Korea's best-known young theatre companies. Woyzeck was a sell-out hit at the 2007 Edinburgh Fringe Festival where it won a Herald Angel and Total Theatre Award. The production has since been invited to tour all over the world. The Sadari Movement Laboratory creates a new dynamic interpretation of the play that illuminates the hidden potential of the original- a dynamic constellation of object, body, movement and space- to advance a new language in physical theatre. The result is theatre that is both surprising and deeply moving.

Date of the performance: 16 August at The Sir Mutha Venkatasubba Rao Concert Hall in Chennai & 23 August at the Chowdiah Memorial Hall in Bangalore

Creative Team

Author	George Büchner
Director	Do-Wan Im
Music	Astor Piazzolla
Dramaturg	Kyu Choi
Assistant Dramaturg	Earl Jackson
Lighting Director	Tae-Hwan Gu
Sound Director	Yo-Chan Kim
Set Designer	Jae-Yun Cho
Costume Designer	Joo-Hee Lee
Make-Up	Song-Wha Chae
Stage Director	Mee-Ryeong Kim
Lighting Operator	Dong-Hun Kim
Executive Producer	Kyu Choi
Producer & Tour Manager	Heejin Lee
Photos	Eun-Sun Choi

Cast

Woyzeck	Seung-Gyun Hong
Marie	Jae-Sun Shim
Captain	Byeong-Hun Jeong
Drum-Major	Sung-Won Jang
Doctor	Jae-Hong Cheon
Chorus	Jin-Hee Yun, Da-Hee Kim, Jung-Hyun Lee, Eun-Soon Jeong, Nara Shin, Joon Choi

- Supported by Korea Foundation
- Presented in association with AsiaNow Productions



About Sadari Movement Laboratory:

Sadari Movement Laboratory (SML) developed out of the Sadari Theater Company, founded in 1988 by Im Do-Wan and You Hong-Young. After completing his studies at the L'Ecole Internationale de Theatre Jacques Lecoq in Paris, Im Do-Wan returned to Korea where he began experimenting with non-verbal kinetic theatre. In 1999 he established the Sadari Movement Laboratory. All members are trained in the Jacques Lecoq method as well as traditional Korean dance to maximize SML's repertory. Stepping beyond dialogue and realist conventions, the company believes actors can express the social and psychological state of their characters more poignantly by utilizing separate spaces and dynamic rhythms that stress physical capabilities and characteristics. Through rigorous training and focused experimentation, Sadari Movement Laboratory is committed to finding a new theatre style and language for both Korean and international audience.

About the Director:



Artistic director, Im Do-Wan began experimenting with kinetic theatre in Korea after completing his studies at the L'Ecole Internationale de Theatre Jacques Lecoq in Paris. He founded the Sadari Movement Laboratory in 1998 to unite the collaborative energies of a troupe committed to creative processes.



The Korea Foundation

The Korea Foundation, established in 1991 as an affiliate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, aims to promote awareness and understanding of Korea throughout the world. It aims to enhance international goodwill and friendship through the implementation of various international exchange programmes. The major Foundation activities include support for Korean Studies programmes overseas; fellowships and grants to encourage and assist foreign students and scholars interested in Korea; intellectual exchanges and forums to promote bilateral ties with other nations as well as people-to-people interactions to boost mutual understanding between Korea and other countries; cultural exchanges to introduce the unique characteristics of Korean culture to the world.



AsiaNow Productions

AsiaNow is a production company founded in 2005 to creatively develop, produce and present innovative and exciting Asian contemporary physical theatre, dance and interdisciplinary arts. The company is also strongly involved in creative development, consultation and performing arts management.



The Hindu Metroplus Theatre Fest

Starting in Chennai in 2005, The Hindu MetroPlus Theatre Fest has become a major South Indian theatre festival. This year, the Festival will feature 21 performances in five cities - in Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Coimbatore and Kochi. We have plays from Korea, the United Kingdom and various parts of India lined up this year. Also, there will be workshops and symposiums on theatre, all of which are aimed at enriching the experience of this multi-city theatre festival, which is growing from strength to strength.

Tour history:

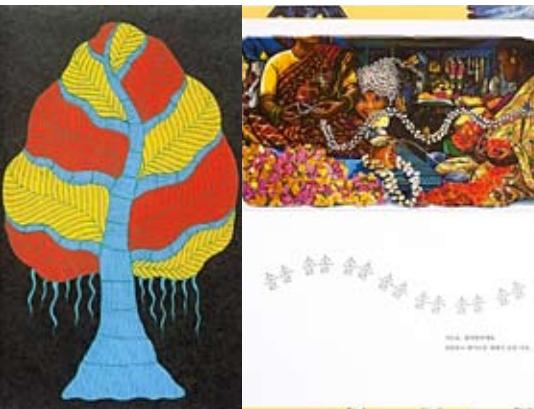
2012	Sibiu International Theatre Festival, Romania	2008	Territory Festival, Moscow, Russia
2011	Festival RíasBaixas, Galicia, Spain		"Meet in Beijing" Chaoyang Cultural Center, TNT Theatre, Beijing, China
	Verenos de la Villa Festival, Madrid, Spain		International Theatre Festival, National Theatre, Taipei, Taiwan
	Museum of Arts, Kochi, Japan		London International Mime Festival, Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London, UK
	Fajr International Festival, Tehran, Iran	2007	Dialog Festival, Wroclaw, Poland
2010	Place des Arts, Montreal, Canada	2007	Aurora Nova, Edinburgh Festival Fringe, UK
	Teatro Nacional La Castellana, Colombia	2005	Tottori Performing Arts Festival, Japan
	International Theater Festival of Belo Horizonte, Brazil	2005	The Mummenschanz Theatre and the Rigiblick Theatre, Switzerland
	Teatromania Festival, Poland		
2009	Tbilisi International Festival of Theatre, Georgia		
	Adelaide OzAsia Festival, Australia		
	Macao Central Center, China		
	Esplanade Theater, Singapore		
	New York Under the Radar Festival, USA		

Books



The Korean Connection

Tara Books is an independent publisher of visual titles for all ages based in Chennai, South India. Specializing in books made entirely by hand, Tara Books aims to showcase India's rich visual arts traditions and have recently moved into their purpose-built 'Book Building' – a new space in Chennai which incorporates a gallery and bookstore, as well as their publishing offices.



From visits to rights sales, media coverage to awards – the last twelve months has been something of a Korean themed year for us here at Tara Books. It began with our founder Gita Wolf being invited to Seoul by the Korean Publisher's Society, and has culminated with an even more significant milestone: our first handmade title being published in Korean.

It's always a special day when finished books first come into our offices from our Book Craft Workshop, but seeing Borim's edition of our quintessential title *The Night Life of Trees* was particularly poignant. A fusion of Indian craftsmanship and art, a sensitive translation into Korean script, and the collaboration of two publishers venturing into the unknown, it acts as a tangible symbol of all that has been achieved in partnership with Korea over the years.

So how did it all begin? The first Tara title in the Korean market was brought out by the publisher Dongin over ten years ago, after an encounter at the Frankfurt Book Fair. Since then, Korean publishers have bought the rights to several of our books, until now always producing the books themselves by the conventional offset method.

It's been interesting to see the type of books that Korean publishers have selected from our list. They all have a strong sense of place, and evoke the specific

context of India – whether through conjuring up Pondicherry's bazaar in *To Market! To Market!* giving a glimpse of Indian village life in *Tiger on a Tree* or addressing the issue of child labour in *Chennai in Trash!* This as a phenomenon is exciting, reflecting the willingness of Korean publishers to explore different cultures in a meaningful way.

For us, this sums up and reinforces many of Tara's fundamental beliefs and principles: the ability of the visual to transcend the boundaries created by language, the importance of collaboration in order to push the boundaries of how we work and ultimately the fact of our shared common humanity, which supersedes while not neglecting the role of disparate cultures.

Going forward, we hope that our links to Korea will grow even stronger: through collaborating with the InKo Centre for exhibitions and events, hosting visiting Korean artists and writers at our new space in Chennai, and of course through seeing more of our books available in Korean. Our latest collaboration is with Jogye, who will be releasing four of our titles next year. Their representative Prof. Choi Dong il said that they were attracted by the special philosophy of our books. Long may this special relationship continue!

-Megan Chadwick-Dobson, Tara Books.

To know more about Tara Books visit www.tarabooks.com

literature

Indian Writer

at the Toji writing residency in Korea

Novelist, Chandras Choudhury, and author of the novel *Arzee the Dwarf* which was short-listed for the Commonwealth First Book Prize and named as one of the “60 Essential Works of Modern Indian Literature in English” by *the World Literature Today* magazine in 2010, has been selected as the Writer-in-residence at the ARKO-InKo Writing Residency from **1-28 September 2012**, at the Toji Cultural Foundation, Korea.



Chandras Choudhury is the author of the novel *Arzee the Dwarf* (Harper Collins, 2009) which was short-listed for the Commonwealth First Book Prize and named as one of the “60 Essential Works of Modern Indian Literature in English” by *the World Literature Today* magazine in 2010. The book has been translated into German as *Der Kleine Koenig von Mumbai* and will be translated into Spanish next year. He has also edited an anthology of short stories, *India: A Traveler’s Literary Companion* (Whereabouts Press, 2010). Chandras studied English Literature at the universities of Delhi and Cambridge. His book reviews appear in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and *The Wall Street Journal*. He is the Fiction and Poetry Editor at *The Caravan* magazine.

Arshia Sattar, founder and convenor, Sangam House, speaks of the continued relationship with InKo Centre and Arts Council Korea (ARKO) to provide opportunities to Indian and Korean writers to participate in Literature Residencies in India and Korea on an annual basis.

Sangam House completed its fourth residency season in March this year, continuing and expanding our relationship with the InKo Centre, Chennai and with ARKO and KLTI. This year, our Korean resident writer was playwright Eugene Lee. Eugene has an MFA from the Korean National University for the Arts, and her plays – most recently, *Toilet Goddess* – have been staged in Seoul and other parts of Korea. She has also won awards for her music compositions. As before, the Sangam House season was a vibrant mix of languages and cultures – this year, we hosted 19 writers over the 12-weekseason, including writers from Sweden and Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy and India. Apart from each other's company and conversations about literature and small, private readings, our writers were able to enjoy the development of a new dance work, “Samhara,” by our hosts, Nrityagram, who were preparing for their tour of the US and Mexico. We were also very pleased to be able to host Rathi Jafer, Director, InKo Centre, who visited us at Sangam House.



Partnering with other local literary groups, Sangam House initiated Bangalore's first literary gathering, Lekhana, in February. The weekend brought together writers from across the city to participate in readings (in English, Kannada, Tamil, Bengali, Hindi and Marathi), discussions and performances. Sangam House added an international dimension to the weekend as they read in their own languages as well as in English translation. A short translated passage from Eugene Lee's "The Toilet Goddess" was read by local actors and enjoyed by all who were present.

InKo and Arko also supported Indian playwright Manav Kaul's month-long residency at the Toji Culture Centre in Wonju, Korea, located in the former home of novelist Park Kyung-Ni, most famous for her remarkable epic novel Toji. Manav, who writes in Hindi, completed a new play, *Laal Pencil* (*The Red Pencil*) which, interestingly, is based on a Korean short story.

We are delighted that InKo Centre will continue to support the Sangam House publishing programme as we get ready to present our second place on the next line anthology of works from Sangam House writers. The volume, titled "Other Places," will be released later in the year and will contain excerpts from Korean writers Hyuong Su Park and Eugene Lee.

- **Dr Arshia Sattar**, Convenor, Sangam House.



Korean writer, Eugene Lee (back extreme right) with fellow-writers at Lekhana, Bangalore's first literary gathering initiated by Sangam House in association with local literary groups.



Eugene Lee sharing her work with fellow-writers-in-residence at Nrityagram, Bangalore.

The following writers have, to date, visited India and Korea for Writing Residencies at Sangam House and at the Toji Cultural Centre, respectively:

Mr Son Honggyu	3 to 4 January 2009	Sangam House, Adi Shakti, India.
Ms Mridula Koshy	7 to 30 September 2009	Toji Cultural Centre, Korea.
Mr Ham Seong Ho	10 to 31 January 2009	Sangam House, Adi Shakti, India.
Mr Perumal Murugan	1 to 30 September 2009	Toji Cultural Centre, Korea.
Mr Park Kyoung su	12 December 2010 to 8 January 2011	Sangam House, Nrityagram, India.
Mr Manav Kaul	1 to 30 September 2011	Toji Cultural Centre, Korea..
Ms Eugene Lee	9 January to 13 February 2012	Sangam House, Nrityagram, India.



Arts Council Korea

Arts Council Korea (ARKO)

Arts Council Korea was established to promote creativity and enjoyment of the art by supporting diverse arts and cultural activities in Korea. The Council consists of eleven dedicated professionals of the cultural and art sector in Korea. The Art Council also places emphasis on the establishment of arts infrastructure. It facilitates the rise of practice-oriented policy implementation in line with the increasingly sophisticated cultural environment of Korea.

newspicks

Fostering young talent

The continued investment by regional governments in Korea to support arts and arts education initiatives has emerged as one of the key factors that have assisted in fostering young musicians.



Young instrumentalists train to perfection both in terms of technical mastery and expressiveness under the guidance of master-profs of the Korea National University of Arts (KNUA), one of Korea's leading conservatories (Photo courtesy KNUA).

The state-run Korea National University of Arts, which marks its 20th anniversary this year, has accomplished a great deal in fostering gifted young musicians with its high-quality educational programme. The training system allows youngsters with talent and high potential to receive an early education and this coupled with parental support and a highly competitive environment have been some of the key drivers that have ensured excellence in the field of classical music in Korea.

Korea's young classical music artists continue to mesmerize the world with their artistic virtuosity and are frequently spotted at numerous internationally acclaimed contests held across the globe. The worldwide Western classical music scene, traditionally dominated by European, Russian and Japanese musicians, is now faced with what the Belgian music documentary journalist Thierry Loreau calls the "Korean landslide." According to Loreau, "the great success that the South Korean musicians are now enjoying in the international music community is without a precedent in history."

The Korean National Research Institute for the Gifted in Arts, was established in 2008 to cultivate a pool of gifted young artists in music, dance and traditional arts by providing a specialized, quality educational programme in accordance with the Korean government's policy initiatives (Photo courtesy, KNUA).



newspicks

Riverside cycling for all to enjoy

The cycling paths along Korea's four major rivers are becoming a favorite option for travellers and adventurers seeking a fun and unique way to explore the country.



Cyclists enjoy the newly completed bicycle paths along Korea's four major rivers. From left: the cycling route along the Han River leads riders to the area around the National Assembly building in Yeouido; the trail along the Yeongsan River in Hapyeong County, Jeollanam-do; cyclists ride over the Nakdong River (Photos courtesy, K-water).

The Korea Water Resources Corporation (K-water) has introduced a certification program to help visitors on the cycling paths, keep track of their progress and receive recognition for completing the various courses. To date, over 10,000 people have cycled on the riverside cycling areas and a growing number of them have completed the entire length of the rigorous cross-country course.

Taking in the sights on two wheels

The K-water certification programme, awards cyclists with certification stickers upon completion of cycling courses which include individual river courses, a cross-country course and an all-rivers course. Cyclists who complete the cross-country course or the all-rivers course are awarded with a commemorative medal.



Cyclists who complete various sections on the four river cycling trails receive stamps in a collectible passport (Photo courtesy, K-water).

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Cyclists enjoy spring flowers and river views while biking on the bicycle path along the Nakdong River, one of Korea's four major rivers (Photo courtesy, Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs)

Cycling to become a national pastime

Last month, a group of college students sponsored by the Korea Tourism Organization and the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism started out on a cross-country cycling tour that will be completed on 5 July 2012. The students, who rode together with Culture Minister Choe Kwang Shik for a special commemorative event, will be blogging regularly to share pictures and testimonials of all that they experience along the way.



A father and daughter duo prepare to ride on the bicycle path along the Nakdong River, one of Korea's four major rivers (Photo courtesy, Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs)

With the number of visitors to the riverside cycling paths continuing to grow, plans are underway to introduce an additional course. The grand slam course will open in 2013 as the longest and most extensive course yet.

LANGUAGE

BASIC KOREAN	Jul	02	04	09	11	16	18	23	25	30
	Aug	01	06	08	13	15	20	22	27	29
	Sep	03	05	10	12	17	19	24	26	

PRE-INTER MEDIATE BEGINNERS BUSINESS KOREAN	Jul	03	05	10	12	17	19	24	26	31
	Aug	02	07	09	14	16	21	23	28	30
	Sep	04	06	11	13	18	20	25	27	

SOCIAL PURPOSES ENGLISH - LEVEL i: & BEGINNER	Jul	03	05	10	12	17	19	24	26	31
	Aug	02	07	09	14	16	21	23	28	30
	Sep	04	06	11	13	18	20	25	27	

YOGA

Jul	02	04	06	09	11	13	16	18	20	23	25	27
Aug	01	03	06	08	10	13	15	17	20	22	24	27
Sep	03	05	07	10	12	14	17	19	21	24	26	28

CALLIGRAPHY

Jul	03	05	10	12	17	19	24	26	28	31
Aug	02	07	09	14	16	21	23	28	30	
Sep	04	06	11	13	18	20	25	27		

TAE KWON DO

Jul	03	05	10	12	17	19	24	26	31	
Aug	02	07	09	14	16	21	23	28	30	
Sep	04	06	11	13	18	20	25	27		

CHILDREN LOWER & HIGHER BELT	Jul	03	05	10	12	17	19	24	26	31
	Aug	02	07	09	14	16	21	23	28	30
	Sep	04	06	11	13	18	20	25	27	

VIEW @ INKO

27 July 2012

Ha Ha Ha 하하하

Directed by Hong Sang-soo

24 August 2012

Running Turtle 헛웃기

Directed by Lee Yeon-woo

28 September 2012

Happiness 행복

Directed by Heo Jin-Ho

EVENT

July

14-21 July:

5th Samsung Women's International Film Festival in Chennai

August

16:

Woyzeck at The Hindu Metroplus Theatre Festival at the Sir Mutha Venkatasubba Rao Concert Hall, Chennai

23:

Woyzeck at The Hindu Metroplus Theatre Festival at the Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Bangalore

September

I-28:

Indian Writer at the Toji Writing Residency in Korea

VISA SERVICES :

For information regarding visas for travel to the Republic of South Korea please contact InKo Centre- 044-24361224; enquiries@inkocentre.org InKo Centre.

THE KOREAN ASSOCIATION IN CHENNAI :

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Chennai - 600 028,
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TRADE ENQUIRIES :

Contact KOTRA (Korea Trade Agency)
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Teynampet, Chennai - 600 018
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For a comprehensive overview of the Republic of Korea, visit www.korea.net

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