



## METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF MANILA

### PRESS RELEASE

### **50 Years of Korean Contemporary Printmaking Exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum**

As part of the ongoing 2013 Korea Festival in ASEAN, the Korea Foundation, in cooperation with the National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Korea (NMCA Korea) and the Metropolitan Museum Manila will be launching the “Fifty Years of Korean Contemporary Printmaking” exhibit on August 1, 2013.

The exhibit, which previously had its run in Indonesia, consists of 81 works sourced from NMCA from varied periods, starting from the 1950s down to the 1990s in an effort to introduce the history of Korean Printmaking tradition to the Filipinos. The exhibit will be divided into six periods, starting from the 50s which is generally regarded as the era where Korean artists used woodblock printing as their major medium. In the 60s, the interest in printmaking grew steadily among the young artists that led to the formation of the Korean Contemporary Printmakers Association in 1968. This period is known as the development period, whereas printmaking between 70s-80s is referred to proliferation. In the 70s, printmaking gained a unique stature in the Korean art circles due to the accumulation and enhancement of printmaking techniques.

In 1980, the *Minjung* printmaking movement came to rise among artists as a means to communicate with the public. *Minjung*, a Korean term that refers to the masses, increasingly became prevalent in woodblock printing and from this emerged the socially engaged art movement that highlighted social contradictions.

By the 90s, Printmaking in Korea has become so diversified, which includes the use of computers, alternative art forms, and installation art, among many others.

On August 1 at 10am, HWANG Yoon-jung, NMCA Curator is set to deliver a curator’s talk and at 3pm, CHUNG Hyung-min, the Director of NMCA will conduct a special lecture at the MET Museum. The public is cordially invited and encouraged to reserve a slot.

The exhibit is supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Korea, the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in the Philippines and the Korean Cultural Center in the Philippines. It will be open to the public until August 24, 2013.

The Metropolitan Museum of Manila is located at the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas* Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Manila. Museum hours are from 10am – 5:30pm, Monday to Saturday. Closed on Sundays and holidays. For details on the exhibit, please call 708-7829. Visit [www.metmuseum.ph](http://www.metmuseum.ph).

*(For further information and queries, please contact the Metropolitan Museum at 708-7828-29)*