



CHÂTEAU LA COSTE

Provence

MYONGHI KANG

Requiem

13 October 2024 - 5 January 2025

Pavillon Renzo Piano



Château La Coste is delighted to receive the renowned artist Myonghi Kang for her return to France, after years of absence. This homecoming, rich in significance, marks a return to her roots, a region that inspired her artistic journey since she first settled there in 1972, captivated by the light and landscapes that Paul Cézanne immortalized.

In 1994, Kang opened a studio in Touraine, fostering a dialogue between her native South Korea, specifically Jeju Island, and France, a country she deeply cherishes. Her artistic explorations have taken her across the globe, from the vast Gobi Desert to the breathtaking landscapes of Patagonia, merging diverse cultures and experiences into her work.

At Château La Coste, Kang will present a poignant exhibition titled “Requiem,” commemorating a fading world through the lens of her artistry. The pavilion designed by Renzo Piano provides a stunning backdrop, where natural light harmonizes with her creations, reinforcing the deep connection between her art and the environment.

Curated by Villepin Art, the exhibition features twelve paintings and eighteen watercolors, tracing Kang's extraordinary journey from figuration to poetic abstraction. Each piece serves as a meditation on the universe, reflecting her belief that painting transcends mere artistic endeavor; it is a spiritual act connecting her to the world's vital forces.

Kang's art is a testament to her lifelong quest for truth, light, and harmony. Her canvases are living entities, often left unfinished for years as she revisits them to refine colors and lines until they resonate with their intended form. This process embodies the essence of nature itself—ever-changing and evolving.

With her keen awareness of the threats facing both humanity and the natural world, Kang's recent works echo her concerns about erosion, disappearance, and the destructive forces of modernity. Each painting becomes an act of resistance, a means of preserving beauty and vitality against the ravages of time.

Myonghi Kang's return to Provence invites us to rediscover the sacred relationship between mankind and nature. Her paintings serve as sanctuaries, where viewers can reconnect with the cycle of life and embrace the beauty, truth, and harmony that guide us toward a better future.

Join us at Château La Coste to experience this extraordinary exhibition, a celebration of life, art, and the indomitable spirit of nature.

About Myonghi Kang

Myonghi Kang's (b. 1947, Daegu, South Korea) vibrant cosmic paintings project a pure sensibility without boundaries. Through her canvases, the artist expresses a view of the natural world that vacillates between emptiness and profusion in myriad manifestations of colors, marks, and shapes. Myonghi has divided her time between South Korea and France for much of her life. She studied Fine Arts at the College of Fine Arts, Seoul National University. Myonghi immigrated to France in 1972. After a few years in the French capital, she started painting the urban street scenes of Paris and the surrounding nature when she moved to Quai de la Loire in the 1980s. After Myonghi started exhibiting her ethereal paintings, she befriended renowned artists, poets, and writers, including Zao Wou-Ki, Piotr Kowalski, Gilles Aillaud, Alain Jouffroy, and Dominique de Villepin. Her works gained widespread recognition in the late 1980s following several international solo exhibitions and poetry recitals, including shows at the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris (1986), the National Museum of Contemporary Art in Seoul (1989), and Beijing Art Museum of Imperial City in China (2011). In 1981, she and her husband Setaik were the founders of the Musée de Séoul in Seoul, the first museum of art in South Korea. The artist also participated in the exhibition and symposium *Devant, le futur*, as part of the World Expo held in Daejeon, South Korea in 1993.

About Villepin

Shaped by Dominique and Arthur de Villepin's passion for art, Villepin is a new gallery model created by collectors for collectors. Founded in 2019 in Hong Kong, Villepin specializes in selecting important artists, estates, and foundations, advocating their work through carefully curated exhibitions while bridging them with the leading collectors and institutions in the Asia-Pacific region and worldwide. Beyond its gallery walls, Villepin also acts as a curator for exhibitions in museums and institutions. Each exhibition at Villepin is based on in-depth scholarship and offers a unique experience to immerse visitors in the life and art of each artist. Previous exhibitions have also produced special bilingual publications that include original essays and curatorial research.

As curator and advisor to a close community of collectors, artists presented by Villepin include Zao Wou-Ki, Myonghi Kang, Anselm Kiefer, Francis Bacon, George Condo, Pierre Soulages, Georges Mathieu, and Hans Hartung among others. Villepin is focused on education and promoting the scholarship of its artists through intimate salons and collaborations with leading institutions, foundations, universities, and museums. Through their extensive experience in building close friendships with artists, the father-son partnership aims to share their expertise, encourage dialogue, and support collectors in building long lasting relationships with artists, who are at the heart of Villepin's initiatives.

About Château La Coste

Situated in one of France's oldest wine-growing regions, between the historic town of Aix-en-Provence and the Luberon National Park, Château La Coste is a vineyard where wine, art and architecture coexist in harmony. Since it opened to the public in 2011, Château La Coste has invited visitors to discover over forty major works of contemporary art installed outdoors and in five galleries spread across its 200 hectares of natural surroundings. Every year, artists and architects are invited to visit the estate and discover the unique beauty of this Provençal landscape, with its famous cypress trees, parassol pines, olive groves and centuries-old oaks. They are given the freedom to create a specific work in an area of the site that inspires them, so that Château La Coste continues to evolve as new projects and facilities are developed.

Exhibition Details:

Pavillon Renzo Piano, Château La Coste, Aix-en-Provence, France

13 October 2024 - 5 January 2025

Opening hours: Everyday from 12pm to 5pm

Press Contact

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