



EAST ASIAN VIDEO FRAMES: SEOUL

7 April – 24 May 2015



Curator: Minna Valjakka

The third location: Seoul. The three-year video project which started in January 2013 has reached the final destination of its journey to explore contemporary art scenes in East Asia. Korean contemporary art often remains in the shadows of its neighboring countries, Japan and China although it has developed its own specific artistic language. The aim of five art works and documentaries to be screened in 2015 is to introduce leading Korean artists and their thought-provoking recent art works.

Okin Collective is a group of artists, named after Okin-Dong site in Jongno-Gu, which was subject to redevelopment and gradual demolition and, consequently, inspired artists' first group project in 2009. Since its inauguration, Okin Collective has actively explored the ever-changing urban space through artistic interventions and socially engaged art at the interface between everyday life and art. The main issues that Okin Collective investigates range from the individual survival to the impact of global capitalism across the borders. In 2010, the Collective also engaged with a form of 'guerrilla broadcasting', the Okin Internet Radio [STUDIO+82] (<http://okin.cc/radio/index.html>) was launched to make the voices of their related communities to be heard.

The group has held and taken part in numerous projects, performances and exhibitions, both in South Korean and abroad including, among others, *Okin OPEN SITE* at Okin apartments, Seoul (2010), *Life, No Peace, Only Adventure* at Busan National Museum of Art (2011), *Open Hangar*, Spain (2012), *Truth is Concrete*, Austria (2012), *Acts of Voicing* at Total Museum (2013), *no mountain high enough* at Audio Visual Pavilion (2014), *10th Gwangju Biennale* (2014) and *Artefact Festival 15*, Belgium (2015).

Operation-For Something Black and Hot (2012) is a single channel art work. Originally, it was presented as a live performance in *19 Performance Relay* festival in Seoul in 2011. Later, the Okin Collective made this video version that has been screened also in Spain, Austria, Belgium and Malaysia among others. The performing artists are Kiyoung Kim, Doyoung Kim and Donghee Park. Through an intriguing approach based on physical movements that resemble to some extent the practices of traditional Asian martial arts, Okin Collective reveals the contradictions and insecurity felt among Korean urbanites today.

In co-operation with: Okin Collective (<http://okin.cc/>)

For more information:

Pori Art Museum exhibition curator Anni Venäläinen tel. +358 44 701 7601 anni.venalainen@pori.fi
 Pori Art Museum, Eteläranta, 28100 Pori, Finland, tel. +358 2 621 1080 www.poriartmuseum.fi
 Curator, Dr Minna Valjakka minna.valjakka@helsinki.fi