



Press release 18.10.2022

# SFX Seoul – Den Haag 2022

## Simple Acts of Listening

Festival: 05.11.2022 – 27.11.2022

Panel discussion with the curators and artists + Opening: 04.11.2022 at 17:00 till 20:00 H.

Artist talk with Im Goeun, in dialogue with Baruch Gottlieb: 26.11.2022 at 17:00 till 18.30 H.

Location: West Den Haag in the former American Embassy, Lange Voorhout 102, The Hague

**Sound Effects Seoul (SFX Seoul) is a sound art festival based in Seoul, South Korea, started in 2007 with the first international sound art exhibition in Korea. Since then, there has been a rise in sound artists, noise artists, and various experimental forms of sound-oriented experimentation in Korea. During this edition of the festival, West showcases the audiovisual works of six young Korean artists in the unusual office spaces of the former American embassy in The Hague. Connecting it to the location, the artists guide our attention to social issues that ask us to listen more closely. Alongside the exhibition, there will be a panel discussion and an artist talk.**

Sound Art is an experience of art primarily accessible through listening. Listening is distinguished from hearing, depending on the level of attention of the listener. We hear all day, all the time, but do we listen? Sound can bring people together in a way visual perception does not. Sound surrounds us in vibrations that produce a common physical experience which connects our bodies. Sound art vouches for a radical openness to the world, where we acknowledge the world as it is and not as it might or should be. The world is speaking to us, and all the evidence needed to understand the real complexity of our political and personal ideas is available to us through simple acts of listening. Please come together with us in The Hague in November to tune in to what we can't help but hear.

For this second foreign edition of SFX Seoul Sound Art festival (the first was in Taiwan in 2010), we are featuring the work of six Korean artists in the former US Embassy to the Netherlands, designed by Bauhaus architect Marcel Breuer. Korea is still today under the occupation of the United States. Its current social, economic and cultural conditions are all deeply affected by this pseudo-colonial position. The infusion of the sound work of Korean artists into the architecture of American foreign power now provides an opportunity to listen to and rethink these relations in the here and now. The invited artists will also explore the architectural and acoustic elements of the courtyard and street-facing windows, where the apparatus of world power can still be sensed.

### **Participants:**

**Go-Eun Im**, born in Korea, lives and works in Amsterdam. Her artistic practice ranges from experimental films to multi-layered installations with varied mediums, such as analogue and digital film, photography, and found objects. Im has investigated the features of cinematic imageries to weave porous relationships between perception and memory. In 2010 she won the audience award of The New Media Award of the Liedts-Meesen Foundation, Update III, in Ghent, Belgium.

**Gina Kim** is a teacher and filmmaker. Her work looks at dismantling boundaries, whether those between East and West, academy and industry, the mainstream and the marginal, or the cerebral and the sensual. Gina Kim's five feature-length films and works of video art have screened at more than 100 prestigious international film festivals and venues including Berlin, Locarno, Rotterdam, San Sebastian, Sundance and Venice, as well as MoMA, the Smithsonian and Centre Pompidou in Paris.

**Byungjun Kwon**, a Seoul-based artist, started his career as a singer-songwriter in the early 1990s. Kwon's oeuvre consists of musical operations and performative acts in diverse platforms of movie soundtracks, theatre, fashion shows, and modern dance. He spent the late 2000s in the Netherlands

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studying Art Science and working as a hardware engineer at STEIM, a research centre for new musical instruments in the electronic performing arts.

**Heesoo Kwon** is a multidisciplinary artist from South Korea currently based in the Bay Area, California. Kwon initiated an autobiographical feminist religion Leymusoom as an ever-evolving framework to explore her family histories and communal feminist liberation. In 2022, Kwon was appointed as Artist-Curator at San Fransisco's Chinese Culture Center, where she expanded her community-based projects with curatorial practice, public art interventions, and multi-year commission projects.

**Seulgi Lee** was born in Korea but has moved to Paris and studied at the École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts. She has consistently endeavoured to make a strong investigation into a physical language of forms that recalls something simultaneously folkloric and contemporary. She recently served as resident artist at the L'Appartement 22 culture centre in Rabat, Morocco in 2019. She had been chosen to participate in the prestigious Korean Artist Prize held at the MMCA 2020.

**Ha Cha Youn** has lived and worked in western Europe since moving to France in 1983. Her work revolves around her identity as a minoritised foreigner and outsider, focusing on the question of how we are to live together. She has exhibited her work at the Seoul Art Centre, Hangaram Museum, the Gyeonggido Museum of Modern Art and the Gyeongnam Art Museum, Korea, the 6th Biennale of Issy, and at the international Biennale of Contemporary Art, Melle, France.

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