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# MUSEUM AS HUB INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP PRESENTS EXHIBITION ORGANIZED BY INSA ART SPACE, SEOUL

New York, NY... This week, the New Museum opens "Dongducheon: A Walk to Remember, a Walk to Envision," the second of five exhibitions by international **Museum as Hub** partner organizations. Organized by Insa Art Space, Seoul, Korea, the show features twelve new artworks by artists **Koh Seung Wook, Sangdon Kim, Rho Jae Oon,** and **siren eun young jung**. The exhibition is on view at the New Museum from May 9 through July 6, 2008.

**Museum as Hub** is a new model for curatorial practice and institutional collaboration established to enhance a greater understanding of contemporary art, and is the cornerstone of the New Museum's public programs and the fifth floor Education Center. Both a network of relationships and an actual physical site at the New Museum, the **Museum as Hub** partnership was initiated by the New Museum in 2006, and includes the Museo Tamayo Arte Contemporáneo (Mexico City, Mexico); Insa Art Space, (Seoul, Korea); the Townhouse Gallery of Contemporary Art (Cairo, Egypt); and the Van Abbemuseum (Eindhoven, The Netherlands).

The culmination of a two-year project commissioning new artworks, "Dongducheon: A Walk to Remember, a Walk to Envision," engages some of the most urgent issues in Dongducheon, South Korea. Located halfway between Seoul and the border of North Korea, Dongducheon is home to foreign military bases, occupying nearly half of the region. Overshadowed by governmental regulations, Dongducheon has become a site of collective invisibility and marginalization, a community pushed to the fringes by mega-structures of the military complex.

Working within this context, the projects by the artists in "Dongducheon: A Walk to Remember, a Walk to Envision" function as a conduit for articulation and communication. The works attempt to locate Dongducheon from three frames of reference: an urban topology of the city; the language, speech, narratives, and memory of the invisible socio-historical subjects; and the role and function of art and artists in the construction of social subjectivities.





In the first year of programming, **Museum as Hub** partner organizations consider the topic of neighborhood to embark on an international exchange of ideas that appreciates the unique and divergent perspectives of a particular street, city, nation, or region of the world. Museum as Hub partners commissioned artists living or working in their home cities to address neighborhood with a focus on discursive and interactive projects. The subject allows each organization to share artists' projects relevant to concerns of each particular institution. It illuminates the context in which artists live and work and how arts organizations are charged with the responsibility to support and present challenging ideas. A Hub Fellow, an emerging scholar in residence from the partner's home city, hosts each presentation at the New Museum, creating a bridge between the partner institution and its local context and the project's presentation in New York.

Additional Hub partner presentations will include Townhouse Gallery (opening July 10, 2008); New Museum (September 2008); and Van Abbemuseum (November 2008).

#### RELATED PUBLIC PROGRAMMING

- Thurs. May 8, 7:30 p.m. Insa Art Space curator Heejin Kim moderates a conversation with Sangdon Kim, Koh Seung Wook, Rho Jae Oon, and siren eun young jung. A public discussion of the Museum as Hub project will follow, moderated by Lee Dae-hoon Francis, guest commentator for the project.
- Sat. May 10, 3 p.m. Columbia University professor Theodore Hughes examines the relationship between violence and the everyday in Dongducheon.
- Sat. June 7, 3 p.m. Wheaton College dean and professor Hyun Sook Kim addresses space and subjectivity in relation to nationalism and neoliberalism in contemporary Korea.

"Dongducheon: A Walk to Remember, a Walk to Envision" will open in Seoul at Insa Art Space on July 16. The exhibition will be accompanied by a symposium featuring lectures and discussions with Brian Holmes, Hwang Sejun and Kang Hong-gu.

#### **ABOUT THE INSA ART SPACE**

Insa Art Space (IAS) was founded in 2000 as one of the nonprofit public art institutions under the auspices of the Arts Council, the main cultural initiative of Korea. Since relocating to its current premises in 2006, IAS has focused on its mission as a discursive site and platform that provides opportunities for project research and development, production, consultation, and distribution for cultural producers. With interrelated projects aiming at archive formation and activation, participatory workshops and productions, exhibitions, and publications, IAS seeks to become an engine for the advancement and development of new cultural resources of the



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progressive arts community and a nexus for collaborative projects among cultural producers in Korea.

#### **ABOUT NEW MUSEUM**

Founded in 1977, the New Museum is Manhattan's only dedicated contemporary art museum and among the most respected internationally, with a curatorial program known for its global scope and adventurousness. With the inauguration of our new, state-of-the-art building on the Bowery, the New Museum is a leading destination for new art and new ideas.

## SUPPORT FOR MUSEUM AS HUB

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