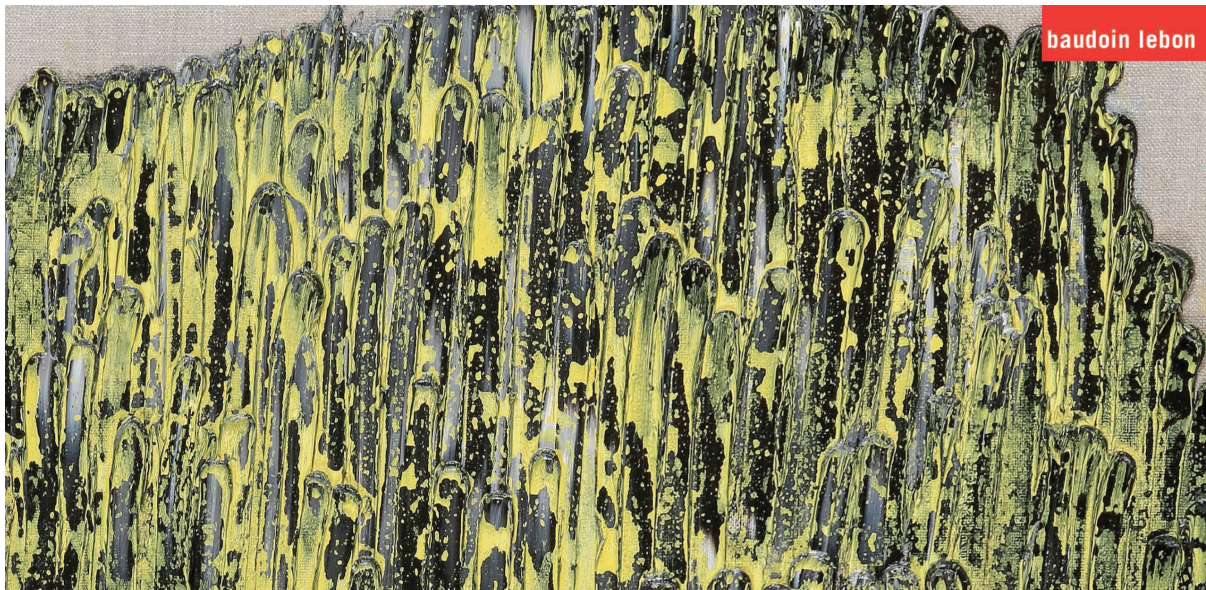

press release

h.k kwon

if the wind let go



/// opening
Wednesday August 29th
2018

from 6 to 9 pm

exhibition
from August 30th
to September 29th 2018

Back from the summer break, baudoin lebon gallery takes us to South Korea to show the works of the young Korean h.k. Kwon.

The artworks he discovered in Museums, galleries and historical sites mostly throughout Europe and India, are a source of inspiration for this great traveler and art amateur.

objectivization of the inner consciousness



#16-07024030, 2016, oil on canvas, 91 x 72 cm

He explains that all of his paintings come from and indeed flow from his heart, and the act of creating itself is an integral part of the energy and artistic expression he seeks to convey. According to Kwon, his paintings entirely express his interiority and his creative gesture through his own energy.

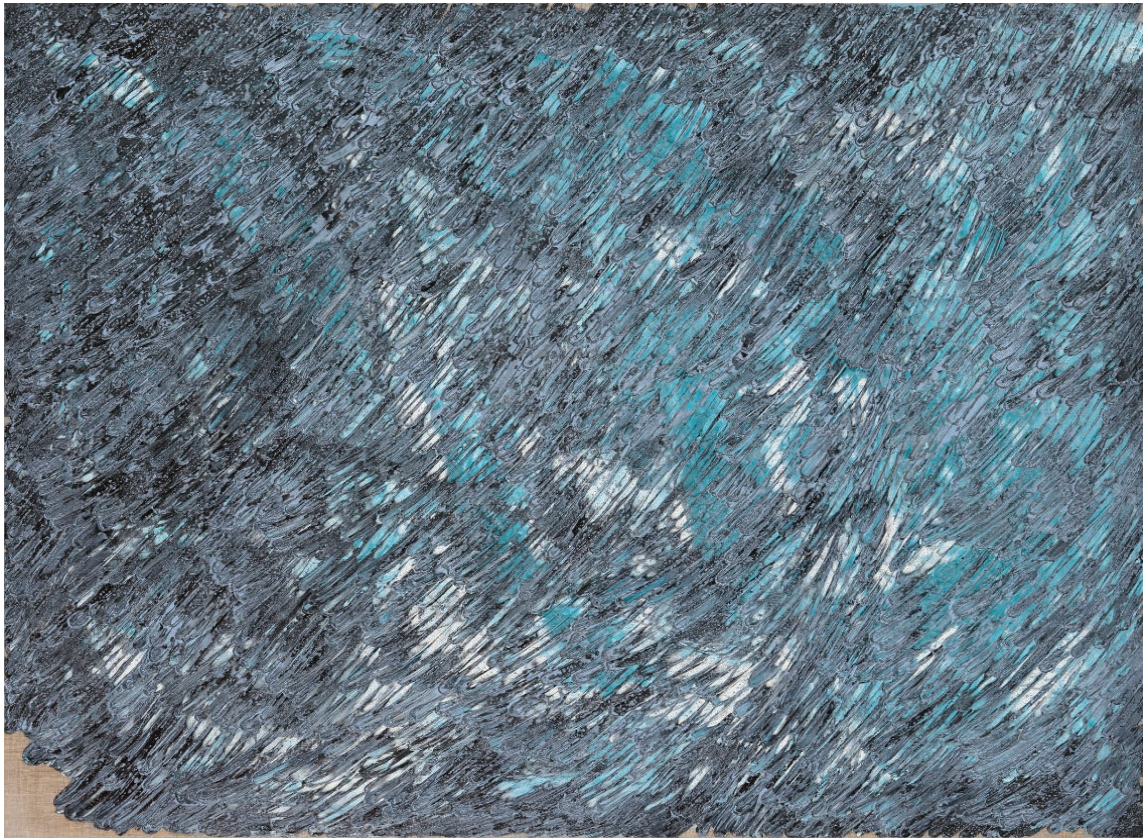
As suggested by the serie's title « if the wind let go », his canvases are the link between inward and outside.

Beneath his gesture landscapes grow where real rememberings and frames of mind intertwined. In this respect, although extremely contemporary, Kwon makes part of a pictural Asian tradition where landscapes benefit both or even more of the ways of thinking and a mere visual delight.

from landscape to abstraction

The transformation of a real landscape into an abstract picture is for Kwon to depict his state of mind on canvases. The layering of shapes, colors and textures found in Kwon's works give them an exquisite and tactile effect that is particularly enhanced when exposed to varying gradations of light.

As the intensity and direction of light are altered, different shapes dominate the canvas, different colors fill the space and different textures highlight the overall composition allowing them to breathe and live on their own in a rhythm that is both subtle and soothing.



#16-12004100, 2016, oil on canvas, 130 x 162 cm

« I discover while painting the temperatures of both sides of my heart, the dynamics of the upper and lower heart chambers as they rhythmically and regularly pump away and the exhilaration of the inhalation and exhalation of my own breath.» h.k. Kwon

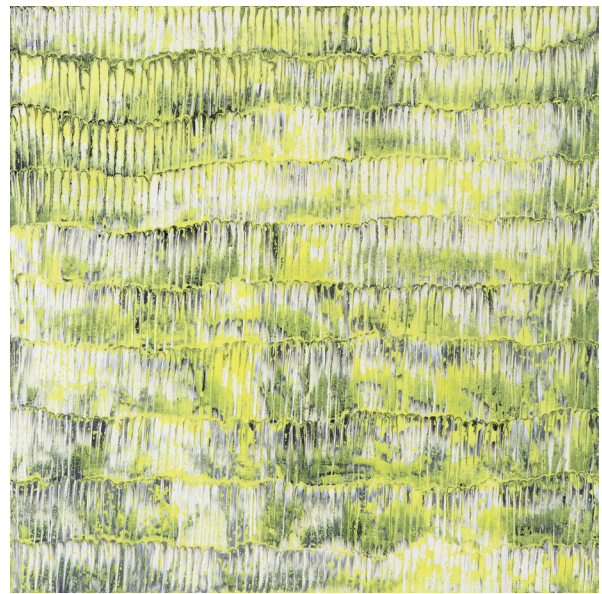
tradition and contemporaneity

There is a clear pattern of repetition found in the shapes, textures and colors in H.K Kwon paintings. And yet, each work stands alone, each painting possesses a unique and distinctive identity and expression. This has been the conceptual foundation of his art since 2003.

Viewers will likely see in his work different images and will accordingly come up with varying interpretations of what they see. Indeed, this is one of the enduring attractions to abstract art. This sense of discipline achieved through repetition so often found in Oriental or Asian Painting combined with the free expression we usually associate with contemporary abstract art gives H.K Kwon work a clear connection to traditional Korean aesthetics while at the same time producing a real sense of the contemporary.

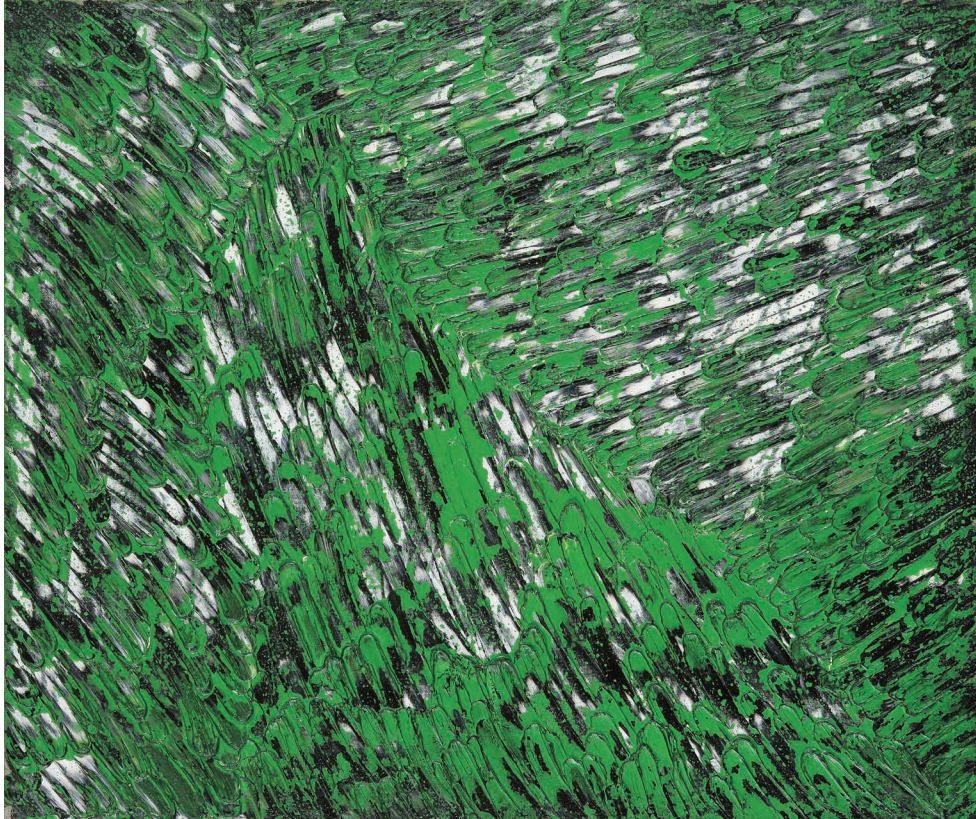


#15-08013060, 2015
Dyptich on canvases, 100 x 100 cm (each)



#15-08012060, 2015

the body : a creative tool



#16-12039020, 2016, oil on canvas, 61 x 73 cm

Beyond the artistic gesture, Kwon involves his own body as the major tool of his creation : true remembrances of abstract expressionism.

As Kwon spreads the material with his fingers, building one-way furrows, abstract and graphic paintings appeared. From now on, colorful curtains undulate with the wind and movement, created by the fingerprints, is everywhere.

random under control



#16-12042020, 2016, oil on canvas, 73 x 61 cm

Random is not as present as it seems, indeed, the artist realizes numerous sketches before achieved work could be painted.

As a result, lines of colors are controlled, the final work is possible thanks to longer-term researches.

The serie «if the wind let go» floats between a fanciful Asian imagination and abstraction : a real link between ancient artistic traditions and contemporary creativity.

Everyday I paint
In search of something new.
Time goes by... I pick up the colors, I caress the canvas.
Nothing is new and I fall to the floor.
My legs hurt instead of my head.
Is this what I am?
I question myself. I fall to the floor. Again, my legs fall asleep.
A window must have been left open. Wind whispers in my ear.
I follow the wind.
The wind flows into tranquility and warmth... My heart.
Feverish cold. The origin of fury and desire
The origin of my paintings.

My head throbs with contemplation.
I paint. I get lost.
I destroy the painting.
Such repetitions exhaust me.
I ask the colors. I ask where we shall wander today, as I will follow.
I follow just follow
I follow again. And there lies the truth.
Repeat. I let it lead me. I find happiness. And again, I repeat.
I've returned to where I started.
Greed beckons for a different destination.
Wind whispers in my ear.

I wanted to move.
I'm going to need many rooms A living room, kitchen and a bathroom
with a spacious tub!
What else do I need? I'm drunken with excitement.
I decorate and furnish the rooms...
One for someone special.
I decorate it to my taste...

I fill it with all my time and passion.... for which I do not know the room is for.
It is empty.
I crave to awaken my slumbering ambition.
But why does it lie unused as do the decorated rooms which lie empty?
Is it the decor? Is it my greed?
I know that the road ahead is long, but I also know there is no escape.
The ambition I desire, the cravings I cannot grasp...
It is no longer my choice,
But unyielding conviction has me close the door.

Truth. Every moment, I am confronted with truth.
Endless walls of greed.
Endless walls of truth I cannot control.
I respond to my persuasions of faith and confidence
I think I follow. I respond to my will alone!
No, it was the will of the wind that had robbed me of my time.
I was unaware of the passing time. Perhaps, I had been following greed
If the Wind Let Go...

BIOGRAPHY

The Korean born artist Hyeunkgeun Kwon studied Oriental Painting at Dankook University and Hongik University Graduate School, both located in Seoul. His keen interest in literature, music and drawing began to take hold during his middle and high school years and from early on he knew that he wanted to pursue a career in the arts.

After gaining admission to university, Kwon was eager to travel far and wide to explore and discover the world around him. He subsequently took frequent trips abroad especially to India and parts of Europe where he explored numerous world-renowned museums, galleries and significant cultural sites. These encounters had a deep impact on H.K Kwon.

In 2005, H.K Kwon worked as the art director for a special exhibition showcasing the beauty of traditional Korean paper, Hanji, and commemorating the 120th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Korea and France.

solo exhibitions

2017

- If the Wind Let Go, ChoEunsook Gallery, Seoul, Korea

2015

- If the Wind Let Go, LeeEugene Gallery, Seoul, Korea

2012

- If the Wind Let Go, 20th Anniversary of Seohwa Gallery, Seoul, Korea

2005

- Art Director at the APAC Summit Dinner Show
- Art Director at the Korean Paper, Hanji Event on the 120th anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between Korea and France

group exhibitions

2017

- KIAF 2017, with baudoin lebon, Seoul, South Korea

2016

- Fort Mason Center for Arts & Culture à SeomilInternational

2015

- Park Avenue Armory à SeomilInternational

