

Choe U-Ram

November 1 through 30, 2012

GALLERY HYUNDAI | 80 Sagan-dong, Jongno-gu, Seoul, Korea

*Opening Reception 5 pm, Thursday, November 1, 2012

*Artist Talk 3 pm, Saturday, November 3, 2012

The Korean representative kinetic artist, Choe U-Ram opens his solo exhibition in ten years at Gallery Hyundai New space, Seoul. The exhibition includes eight moving machine sculptures and thirty drawings showing the production process. This is the first solo exhibition held on his motherland in 10 years, introducing both his prominent former series and the new works which have never been unveiled before.

The works of Choe U-Ram are described as 'having extremely sophisticated movement and fantastic tales at the same time'. Every single kinetic artwork has a scientific name as if it is a real living organism. The research organization created by the imagination of the artist, named U.R.A.M (United Research of Anima Machine), is continually discovering new machine animals spreading over the world. All of the machine animals, such as 'Custos Cavum(2011)' and 'Arbor Deus Pennatus(2011)' have their own tales of origin matching up with their Latin titles. The harmony of the beautiful form and movement, sophisticated nomenclature, and fantastic story allow the viewers to experience the fantastical dream world. And people might even think, "Maybe they exist somewhere around the world".

As the works of Choe U-Ram stands out with extraordinary creativity and quality, the global art world pays unending attention to them. Choe U-ram participated in the Shanghai Biennale 2006, the Liverpool Biennale 2008 and held his solo exhibitions in international museums such as Mori Art Center in Tokyo and Asia Society Museum in New York.

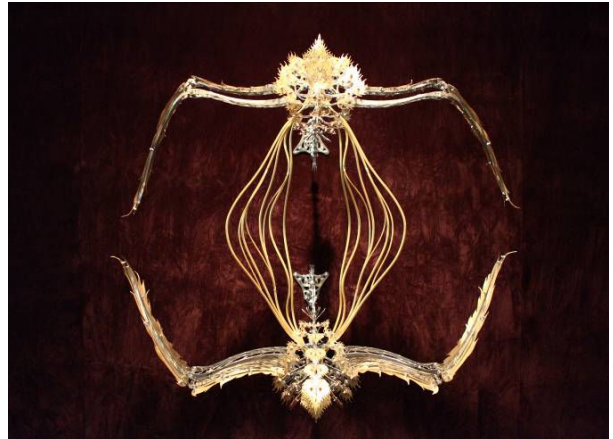
What makes this solo exhibition unique are the new series with broadened theme. In his new works like 'Pavilion (2012)', the artist is trying to ask the fundamental questions to the audience about the value and meaning of life by borrowing the objects in the myth and religions. In other words, the works are not limited to the species of machine animals, but describes the whole world they are living in.

In this exhibition, his renowned machine animal series, new art works with deepened theme, and variable drawings will be shown reflecting the comprehensive world of the artist Choe U-Ram. Additionally, on November 3, at 3 pm, Choe U-ram is holding the 'Artist Talk' to meet with the audience.

Image of art works



Custos Cavum (2011)
 metallic material, machinery, electronic
 devices (CPU board, motor)
 220(h) × 360(w) × 260(d) cm
 ©Choe U-Ram and Gallery Hyundai, Seoul



Unicus-Cavum ad initium (2011)
 metallic material, machinery, electronic
 devices (CPU board, motor)
 90(h) × 112(w) × 45(d) cm
 ©Choe U-Ram and Gallery Hyundai, Seoul



Arbor Deus Pennatus (2011)
 metallic material, machinery, electronic devices (CPU board, motor)
 79(h) × 112(w) × 46(d) cm
 ©Choe U-Ram and Gallery Hyundai, Seoul



Pavilion (2012)
 resin, wood, crystal, 24K gold leaf, plastic
 bag, metallic material, fan, motor, custom
 CPU board and LED
 244(h) × 132(w) × 112(d) cm
 ©Choe U-Ram and Gallery Hyundai, Seoul



merry-go-round (2012)

handmade merry-go-round, sound system, metallic material, motor, gear, custom CPU board and LED

190(h) x 110(w) x 110(d) cm

©Choe U-Ram and Gallery Hyundai, Seoul

Biography

Choe U-Ram

b. 1970

Lives and works in Seoul, Korea

The visual language of Choe U-ram describes natural biomorphic form that is marked by a seemingly organic incorporation of etched stainless steel, robotics and acrylic. Exploring the boundaries of archeological discovery and developmental morphology, Choe's explanations and Latin titles for these creations follow the linguistic traditions of scientific nomenclature.

Telling stories using gestural transformation and the tracing of imagined evolutionary stages, these pieces take on the silhouette of actual life forms, as intricate automata express a refined delicacy and weightlessness. Unexpected and fantastical, Choe's kinetic simulations cyclically breathe with movement that recalls aquatic propulsion, flight and ritualistic courtship displays.

Featured in the 2008 Liverpool Biennale at FACT, Foundation for Art and Creative Technology, Liverpool, Choe has also exhibited at the Mori Art Museum, Tokyo; the First Center of Visual Center in Nashville; the Shanghai Biennial; Leeum Samsung Museum of Art, Seoul; NTT Intercommunication Center (ICC), Tokyo; Art Basel; Seoul Museum of Art; Trammell & Margaret Crow Collection of Asian Art, Dallas; Asian Art Triennial; Manchester Art Gallery; Sungkok Art Museum, Seoul; Metropolitan Art Museum, Busan; Galleria d'Arte Moderna, Bologna; SCAI The Bathhouse, Tokyo; Beijing Expo center; and Olympic Art Museum, Seoul and the Asia Society in New York City.

EDUCATION

Chungang University, Seoul, M.F.A

Chungang University, Seoul, B.F.A

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2012 'Choe U-Ram', Gallery Hyundai, Seoul, Korea
- 2012 'U-Ram Choe Show', John Curtin Gallery, Perth, Australia
- 2011 'In Focus', Asia Society Museum, New York, USA
- 2010 'New Urban Species', Frist Center for the Visual Arts, Nashville, USA
'Kalpa', Bitforms Gallery, New York, USA
- 2008 '*Anima Machines*', SCAI The Bath House, Tokyo, Japan
- 2007 '*U-Ram Choe*', The Crow Collection of Asian Art, Dallas, USA
- 2006 '*New Active Sculpture*', Bitforms Gallery, New York, USA
'*City Energy- MAM Project004*', Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan
- 2002 '*Ultima Mudfox*', Do Art Gallery, Seoul, Korea
- 2001 '*170 Box Robot*', Hello Art Gallery, Seoul, Korea
- 1998 '*Civilization Host*', Gallery Boda, Seoul, Korea

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 'The Creators Project; New York 2011', DUMBO, New York, USA
'Opening Exhibition', Jung-a choi gallery, Seoul, Korea
'Code Name: Save Joseph Clinic Part2', Joseph Clinic, Seoul, Korea
- 2010 'Made in Popland', the National Museum of Contemporary Art, Gwacheon, Korea
'Power House', Gallery Hyundai, Seoul, Korea
'Printemps Parfume', Centre des Arts d' Enghien les Bains, Enghien les Bains, France
'SACA-Soul of Asian Contemporary Art', Hakgojae gallery, Seoul, Korea
'i-Robot', Soma Museum, Seoul, Korea
'Cybernetics', Poma Museum, Pohang, Korea
- 2009 'Beginning of New Era', the National Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul, Korea
'The imaginary line', Gallery Hyundai, Seoul, Korea
'No longer empty – Transformation', New York, USA
'D-AiR' Doosan Gallery, New York, USA
'Eye of the pacific rim-SU:MBISORI', JMOA(Jeju Museum of art), Jeju, Korea
'The Garden at 4PM' Gana Art, New York, USA
- 2008 'Made Up ; Liverpool Biennial', FACT, Liverpool, UK
'1st Asian Art Triennial', Manchester Art Gallery, Manchester, UK
'Open Space', NTT Intercommunication Center[ICC], Tokyo, Japan
- 2007 'Sprit of Place; Genius Loci, 3th Biwako Biennale, Omi Hachiman City, Japan
'Summer Show', Bitforms Gallery, New York, USA
- 2007 'Korean Host Country Exhibit', ARCO, Madrid, Spain
- 2006 '6th Shanghai Biennale-Hyper Design', Shanghai, China
'Seoul Forest Open Air Sculpture Symposium', Seoul Forest Park, Seoul, Korea

- 'Art Basel', Museum Basel, Basel, Switzerland
- 2005 'Opening Exhibition', Bitforms Gallery Seoul, Seoul, Korea
'Art Basel', Museum Basel, Basel, Switzerland
'Hardcore Machine', Art Space Hue, Seoul, Korea
'Opening Exhibition', Gallery Chiwoo, Gwacheon, Korea
- 2004 'Leeum, Samsung Museum of Art Opening Exhibition', Leeum, Seoul, Korea
'Stillness & Movement', Seoul Olympic Art Museum, Seoul, Korea
'Busan Biennale', Busan Metropolitan Art Museum, Busan, Korea
'Art Basel', Museum Basel, Basel, Switzerland
'Chinese International Gallery Exposition', Beijing ExpoCenter, Beijing, China
'Offisina Asia', Galleria d'Arte Moderna, Bologna, Italia
'The Armory Show', Pier 90 & 92, New York, USA
- 2003 'Artist is a Magician', Gallery Artside, Seoul, Korea
'Fake & Fantasy', Art Center Nabi, Seoul, Korea
'International Digital Art Exhibition', Uijeongbu Arts Center, Uijeongbu, Korea
'D.U.M.B.O. art under the bridge festival, DUMBO, Brooklyn, New York, USA
'Art Basel', Museum Basel, Basel, Switzerland
'Cartoon in Art, Art in Cartoon', Ewha Women's University Museum, Seoul, Korea
'Prince & Princess', Gallery Hyundai, Seoul, Korea
'Electric Power', Kepco Plaza Gallery, Seoul, Korea
- 2002 'Our House', Shinsa-dong House, Seoul, Korea
'Football through Art', Chosun Ilbo Art Museum, Seoul, Korea
'Space! Unlimited possibility performance', Jayu Theater, Seoul Art Center, Seoul, Korea
'Planet of Insect', Seoho Art Museum, Yangsu-ri, Korea
'Faery', Mongwan, Seoul, Korea
'New Face 2002', Total Open-Air Museum, Jangheung, Korea
'Imagination & Curiosity', Insa Art Space, Seoul, Korea
- 2001 'Working Degree Zero' Gallery Boda, Seoul, Korea
'Children's Month', Kumho Museum, Seoul, Korea
'Digital Art Networking Project', Techno Mart, Seoul, Korea
'Artificial Life', Busan Municipal Art Museum, Busan, Korea
'Net-Plant Project', Art Center Nabi, Seoul, Korea
- 2000 'Sculpture Amusement Park', Sungkok Art Museum, Seoul, Korea
'The Exhibition of Paints which make you better smart', Savina Gallery, Seoul, Korea
'Expression of Period-eyes & hands', Hangaram Art Museum, Seoul, Korea
'Chungang Sculpture Society', Jongro Gallery, Seoul, Korea
'Im-pregnancy', Art Gallery, The Korea Culture & Art Museum, Seoul, Korea
'Expression of Age', Hangaram Art Museum, Seoul Art Center, Seoul, Korea

'Unexpected Visit', Ilmin Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea

1999 'Republic of Gadget', Gallery Warehouse, Ilsan, Korea

'Korea Contemporary Art Trends in the 90's', Ellen Kim Murphy gallery, Seoul, Korea

'Seoul Lumia of Century in Media', Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea

'Demonstration Bus', Sungkok Art Museum, Seoul, Korea

'Chungang Sculpture Society', Seonam Art Center, Seoul, Korea

'99 Nine Dragon Heads', Cheongju national Museum, Cheongju, Korea

'Blasphemy, Total Museum of Contemporary Art', Seoul, Korea

'Garden of Mimesis – A Note on Life Written by Technology Artists', Ilmin Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea

1998 '98 Nine Dragon heads', Daecheongho, Cheongju, Korea

'Chungang Sculpture Society', Total Open-Air Museum, Jangheung, Korea

1997 'Three hundred spaces', Dam gallery, Seoul, Korea

'Gwangju Aperto – The Special exhibition of 2nd Gwangju Biennale', Education & PR Hall, Gwangju, Korea

'Chungang Sculpture Society', Seonam Art Center, Seoul, Korea

'Sound – II', Yookyong Gallery, Seoul, Korea

Awards & Residencies

2009 Residency at Doosan Art Center, New York

'Kim se choong Sculpture Award', Young sculptor part, Kim se choong memorial work organization,
Korea

2006 'Young Artist Today Award', Fine arts part, Korean government, Korea

'POSCO Steel Art Award', grand prize, POSCO TJ Park foundation, Korea