

귀얄과 몽당붓으로 쏟아낸 그리움의 정화(精華)

추상과 구상, 동서양이 융합된 송현숙의 예술세계

재독작가 송현숙 그림의 바탕은 연녹색조와 검은색조이다. 무한의 깊이를 간직한 바탕에 그려진 획은 힘이 넘치면서도 섬세하다. 머나 먼 이국에서 이방인으로서 떨칠 수 없는 외로움과 떠나온 것들에 대한 그리움 속에서 아름다운 꽃을 피워 낸 질기고 고운 작가의 영혼을 그대로 보여주는 듯하다.

전남 담양군 무월리에서 태어나 자란 송현숙은 광주에서 고등학교를 졸업한 후 72년, 파독 간호사로 독일에서 새로운 삶을 시작했다. 고향과 가족들에 대한 그리움을 틈틈이 그림으로 표현하던 그는 함부르크 미술대학에 진학하기에 이르렀다.

자신만의 색깔에 대해 고민하던 그는 마침내 서양의 중세회화에서 사용되던 템페라라는 물감을 자신의 물감으로 선택하게 된다. 달걀과 안료를 섞어서 사용하는 템페라는 수성으로 무광택인 특성을 가지고 있다. 송현숙은 이 물감을 찍어 그리는데 붓으로 귀얄을 사용한다.

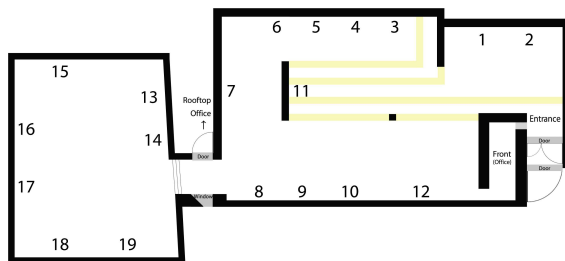
송현숙의 화면에는 말뚝기둥, 가옥의 한켠, 항아리, 늘어뜨린 삼베나 모시와 같은 천, 죽림과 인물 등 일정한 형상이 존재한다. 이러한 형상을 한껏 추상화시켜 간략하게 표현하고 그 그림의 제목으로 몇 획 혹은 몇 획 위에 몇 획 하는 붓질 획수를 사용한다.

“추상과 구상, 한국의 붓 귀얄과 유럽의 템페라 물감, 그리고 단숨에 긋는 한 획의 감성과 획 수 제목의 이성처럼 양면성을 동시에 지니는 것이 곧 송현숙 회화의 특징이다. 그리움을 통해 그 대립을 조화시킨 에너지가 바로 그의 예술이 지닌 강점이다.”  
- 이태호, 명지대 미술사학과 교수

이번 전시에는 정성스레 연녹색 바탕을 다듬질하고 그 위에 말뚝, 우물, 집, 옹기항아리 등의 형상을 한 획 한 획 그려서 완성하는 송현숙의 대표작 40여 점이 전시된다. 세월과 함께 숙련되어가는 작가의 기량이 잘 드러나 있다.

## 송현숙

### Main



1. 9 brushstrokes, 180x135cm, 2003, Tempera on canvas
2. 16 brushstrokes, 180x135cm, 2007, Tempera on canvas
3. 8 brushstrokes over 1 brushstrokes II, 200x150cm, 2004, Tempera on canvas

4. 7 brushstrokes IV, 150x170cm, 2008, Tempera on canvas
5. 5 brushstrokes over 1 brushstrokes, 158x96cm, 2002, Tempera on canvas
6. 32 brushstrokes over 7 brushstrokes, 180x115cm, 2007, Tempera on canvas
7. 7 brushstrokes, 130x170cm, 2008, Tempera on canvas
8. 7 brushstrokes over 1 brushstrokes, 160x110cm, 2007, Tempera on canvas
9. 6 brushstrokes over 1 brushstrokes, 160x110cm, Tempera on canvas
10. 6 brushstrokes over 1 brushstrokes, 160x110cm, Tempera on canvas
11. 9 brushstrokes, 135x180cm, 2008, Tempera on canvas
12. 6 brushstrokes, 105x145cm, 2007, Tempera on canvas
13. 7 brushstrokes, 135x180cm, 2008, Tempera on canvas
14. 4 brushstrokes I, 50x60cm, 2008, Tempera on canvas
15. 23 brushstrokes, 150x200cm, 2008, Tempera on canvas
16. 3 brushstrokes, 160x240cm, 2007, Tempera on canvas
17. 21 brushstrokes, 160x240cm, 2007, Tempera on canvas
18. 12 brushstrokes over 1 brushstrokes, 150x200cm, 2007, Tempera on canvas
19. 7 brushstrokes II, 150x170cm, 2008, Tempera on canvas

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# Song Hyun-sook | Breath and Brushstrokes

30 September ~ 26 October, 2008

**Abstract and figurative,**

**The mixture of East and West in Song Hyun Sook's artwork**

Song Hyun Sook's artwork extensively features green and black tones. At once both powerful and delicate, her brushstrokes are mounted on backgrounds of seemingly infinite depth. They emit sentiments of loneliness, longing for things left behind, as to reflect the tender soul of the artist herself.

Song Hyun Sook was born in a rural area in the Southern part of Korea. After graduating from high school in Kwangju, she left her home to work as a nurse in Germany in 1972. There, she often expressed her yearning for her family and home town through painting, and eventually entered the fine arts program at Hamburg University.

In the search for her own style, she discovered tempera, a medium that had been used in medieval Europe. Made from eggs and pigment, tempera is water soluble and opaque. Song applies this paint onto canvas using stiff bristled paste brushes, which is a reminiscent of the Chosen Dynasty in premodern Korea, where they were used to paint pigment onto pottery.

Featured in her paintings are wooden posts, corners of houses, pots, hanging ramie fabric, bamboo forests, and even figures. Her subjects vary, but her artwork consistently has a clear formation, which she simplifies surrealistically. Finished artwork is titled according to the number of brush strokes that were made in order to complete each painting.

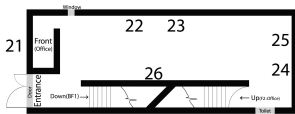
Lee Tae Ho, a professor of art history from Myongji University wrote,

*"Abstract and figurative, Korean paste brushes and medieval European tempera, the emotion of her brisk brushstrokes and the logic she uses to title her work- the successful use of such opposing features is the beauty and distinction of Song Hyun Sook's artwork. The strength of her art is her ability to turn her longing into the energy that allowed the mixing of such contradicting aspects."*

This exhibition displays around forty of Song Hyun Sook's most characteristic pieces. Forms of posts, wells, houses, ceramic pots, painted one brushstroke at a time onto carefully crafted backgrounds that show the talent that has grown within her throughout her years.

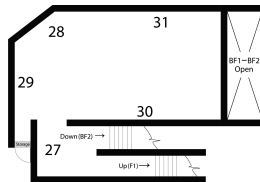
## 송현숙 Annex

### Annex - F1



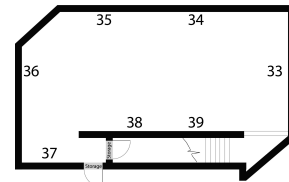
- 21. 5 brushstrokes, 50x60cm 2006, Tempera on canvas
- 22. 4 brushstrokes over 1 brushstrokes, 60x50cm 2008, Tempera on canvas
- 23. 4 brushstrokes over 1 brushstrokes, 60x50cm 2008, Tempera on canvas
- 24. 6 brushstrokes, 100x110cm 2008, Tempera on canvas
- 25. 30 brushstrokes, 180x135cm 2006, Tempera on canvas
- 26. 8 brushstrokes, 150x200cm 2007, Tempera on canvas

### BF1



- 27. 4 brushstrokes over 1 brushstrokes, 130x70cm 2007, Tempera on canvas
- 28. 4 brushstrokes, 170x116cm 2007, Tempera on canvas
- 29. 13 brushstrokes, 170x200cm 2007, Tempera on Canvas
- 30. 2 brushstrokes I, 160x240cm 2006, Tempera on Canvas
- 31. 7 brushstrokes over 34 brushstrokes, 180x115cm 2008, Tempera on canvas

### BF2



- 33. 18 brushstrokes, 150x200cm 2008, Tempera on canvas
- 34. 9 brushstrokes, 160x200cm 2008, Tempera on canvas
- 35. 11 brushstrokes, 160x240cm 2008, Tempera on canvas
- 36. 8 brushstrokes, 150x200cm 2007, Tempera on canvas
- 37. 6 brushstrokes, 180x135cm 2007, Tempera on canvas
- 38. 25 brushstrokes, 150x200cm 2006, Tempera on canvas
- 39. 29 brushstrokes, 150x200cm 2006, Tempera on canvas

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