

Click 새로운 미술

2000 새로운예술의해 전시·축제



New Media Digital Art
Localism Post Colonialism Globalism
the dismantling of Existing Genre and the new-found Public Art



DOUBLE SPACE

'Double Space' is an exhibition of Hong Kong Chinese and Korean contemporary art which reflect aspects of 'space' that we live in today. Featuring ten installations, sculptures and video works, the exhibition examines the way in which contemporary artists of the two countries respond to 'space' in all aspects of everyday life.

'Double Space' can loosely be translated as a 'double character' or 'double condition'; the infinite extension of the three dimensional field of everyday life. Its simplest definition would be condition of two worlds co-existing in a space. Descartes' famous separation of the mind and the body, an opposition between the intellect and sensory experience can be seen as one of the theoretical models for traditional way of understanding the conditions of space. Philosophers have contemplated the co-existence of mind and matter whilst psychologists pursued the double existence of mental and physical. Different Religions have made attempts to reconcile in different ways the co-existence of physical and spiritual. Also, 'space' can be understood as space between words or as sufficient freedom from external pressure to develop or explore one's needs, interests and individuality.

More recently, however, the concept of 'space' has been expanded and reformulated that it is no longer understood as an entity with fixed meanings. 'Space' now is perceived as a product with its own reproducibility. It is viewed as an organic entity. As Lefebvre stated in *The Production of Space*, "many people will find it hard to endorse the notion that space has taken on, within the present mode of its own, a reality clearly distinct from, yet much like, those assumed in the same global process by commodities, money and capital"¹.

Space thus produced also serves as "a tool of thought and of action; that in addition to being a means of control, and hence domination, and of power. Yet that, as such, it escapes in part from those who would make use of it. The social and political forces which engendered this space now seek, but fail, to master it completely; the very agency that has forced spatial reality towards a sort of uncontrollable autonomy now strives to run it into ground, then shackle and enslave it... space will be revealed in its particularity to the extent that it ceases to be indistinguishable from mental space (as defined by the philosophers and mathematicians) on the one hand, and physical space (as defined by practico-sensory activity and the perception of nature) on the other. Space is irreducible to a 'form' imposed upon phenomena, upon things, upon physical materiality."²

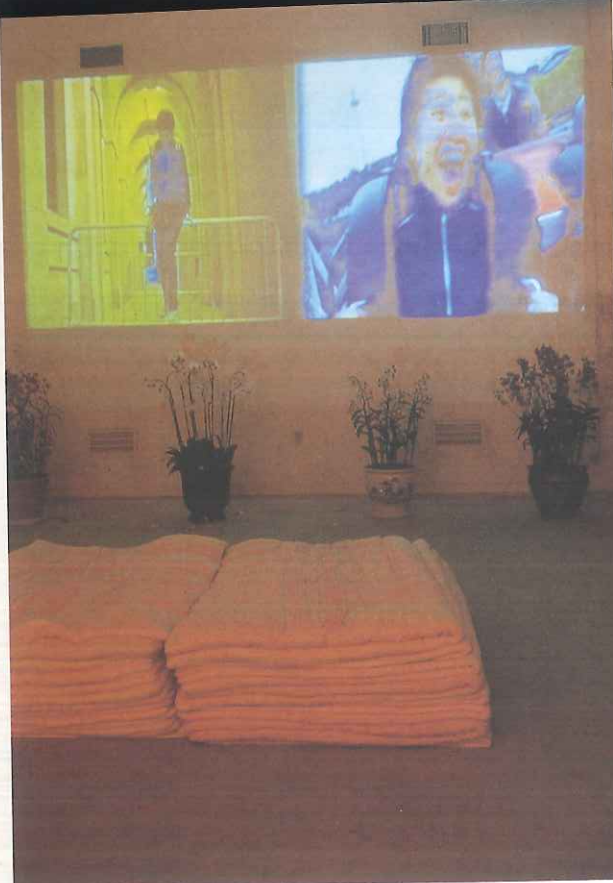
Space has opened up art and art has opened up geographical, aesthetic and conceptual space. For that reason, 'Double Space' encouraged artists from different generations, from different countries and involved with diverse aesthetic approaches to get together, celebrating the dispersion of energies and the multiplicity of narrative that encountered in the contemporary scene. Artists in 'Double Space' are: Sunghee Ahn, Yau Ching, GimHongSok, MyungSeop Hong, ChanYuk Keung, Hung Keung, Beom Kim, Hyunmi Yoo, Kacey Wong, Sara Wong. The essential characteristic of this group of artists is that they are presented who, regardless of their age or place of origin, work on incisive discourses and propose new approaches to thinking their way through reality and its contradictions.

It is a tremendous honor to present 'Double Space' in the newly opened Young-Un Museum of Contemporary Art. As the museum's first international show, the exhibition proudly encompasses all media from sculptures, installations to cross-media works using latest technology. Each artist's work explores a different aspect of space. Issues such as confusion, contradiction, desire, yearning, passion, resistance, nostalgia, memory, indifference, anxiety, frustration, pleasure and ambivalence within organic space of control, dominance and power are tackled by the artists using subtlety to engage the viewers.

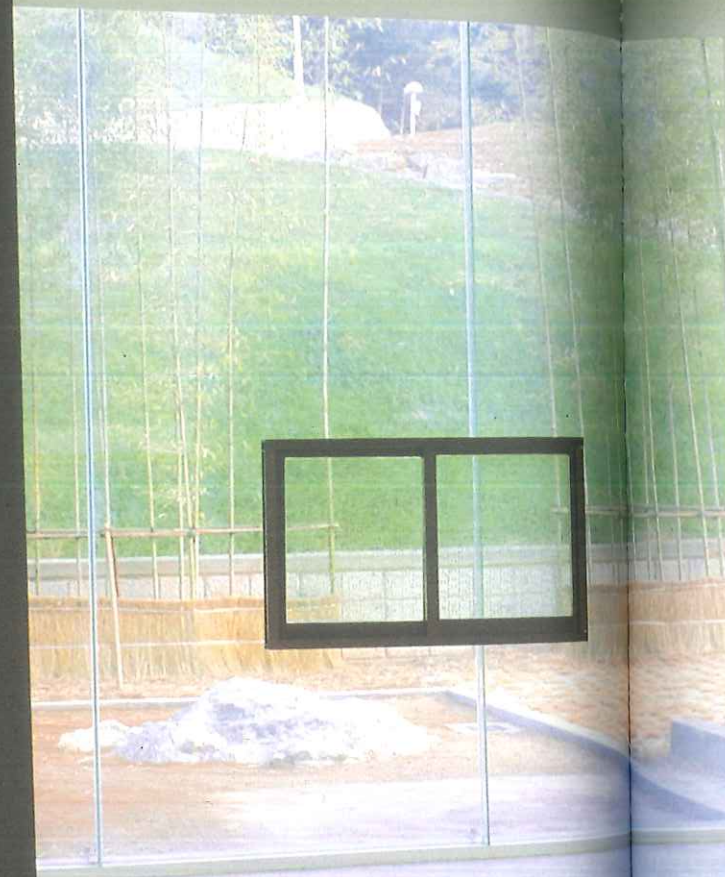
In an uncanny and encompassing way, space (be it corporeal, material, psychological, spiritual or linguistic) can be viewed coterminously with the space of post-colonial reality. For the post-colonial space, too, is constantly produced and reproduced by shifting of powers. Works in the show operating within the realm of post-colonial space range from Kacey Wong's '-Kill,Kill,Kill'- a monumental architectonic sculpture depicting the warfare of Hong Kong during its colonization, to Sunghee Ahn's '-Survival Game'- performative, interactive installation piece. ChanYuk Keung's sculptures composed of four small chairs with a broom on the one space, and four toy figures housed in glass on the other, depict serious pedagogical issue in the most casual but evocative way.

The exhibition will be continued in another space in Hong Kong or/and in other countries. As the exploration of space continues, we will be able to see, in part, the logic of space in its contingent state of being.

In-hee Moon | History of Art M.A.2000 Goldsmiths College, University of London
Freelance Curator, Writer, Translator



▲ Yau Ching Stability and Prosperity / DVD Projection 2000



▲ 유현미 Window /
glass, plexiglass, aluminum 38×24×4inches 2000