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Editorial

Collaboration is a competency that enables people to work together towards a common goal, to build respectful relationships with colleagues and customers and to work with diverse teams, negotiate and manage conflicts. As a key tenet of knowledge management, collaboration is an effective method of transferring 'know how' among individuals and therefore critical to creating and sustaining a competitive advantage. It involves negotiation, a conflict resolution strategy, which uses both assertiveness and cooperation to seek solutions advantageous to all parties. Collaboration is also linked with creativity. Creative collaboration, describes a relationship between two or more persons with a common purpose of creating something new, through certain ideas and a shared understanding of a common goal. As we turn a corner, to welcome a new year, we as a cultural organization, engaged in meaningfully networking with artists, partners and audience members across India and Korea, remain acutely aware of the vital role of collaboration and intercultural dialogue, initiated, nurtured and sustained in a respectful shared space.

In this issue of **focus**, read about the myriad manifestations of collaborative exchange across the performing and visual arts, that invites viewers on a journey to discover, engage and connect. We open this quarter, in January 2020, with **Earthmatters-3**, a five-week long Indo-Korean Ceramic residency, at Kalakshetra Foundation, Chennai, with 4 Korean and 4 Indian artists in residence. The residency will focus on providing time for individual artists to develop new work as well as an opportunity for sharing best practices; networking with peers and for interactions with students and the general public at specified periods. The residency will be followed by an exhibition at the Vairja Art Gallery, DakshinaChitra, Chennai. The residency and exhibition is presented in association with Clayarch Gimhae Museum, Korea, Arts Council Korea, Kalakshetra Foundation and DakshinaChitra. Read about **Emerging Canvas** an annual exhibition series, presented in India and in Korea respectively, in association with The Indian Art Museum in Seoul, to showcase the work of talented, emerging young artists from both countries. In the sixth edition of this series, currently on view in Seoul, we present 22 emerging artists - 11 from Korea and 11 from India- their burgeoning talent obvious and their potential unmistakable. In February, we present the India premiere of an exciting Indo-Korean music collaboration titled **Same Same But Different (SSBD)**, sensory, evocative performance that brings together NareumMachi, the world-renowned contemporary Indian dancer, Astad Deboo and Trayam, an ensemble of three critically acclaimed Indian musicians, percussionist, BC Manjunath, singer and flautist, Varijashree Venugopal and percussionist, composer and music director, Praveen D. Rao. Following in-depth research residencies in India and in Korea and a critically acclaimed premiere in Korea in 2017, the India premiere will be a four-city tour to Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Mumbai, presented with the support of The Korea Foundation and local partners in each city -The Kalakshetra Foundation in Chennai, the Honorary Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Hyderabad, The Royal Opera House in Mumbai and Jagriti in Bangalore. In March, ten Ggotggozi Associations from Korea participate to present exquisite examples of Korean traditional flower art at the fifth edition of the Ggotggozi exhibition at the Gallery @ InKo Centre.

Read about SoonYoung Yang’s paintings at The Gallery @ InKo Centre, an artist whose work is deeply inspired by the teachings of Sri Ramana Maharshi. We invite you to **Cinebox**, a quarterly offering of screenings of contemporary Korean films, presented in association with the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea, in Chennai at InKo Centre to examine excellence of technique, depth, variety and the singular treatment of concept that sets apart films and filmmakers from South Korea. Meet young, aspirational musicians at our **AccessMusic** platform to listen to their original compositions that are inventive, playful and often, subversive. Our quarterly Heart of Matter discussion forum, focuses on how inventively the Chennai-based Tara Books, who have several books published in Korean, continue to celebrate the book form by experimenting with paper, the printing process and different traditions of art forms and book design.

Do drop in to check out our educational, creative and wellness-oriented courses and stay abreast with what’s trending at InKo Centre as new offerings at the Café and the Craft Shop and customized outdoor activities and interactive opportunities unfold this quarter.

I look forward to greeting you at our events and courses, to receiving your feedback in person or virtually and to deepening this dialogue with your participation and support.

Best wishes for a creatively stimulating and wholly fulfilling 2020! 

**Dr. Rathi Jafer**
Director, InKo Centre
EarthMatters - 3
- an Indo-Korean Ceramic Residency & Exhibition.

EarthMatters - 3: an Indo-Korean Ceramic residency from 19 January to 23 February 2020 at Kalakshetra Foundation, Chennai, will focus on providing time for individual artists to develop new work as well as an opportunity for sharing best practices; networking with peers and for interactions with students and the general public at specified periods. The residency will be followed by an exhibition from 26th February – 5 March 2020 at the Varija Art Gallery, DakshinaChitra, Chennai.

Korean artists

Park Ja-il
2018: M.F.A. in Ceramics, Ewha Womans University, Seoul, Korea.

Kim Mijin
2013: Doctoral degree course, Arts Plastiques, University of Paris, Saint-Denis, France.
2012: Graduate School of Arts Plastiques, University of Paris, Saint-Denis, France.

Hong Geunyoung
2012: M.F.A. Public Art, Graduate School of Convergence Culture and Arts, Sungshin Women’s University, Seoul, Korea.
2008: B.F.A. Sculpture, College of Fine Arts, Sungshin Women’s University, Seoul, Korea.

Gaeil Sangee
2018: M.F.A. candidate, Graduate School of Ceramics, Seoul, Korea.
2016: B.F.A. in Environmental Sculpture, University of Seoul, Korea.

Indian artists

Abir Patwardhan
2001: M.F.A. Sculpture, M.S. University, Baroda, India.
1999: B.F.A. Sculpture, M.S. University, Baroda, India.

Debashish Das
2000: M.V.A. in Ceramics from Govt. College of Art and Craft, Kolkata, India.
1995: B.V.A. Ceramics from Govt. College of Art and Craft, Kolkata, India.

Ramkumar Kannadasan
2011: M.F.A. College of Art, University of Delhi, New Delhi, India.

Neha Kudchadkar
M.A. Ceramics and Glass, Royal College of Art, London.
M.V.A. Painting (Mural), MS University, Baroda, and Sir J.J. School of Arts, Mumbai, India.
B.F.A. Ceramics, J.J. School of Arts, Mumbai, India.
The museum that integrates science with art, education and industry as the leading organization for ceramics and architecture believes that the intersection of the fields of architecture and ceramics can result in the cross-fertilisation of many interesting ideas and possibilities. The Museum avers that it is most appropriate that ceramics should be integrated with architecture as the two fields complement one another: through architecture, new possibilities in ceramics can be further explored and developed, while through ceramics, architecture can experiment and be infused with new aesthetic expressions while discovering more about its materialistic qualities.

The Clayarch Gimhae Museum is a leader in the field of architectural ceramics. The name signifies its role as ‘clay’ stands for ceramics and ‘arch’ for architecture. The museum integrates science with art, education and industry as the leading organization for ceramics and architecture.

The museum that integrates science with art, education and industry as the leading organization for ceramics and architecture believes that the intersection of the fields of architecture and ceramics can result in the cross-fertilisation of many interesting ideas and possibilities. The Museum avers that it is most appropriate that ceramics should be integrated with architecture as the two fields complement one another: through architecture, new possibilities in ceramics can be further explored and developed, while through ceramics, architecture can experiment and be infused with new aesthetic expressions while discovering more about its materialistic qualities.

Arts Council Korea (ARKO) was established to promote creativity and enjoyment of the arts by supporting diverse arts and cultural activities in Korea. The Council consists of eleven dedicated professionals of the cultural and arts sector in Korea. The Arts 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.

Kalakshetra was started in January 1936 on the grounds of the Theosophical Society in Adyar, Chennai, as an academy for the preservation of traditional values in Indian art. It gained international recognition under Rukmini Devi’s guidance for its unique style and perfection. In 1962, Kalakshetra shifted to its current campus in Thiruvanmiyur. Kalakshetra is today, a vital centre of training and performance. The focus of the institute is on bharata natyam and related subjects - music, instruments, visual art, percussion, theory, textual heritage, crafts, aesthetics, history, and spirituality. As an educational institution, Kalakshetra has produced acclaimed artists, and continues to provide a holistic arts education in a serene and inspiring natural environment. As a performance company, Kalakshetra productions are widely recognized for their impeccable technique and refined aesthetics. The institute is committed to artistic excellence, whether inside its classrooms, on stages in India or during performance engagements around the world.

DakshinaChitra is a project of the Madras Craft Foundation, a non-profit, non-government organization. Opened in December 1996, DakshinaChitra is a Centre for the preservation and promotion of the cultures of South India. The Museum seeks to provide the visitor with a multifaceted experience beyond its permanent museum exhibitions; festivals, activities and workshops; education programs; lectures, demonstrations and performances; thematic craft displays, crafts people at work; temporary exhibitions, dinners and food festivals. DakshinaChitra is a catalyst that inspires people to new ways of looking at the past, at heritage, and their connection to the present and to the future.

Earth Matters 3: an Indo-Korean Ceramic residency and exhibition will be presented by InKo Centre with the following valued Korean and Indian partners:

Earth Matters 3: an Indo-Korean Ceramic residency and exhibition will be presented by InKo Centre with the following valued Korean and Indian partners:

**19 January to 23 February 2020**
EarthMatters - 3 : an Indo-Korean Ceramic Residency at Kalakshetra Foundation and DakshinaChitra, Chennai.

**26 February to 5 March 2020**
EarthMatters - 3 : an Indo-Korean Ceramic Exhibition at the Vazhwa Art Gallery, DakshinaChitra, Chennai.

For further information, please call 044-24361224 or write to enquiries@inkocentre.org
InKo Centre premiered the wonderfully sensory and evocative music of **Noreum Machi**, the riveting New Wave Music Group from Korea, at The Hindu November Music Festival across three cities in India in 2014. Following the performances, we proactively looked for opportunities where the group could meet and interact with local Indian performing artists to engage and connect, even if fleetingly, with local, regional and national musical traditions and vocabularies. We are particularly delighted therefore at the opportunity to support the development and presentation of Season 5 of **Same Same But Different (SSBD)**, which is a concert series produced periodically by Noreum Machi since 2013, involving artists from different cultural and artistic backgrounds. By its very multicultural mix, SSBD provides a platform for convergence- a pulsating possibility where different strands, divergent styles complement each other, reinstating their own but embracing a different cultural perspective to embark on a new journey of discovery!
SAME SAME BUT DIFFERENT (SSBD):

_Same Same but Different (SSBD),_ is a concert series produced and organized periodically since 2013 by Noreum Machi, to introduce its international collaborations with artists around the globe. By collaborating with artists from different cultural bases for each season, this project provides access for Korean traditional music to converge with different cultures and genres of art.

**SSBD Season 5** is an exciting collaboration that brings together the exciting Korean New Wave Group, _Noreum Machi_, the world-renowned contemporary Indian dancer, _Astad Deboo_ and _Trayam_, an ensemble of three critically acclaimed Indian musicians, percussionist, _BC Manjunath_, singer and flautist, _Varijashree Venugopal_ and percussionist, composer and music director, _Praveen D. Rao_. InKo Centre, in association with The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism and Arts Council Korea, initiated a music residency in Chennai, India in December 2016 which resulted in a vibrant exchange of ideas to draw up and experiment with a sophisticated range of songscapes and mood boards that were to be further researched and refined at a second residency in Seoul in October 2017. The resultant, reverberating and unique collaborative performance premiered on 17 October 2017 at the Seoul Namsan Gugakdang followed by a performance at The National Theater of Korea in Seoul on 20 October 2017. This collaborative performance was commissioned by InKo Centre, in association with The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Republic of Korea and Arts Council Korea.

The Indian premiere, slated for February 2020, with a four-city tour to Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Mumbai, is presented with the support of The Korea Foundation and local partners in each city - The Kalakshetra Foundation in Chennai, the Honorary Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Hyderabad, The Royal Opera House in Mumbai and Jagriti in Bengaluru.

We thank our valuable partners in Korea and in India for supporting this collaborative music project:

_**Kalakshetra**_ was started in January 1936 on the grounds of the Theosophical Society in Adyar, Chennai, as an academy for the preservation of traditional values in Indian art. It gained international recognition under Rukmini Devi’s guidance for its unique style and perfection. In 1962, Kalakshetra shifted to its current campus in Thiruvanmiyur. Kalakshetra is today, a vital centre of training and performance. The focus of the institute is on bharata natyam and related subjects - music, instruments, visual art, percussion, theory, textual heritage, crafts, aesthetics, history, and spirituality. As an educational institution, Kalakshetra has produced acclaimed artists, and continues to provide a holistic arts education in a serene and inspiring natural environment. As a performance company, Kalakshetra productions are widely recognized for their impeccable technique and refined aesthetics. The institute is committed to artistic excellence, whether inside its classrooms, on stages in India or during performance engagements around the world.

The Honorary Consulate of Republic of Korea in Hyderabad, Telangana opened in November 2017 to promote Indo-Korean Cultural Exchange. The opening follows an appointment of an Honorary Consul General of Republic of Korea for the state of Telangana. The Centre will be supported by the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea and the Phoenix Group of Companies.
**The Royal Opera House,** Mumbai: Following extensive restoration, The Royal Opera House Mumbai is a performance space and cultural venue par excellence. Widely touted as the city’s Cultural Crown Jewel and India’s only surviving Opera House, this is one of the last standing Baroque structures in Mumbai today. The Royal Opera House Mumbai, winning an Award of Merit in the 2017 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation, was the feather in the cap and a big shot in the arm for this mammoth task of restoration.

**Jagriti:** Jagriti is a performance arts space in Bengaluru, dedicated to Theatre, Music, Dance and Comedy. Founded in 2011, the space has hosted several productions from India and around the world. The 200-seat theatre is built with a full-thrust stage. While the main stage is designed for intimate performances, the adjoining spaces are used for informal lectures and gatherings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 February 2020</td>
<td>7.00 p.m.</td>
<td>at the Koothambalam, Kalakshetra Foundation</td>
<td>CHENNAI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 February 2020</td>
<td>6.30 p.m.</td>
<td>at Ravindra Bharathi Auditorium,</td>
<td>HYDERABAD</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 February 2020</td>
<td>7.00 p.m.</td>
<td>at the Royal Opera House,</td>
<td>MUMBAI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 February 2020</td>
<td>6.30 p.m.</td>
<td>at Jagriti,</td>
<td>BENGALURU</td>
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**Entry is free** for the performances in Chennai and Hyderabad. Seating on a first-come, first-served basis.

For performances in Mumbai and Bengaluru:

**Royal Opera House** Mumbai: For booking tickets, log onto: insider.in

**Jagriti** Bengaluru: For booking tickets, log on to www.bookmyshow.

For further information, please call 044-24361224 or write to enquiries@inkocentre.org
Ggotgozi or Korean Flower art emphasises simplicity and space by creating an innate harmony of lines. To achieve this sense of balance, space is left between flowers and branches, resulting in delicacy, airiness and fragility. This delicacy and sparseness, elegant and unforced, encourages reflection and peace, an integral aspect of Korean artistic expression. The harmonious flow and beauty of line and space or, YeoBock and the 'needle-bar' technique are unique aspects of Ggotgozi or Korean flower art.

The fifth edition of this series, presents exquisite examples of ggotggozi by 10 Flower Associations from Korea. Live ggotggozi demonstrations by members of the Korea ggotggozi Association will precede the inauguration of the exhibition.

Ggotggozi Demonstration at 4.00 to 6.00 p.m. on 4 March 2020 at The Gallery @ InKo Centre.
Inauguration at 6.30 p.m. on 4 March 2020 at The Gallery @ InKo Centre.
The exhibition will be presented from 4-6 March 2020 at the Gallery@InKo Centre from 10.00 to 6.00 p.m..

For further enquiries, please call 044-24361224 or write to enquiries@inkocentre.org
Emerging Canvas is an annual exhibition series, presented in India and in Korea respectively, in association with The Indian Art Museum in Seoul, to showcase the work of talented, emerging young artists from both countries.

In the sixth edition of this series, we present 22 emerging artists - 11 from Korea and 11 from India- their burgeoning talent obvious and their potential unmistakable.

**Curators:**
Korean section: Ms. Seulgi Kang | Indian section: Ms. Vaishnavi Ramanathan.

*On view until 19 January 2020 at The Indian Art Museum in Seoul, Korea.*
My work colours the world into a colourful window as the world unfolds with light from chaos. My canvas becomes a small city and the universe, and its appearance gets completed by imagination of the viewers based on their perception of the ideal world. Although a canvas can be either mono-coloured or bi-coloured colouring of the compacted square units on the canvas is a continuous trajectory of pure colour pieces.

I wish to let viewers get drawn into the pure colours and to take time to observe one's own ego discovering oneself. As the colour pieces repeat, filling and vacating the canvas I wish you to calmly observe and reflect upon existence and absence that modern people may feel and find your path with a sincere heart.

- SoonYoung Yang

Ocean of Silence

We are delighted to present SoonYoung Yang's paintings at The Gallery @ InKo Centre from 31 January to 28 February 2020. Deeply inspired by the teachings of Sri Ramana Maharshi, SoonYoung Yang travels every year to spend time in quiet reflection at the Sri Ramanasramam at Tiruvannamalai in Tamil Nadu, South India. In the artist's words, it is a 'trembling intensity' that infuses her canvas, a silence that ripples outwards to engulf the world with compassion.

Message from the artist

My works require repetitive actions and by doing so, my fluttering heart gets bigger and bigger. Finally it brings me to a moment where I feel as if my heart swallows the entire universe.

Right at that moment, beautiful stories tremble loudly and my paintings get unfolded through a window of excitement.

When I closely look into my paintings I see that innumerable existences are filling the canvas illuminated in their own authentic colours. I think it is a reflection of how numberless individuals live in this world. Each single colour brightens up and they accentuate one another to create one pure chunk of colour.

There is a wrinkled silence in my trembling intensity. That intensity is more beautiful and that intensiveness is Nah-toom, the projection of the astral body, to become one pure entity.
To register and for further information, please call 044-24361224

The exhibition will be on view at The Gallery @ InKo Centre from  
Friday, 31 January to Friday, 28 February 2020  
10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m, (except Sundays).

**Workshop with the artist on Saturday, 1 February 2019.**

To register and for further information, please call 044-24361224

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**About the artist: SoonYoung Yang**

**Education**

B.F.A., Fine Arts, Gangneung University, Korea.  
M.F.A., Fine Arts & Fiber Arts, Sungshin University, Korea.  
M.F.A., Art Education & Printing Art, Gangneung Wonju University, Korea.  
Ph.D., Philosophy of Art, Kangwon University, Korea.

**32 Solo exhibition**

**9 Booth exhibitions**

**400 Project exhibitions**

2019. The 32nd Soon-young Yang Solo Exhibition (Gangneung Arts Centre).  
2019. International Recycling story-now (Gangneung Arts Centre).  
2019. Korea & India Meditation in Arts (Gangneung Museum, Korea and InKo Centre, India).  

2019. Takamiya Artists Residence- At Arts Exhibition (Takamiya, Japan).  
2018. International Life through art Recycling story (Gangneung Art Center).  
2018. DMZ in Berlin (PG BERLIN Gallery, Germany).  
2018, Korea & Germany International exhibition (Gangneung Museum, Korea).


2017. Ferne Nah (GADOG Galerie, Berlin, Germany).  
2017. Busan International Art Fair (BEXCO, Busan Korea).  
2017. Ferne Nah (GADOG Galerie, Berlin, Germany).  
2017. Korea & Turkey Exhibition of Works (Korea Cultural Center, Turkey).  
2016. Hommage an Heo, Nan-Seol-Heon (Galerie Drächshaus, München, Germany).  
2015. China, Korea, Japan Art Exchange Exhibition (Northeast Dianli University, China).  
www.yangsoonyoung.com
**Manoj Krishna**, started learning music at the age of 4 from Smt. Gayathri Mahesh and is presently under the tutelage of Sri. K. Bharat Sundar. He has presented various stage shows and has shared the stage with stalwarts such as A.R. Rahman, Gangai Amaran, Rajesh Vaidhya, Sean Rolden, Shakthisree Gopalan, Ananthu, Anuradha Sriram and Sriram Parasuram, to name a few.

Manoj has his own contemporary Indian band named "Tune Station" with whom he has performed extensively.

**Simona Gilbert**, a 16-year old singer, songwriter. Fresh in and out speaking through music to souls of redemption for the past year been seeking on being better and would write songs on deep concepts of life like being bullied, curious, notorious to be heard is a interest do I believe in a voice that could reach out yes that's the only way back to being sane here I am truly grateful to be witnessing the greatest compliment opportunity hoping for a change in the new age. Love to all who seek

**Thursday, 23 January 2020 at 7.00 pm at InKo Centre.**

**Kulee Padaii**, is a Tamil Rock Band from Chennai. The band was initiated by the lead guitarist Sathya Kumar. Sathya was inspired to compose music in his native language, Tamil. The songs performed by the band narrate events in Sathya’s life. Formed in 2012, the band presents their own compositions and inspirational covers.

**Praveen**, is an upcoming, independent musician based in Chennai. He has been writing music since the age of 15 and aspires to share his musical ideas with the world. Influenced by musicians like Ed Sheeran, The Fray, Jonas Brother and Shawn Mendes, this pop musician shows great potential for songwriting.

**Friday, 6 March 2020 at 7.00 pm at InKo Centre.**

The AccessMusic series is presented by InKo Centre, in association with Unwind Center, on a bi-monthly basis.

**Unwind Center**, with a track record of over twenty years, has been teaching music including Drums, Guitar, Keyboard and Vocals to young aspirants in Chennai and Bangalore. The Centre runs a DJ Academy and aims to inspire musicians by providing them with a platform to perform their work, interact with their peers and to share their compositions with those musically inclined.
Heart of Matter is a series of reflective conversations that dwell on holistic living, wellness, history, philosophy, literature, art and culture. Presented by InKo Centre as quarterly editions, in association with partner organisations, these direct and inspirational conversations will focus on lived experience rather than theoretical abstractions.

We invite you to explore what lies at the heart of matter, what matters most and why.

Bringing the Senses Back to the Book: Publishing in a Digital Age

Tara Books has been committed to celebrating the book form in an age writing its obituary. This has been done by experimenting with paper, the printing process, different traditions of art, forms of the book and book design.

We invite you to an illustrated talk, by Tara designers, Ragini Siruguri and Dhwani Shah. The talk will be complemented with a short film on Tara Books’ book making workshop.

The discussion complements the exhibition titled The Book and the Arts: A Publishing Journey is a unique exhibition that celebrates Tara Books’ 25-year old journey in publishing and its love of critical play, with form, design, image and type. The exhibition, on display at The Gallery @ InKo Centre, recalls key Tara titles through a set of brilliantly conceived typographic images, with each image standing in for the spirit of a key Tara title. Also on display are Tara’s titles published in the Korean language, testimony to creative global partnerships that help sustain journeys such as this one.

7 pm, Friday, 10 January 2020 at InKo Centre.
Cinebox presents quarterly screenings of contemporary Korean films at InKo Centre. We aim to present a range of films that examine excellence of technique, depth, variety and the singular treatment of concept as well as the unique cinematic vocabulary that typifies and sets apart films and filmmakers from South Korea.

Come join us and become our valued Cinebox member to discover, engage and connect with Korean cinema!

We invite you to the screening of Kim Kwang-shik’s The Great Battle, 안시성 at InKo Centre on 29 January 2020.

Director: Kwang-shik Kim
Duration: 2hrs 16 mins.

About the Film:

The Great Battle is a historical film about the siege of the Ansi Fortress and the epic eighty-eight day long battle fought by Yang Man-chun and his Goguryeo troops to defend the fortress from the 500,000 invading troops of the Tang dynasty men.

Visually striking, imaginative and compelling, the film received critical acclaim for its cinematography, direction, action sequences and stellar performances by the lead actors. Awards include, the 38th Korean Association of Film Critics Awards; the Best New Actor award at the 2nd Seoul Awards for Nam Joo-hyuk and the Best Supporting Actor Award at the 5th Korean Film Producers Association Awards for Bae Seong-woo.

7 pm, Thursday, 29 January 2020 at InKo Centre.
The boy band Super M became the second K-pop act to top the Billboard 200 albums chart with its debut album.

About 164,000 copies were sold within a day of the album’s release, making the group just the second K-pop act to top the chart since BTS did so in 2018 and in April 2019.

Super M becomes 2nd K-pop act to top Billboard 200 album chart

On SM Entertainment’s website, Super M said, "It feels like a dream (to top the chart)," adding "We’ll continue to work hard to show super synergy."

A joint project between SM of Korea and the Capital Music Group of U.S.A., Super M comprises seven members from K-pop groups: Taemin from Shinee; Baekyun and Kai from Exo; Taeyong and Mark from NCT 127 and Lucas and Ten from Way V.

Hydrogen-powered police bus debuts in Korea

"By 2028, all police buses will be those powered by hydrogen fuel cells. The new buses will not only improve working conditions for police officers but also create a better environment for Seoul residents," he said during his visit.

Police buses using conventional internal combustion engines are typically left idle by the roadside for extended periods of time, creating noise and air pollution that civilians have long complained about. The new model, however, makes little noise and releases no harmful gases.

The Korean National Police Agency will purchase two fuel cell buses in 2020 and gradually replace all police buses with the new model by 2021. Plans for introducing fuel cell patrol cars are also under review.

With the administration pushing for the development of vehicles running on hydrogen fuel cells to reduce particulate matter in the air and pioneer the future car market, the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy announced a plan to develop eco-friendly vehicles by 2030 including fuel cell maintenance trucks.
Historic pavilion at Gyeongbokgung Palace found to have heated floors

The historic Hyangwonjeong Pavilion at Gyeongbokgung Palace, a popular photo spot for visitors in Seoul, has the traditional Korean system of heated floors called ondol, according to the results of a recent excavation announced by The Cultural Heritage Administration (CHA).

Ondol creates and transfers heat from agungi, a firebox in which firewood is burned, through wide flat stones under the floor called goodeuljang.

The excavation found goraeduk, a passage through which the smoke and heat created by the ondol spread to heat the floor, and yeondo, a passage through which the smoke is emitted out of the building.

The structure of the ondol was also unique. Most traditional Korean structures have ondol spread throughout floors, but the pavilion only had it in the edges of its hexagonal structure. The excavation confirmed earlier assumptions that Hyangwonjeong had ondol.

Believed to have been built between 1867 and 1873 during King Gojong’s reign, the two-storeyed pavilion is by the lake at the palace garden. The structure has been restored several times since 1945 but continuous signs of tilting and erosion led to its latest restoration, which began in November 2018 and is set for completion in July 2020.

“The recent excavation shows the unique ondol structure of Hyangwonjeong Pavilion, which thus far had remained a mystery and the principle cause in terms of its safety threats. These findings are huge,” according to CHA.
If cultural engagement is a sensory, textured and organic experience, then we cordially invite you to discover, engage and connect at InKo Centre. We invite you to share our space and make it your own!

TRENDING @ InKo Centre

Experience these spaces:

HANJI STORY The Craft Shop @ InKo Centre

The Craft Shop @ InKo Centre offers hand-crafted gift items, an array of handmade Hanji paper and interesting bric-a-bracs. Also on offer is a unique Korean gift-wrapping counter with paper and silk options with subtle, beautiful finishing touches.

Touch, feel and enjoy the gift of harmony and balance...

10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Monday to Saturday.

CAFE MORI The Cafe @ InKo Centre

The Cafe @ InKo Centre, serves home-cooked, organic fresh food and beverages, blending traditional Korean cuisine with contemporary variations. Whether aromatic tea and coffee blends, traditional Korean ice-cream, juices or light refreshments, the Cafe epitomizes slow food, in a cozy, energized space.

Eat, drink, taste, relax and re-energise...

9.30 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. Monday to Saturday; 10.30 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. on Sunday.

Join our courses /classes:

History Club

The History Club, exclusively for Korean residents in Chennai, aims to introduce aspects of Indian tradition, culture and history.

Interactive sessions include an introduction to ancient Indian architectural monuments, historical sites, textiles, art, craft, cuisine, spices and other topics pertaining to everyday life in India, as well as visits to places of interest in and around the city of Chennai.

The members of the club meet every Monday at InKo Centre.

K-Pop Dance Classes

K-pop dancing is all about letting go, having fun and staying fit!

Phani Kumar who is a freestyle Hiphop dancer and Artistic Director and founder of Catalyst 28, a company that promotes urban culture leads the classes at The Studio @ InKo Centre. A passionate choreographer and a dedicated dance teacher, Phani has over a decade of experience in teaching dance and has received many travel grants and scholarships to attend dance festivals and to lead workshops in Europe & Asia.

Course duration : 2 months.
Course timing : 4.00 pm - 8.00 pm on Tuesday and Thursday.

To register for these classes or for information regarding our regular Korean and English language courses, Calligraphy & Oriental Painting, Taekwondo and Yoga courses, please contact InKo Centre:
T: 044 26361224 E: enquiries@inkocentre.org or visit InKo Centre, No: 18, Adyar Club Gate Road, Chennai-600 028.
EVEN'TS

January

10 January 2020
Heart of Matter
@ InKo Centre, Chennai.

19 January to 23 February 2020
EarthMatters - 3
- an Indo-Korean Ceramic Residency at Kalakshetra Foundation, Chennai.

Until 19 January 2020
Emerging Canvas 6
at the Indian Art Museum, Seoul, Korea.

23 January 2020
AccessMusic
Manoj Krishna and Simona Gilbert
@ InKo Centre, Chennai.

29 January 2020
Cinebox- film screening
The Great Battle, 안시성
@ InKo Centre, Chennai.

31 January 2020
Ocean of Silence
- an exhibition by SoonYoung Yang
at The Gallery @ InKo Centre, Chennai.

February

1 February 2020
- Workshop with SoonYoung Yang
at InKo Centre, Chennai.

17 February 2020
Same Same But Different
- an Indo-Korean collaborative performance at the Koothambalam, Kalakshetra Foundation, Chennai.

19 February 2020
Same Same But Different
- an Indo-Korean collaborative performance at The Royal Opera House, Mumbai.

23 February 2020
Same Same But Different
- an Indo-Korean collaborative performance at Jagruti, Bangalore.

26 February 2020
EarthMatters - 3
- an Indo-Korean Ceramic Exhibition at Varija Gallery, DakshinaChitra, Chennai.

March

4 - 6 March 2020
Ggotgozzi
- Traditional Flower Art Exhibition at The Gallery @ InKo Centre, Chennai.

6 March 2020
AccessMusic
Kulee Padaii and Praveen Srinivas
@ InKo Centre, Chennai.

CLASSES

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Korean Language-Elementary Level 1B Korean

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Korean Language-Elementary Level 1C Korean

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Korean Language-Elementary Level 1D Korean

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Korean Language-Intermediate Level 2C Korean

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Korean Language for Business Purposes

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English for Social Purposes

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History Classes

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Calligraphy

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Bollywood Dancing

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InKo Centre is a registered, non-profit society, supported primarily by TVS Motor Company and Hyundai Motor India Limited; the Korean Association in Chennai and a host of Indian and Korean companies based in Chennai.