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TRAVEL & CULTURE

DECEMBER | 2011

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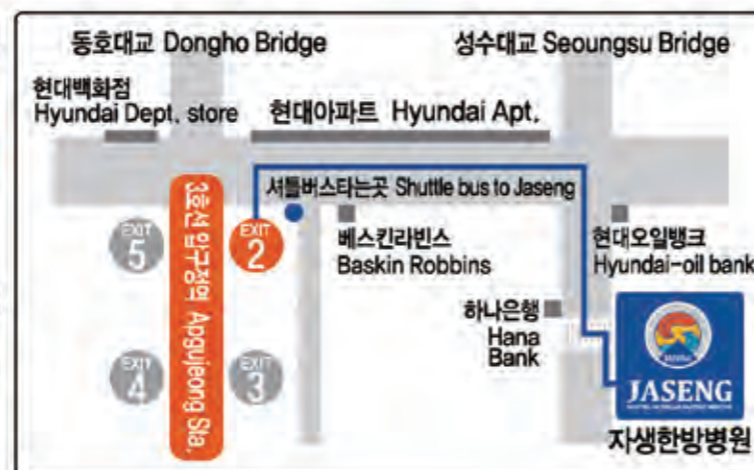
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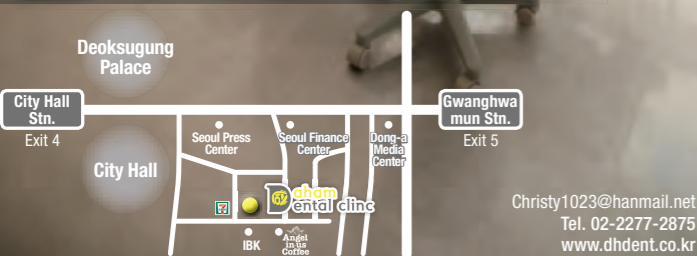
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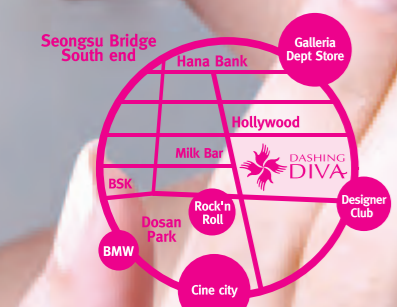
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SEOUL welcomes letters, faxes and e-mails to the editor ([writer@seoulselection.com](mailto:writer@seoulselection.com)) regarding press releases, specific articles and issues. All correspondence may be edited for reasons of clarity or space.

In addition to our monthly magazine SEOUL, we offer a free online SEOUL WEEKLY, which tells you where to go, what to do, and who to see while you are staying in Seoul. E-mail your subscription request to [sense@seoulselection.com](mailto:sense@seoulselection.com) (82-2-734-9567, [www.seoulselection.com](http://www.seoulselection.com)).

Seoul Selection

## Bukchon tour

### GETTING THERE

Seoul Selection bookshop is five minutes' walk from Exit 1 of Anguk Station, Line 3, and 10 minutes' walk from Exit 2 of Gwanghwamun Station, Line 5.



### ABOUT ROBERT KOEHLER

Robert Koehler is the editor-in-chief of Seoul Selection's monthly travel and culture magazine SEOUL. He is also the author of the best selling guidebook *Seoul Selection Guides: Seoul and co-author of Seoul's Historic Walks*. He has lived in Korea since 1997, and has a deep interest in Korean history and traditional architecture.

## SEOUL SELECTION LAUNCHES BUKCHON GUIDED TOURS

English language tours led by SEOUL editor-in-chief Robert Koehler, every Saturday 2:30pm—5pm

Seoul Selection, joint publisher with Seoul Metropolitan Government of SEOUL magazine, is set to begin unique weekly guided walking tours of Seoul's historic Bukchon neighborhood from Nov 5.

Taking place every Saturday from 2:30pm to 5pm, the tours will be guided by SEOUL editor-in-chief Robert Koehler—also the author of bestselling guidebook Seoul—and offer expert insights into the history and culture of one of the capital's oldest areas.

The Bukchon area contains the city's highest concentration of Korean traditional *hanok* houses, intersected by steep, narrow streets and flights of steps. It is also home to a rich variety of museums, traditional teahouses, restaurants, cafés, shops, and more.

### Route

The Seoul Selection Bukchon Tour will begin at the Seoul Selection bookshop, a short walk from Exit 1 of Anguk Subway Station and the Insa-dong neighborhood. From there, participants will head up into Samcheong-dong, taking in a visit to historic Jeongdok Library before following a street that

runs high through the neighborhood, offering outstanding views.

The group will then pass through 31 Gahoe-dong, perhaps Bukchon's best known *hanok* street, before continuing west to 11 Gahoe-dong and the Gahoe Museum, with its fascinating collection of Korean amulets and folk paintings.

Farther up the hill, the group will explore the early modern architecture of Choongang High School before heading down through the quiet neighborhood of Gye-dong and making a quick visit to the Bukchon Traditional Culture Center. Finally, the tour will head over the small hill to Wonseo-dong, the neighborhood that lies next to the western wall of magnificent Changdeokgung Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

### Unique insights

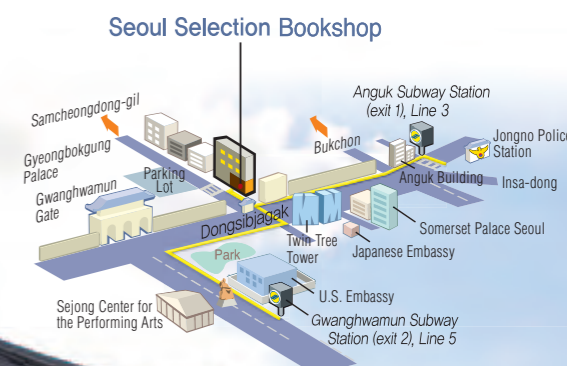
"This is a wonderful opportunity to share with both incoming tourists and international residents of Seoul a beautiful and fascinating piece of Seoul's history and cultural heritage," says Koehler. "There aren't many neighborhoods like Bukchon left in Seoul, which makes this opportunity even more special."

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# HIGHLIGHTS



## TARTINE OPENS NEW BRUNCH HORIZONS

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## "DISTRICT" SET TO BOOST ITAEWON NIGHTLIFE

MYK Inc, the company that brought Itaewon successful Italian lounge restaurant Between and lounge club B One, has announced plans to create "District," a large multipurpose cultural space, in an annex of the Hamilton Hotel. District will boast a pub called Prost on the first floor, and a luxury lounge bar called Glam and a club called Mute on the second floor, giving it a distinctive profile that stands out among other Itaewon venues. More info: Visit [www.districtitaewon.com](http://www.districtitaewon.com)



## EUROPEAN CHRISTMAS MARKET

Seongbuk Global Village Center is to hold Seoul's first ever European Christmas Market in Seongbuk-gu.

Taking place from Dec 2 at 3pm until Dec 4 at 6pm at the fountain square near Hansung University Station (Line 4). The market's many attractions will include traditional European food and drink such as sausages, soup, cookies, *gluehwein*, beer and more. There will also be other attractions such as Christmas decorations, toys and maybe even a real Santa Claus from Finland!! Come with your family, friends and neighbors and enjoy this very special Christmas event. More info: Visit <http://global.seoul.go.kr/seongbuk>, or call (02) 920-3462



## NEW YORK CITY AND SEOUL ANNOUNCE CITY-TO-CITY PARTNERSHIP TO STIMULATE TRAVEL

In early October, Seoul Metropolitan Government joined NYC & Company, New York City's official marketing, tourism and partnership organization, and Korean Air, to announce a first-ever city-to-city partnership to boost tourism between Seoul and New York City. The one-year agreement—the first of its kind between New York City and a city in Asia—includes a reciprocal multimedia marketing exchange between the two destinations. More info: Visit [www.nycgo.com](http://www.nycgo.com)



## SEOUL SUBWAY REACHES OUT TO NEW TOWNS

Commuters from the southeastern satellite town of Bundang will be pleased to know that a new subway line now brings much faster access to Gangnam Station, one of southern Seoul's key transport and business hubs. Initially stretching from the Jeongja Station in Bundang to Gangnam Station, the Sinbundang Line (AKA Shinbundang or DX Line) will stop at Pangyo, Cheonggyesan, Yangjae Citizens' Forest, and Yangjae (Line 3), before terminating at Gangnam (Line 2). Journey times have been slashed, while the line is set to be extended in both directions in future.

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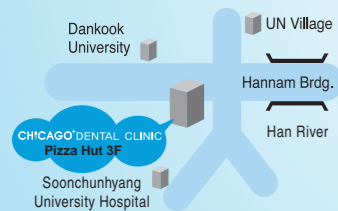
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This month, SEOUL had the privilege of working with four talented young models: Eight-year-old Mikey Valerio and his five-year-old sister Meadow, and five-year-old Abby Priestley and her sister Hannah, who is nearly four.

Mikey and Meadow have been in Korea for just over a year and attend Seoul International School, where both of their parents teach. Mikey plays soccer and the violin, as well as being a fan of taekwondo, art and chocolate. Meadow keeps busy with musical theater, soccer and taekwondo, and has recently begun learning the piano in order to form a band with her brother. She is extremely fond of ice cream.

Abby turned five in September. She hopes to be a doctor or midwife when she grows up. Abby enjoys math and playing with her friends. Hannah will be four in December, and hopes to be a gymnast when she grows up. She loves to roller skate and play with her daddy. Both girls play soccer and enjoy dance. They moved to Korea last month to be with their dad, who is in the US Army, and are looking forward to the many adventures they'll have during their time here.



The four posed at various points around Lotte World, the world's largest indoor theme park. Until December 25, Lotte World is in an even more exuberant mood than usual thanks to its Christmas Festival! Highlights include a new special event where Santa personally delivers presents, plenty of parades, musical shows and other performances, and a fantastic Santa village featuring an enormous 30m Christmas tree.

SEOUL wishes to thank Lotte World for its kind cooperation.

More info: [www.lotteworld.com](http://www.lotteworld.com)

Also, see Seoul Sub-urban, p30

### HISTORIC 100th ISSUE BONANZA PRIZE DRAW IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

Our prize draw remains open until November 30, offering the chance to win 200 fantastic prizes (including an iPad 2).

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Send us a description (up to 50 words) of your favorite place, activity, hottest travel tip or other recommendation about Seoul. You can upload entries on our Facebook wall (Seoul Selection), or send them by email to [writer@seoulselection.com](mailto:writer@seoulselection.com). Please also include your postal address and phone number. We'll enter your name into our 100th Issue Prize Bonanza draw, making you eligible to win one of many wonderful prizes.

Our editorial staff's favorite recommendations will be published in a special article in our January 2012 issue.

Please submit your entry by November 30. Good luck!



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# MYEONG-DONG INTERSECTION

Photographed by Robert Koehler

Every Christmas season, the Myeong-dong Intersection is done up in its holiday finest, a reminder that the Yuletide season is just around the corner.

The commercial heart of Seoul, Myeong-dong is where you'll find much of the city's historic architecture, including the Bank of Korea Museum (1912), SC First Bank (1933) and Shinsegae Department Store (1930).

#### GETTING THERE

Exit 5, Myeong-dong Station, Line 4.

# SUNSET WATCHING

Catching the first sunrise is an inspiring way to start the year

Written by Robert Koehler | Photographed by Robert Koehler and Ryu Seunghoo

Hiking up a mountain in the dark at 4am might not seem like an especially appealing way to spend a holiday. Greeting the first sunrise of the year, however, is an inspiring, spiritually uplifting experience that fills the heart with hope. And you won't be alone—sunrise New Year's celebrations are hosted throughout Seoul (and the rest of the country).

The earliest sunrises in Korea take place along the East Sea coast, so the really ambitious take overnight trains or buses to destinations such as Jeongdongjin or Pohang, but some of the best sunrises in the country can be had within Seoul itself. You don't even need to be a hiker—in fact, all you need to do is head to the Hangang River to take in some beautiful sunrises. Let SEOUL share with you some of its favorite sunrise spots.

## Mt. Ansan

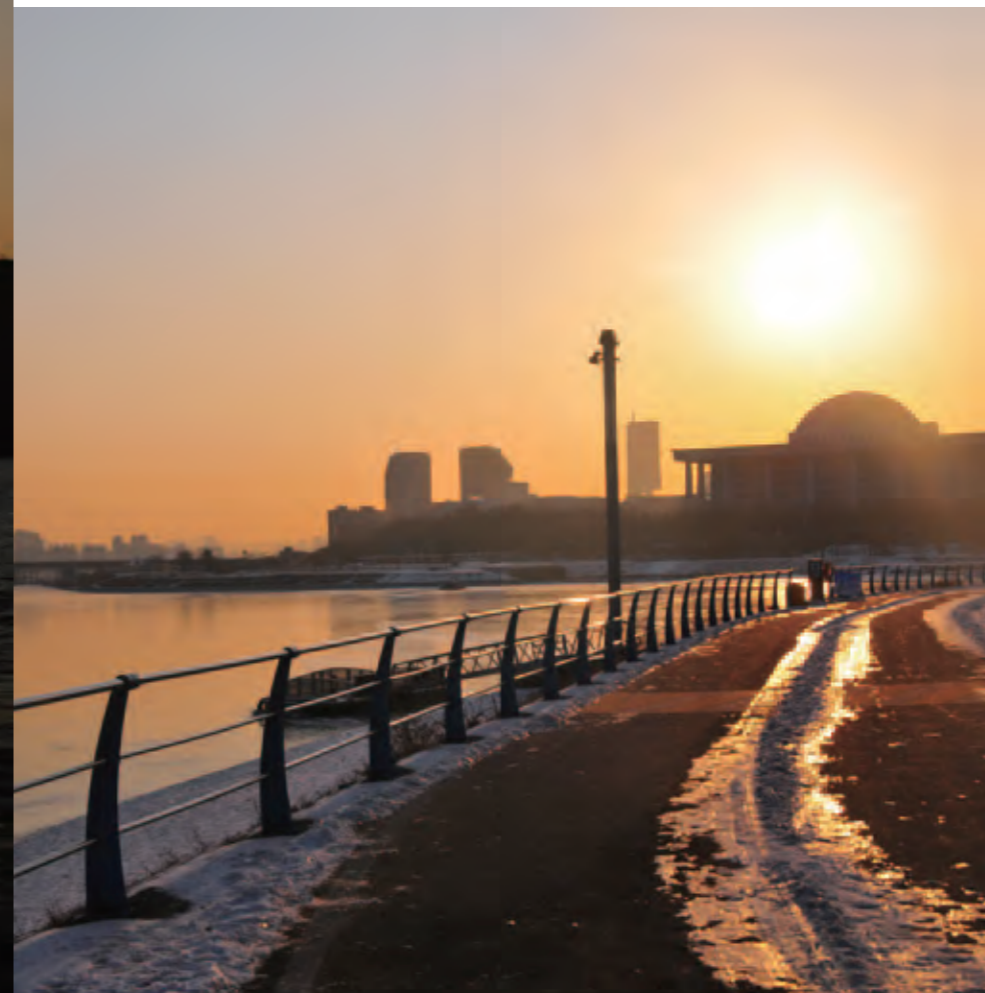
In the October issue of SEOUL, photographer Im Chan-kyung shared with readers this wonderful spot in Seodaemun-gu. So

impressed was SEOUL editor-in-chief Robert Koehler that not long after the magazine was released, he woke up early one morning and hiked the thing himself, camera in hand. With the entirety of downtown Seoul spread before you, the sunrises here are, in short, awe-inspiring. There's an observation deck and a reconstructed Joseon-era signal fire station at the top (undergoing renovation at the time of writing this article). Events to mark the first sunrise of the New Year are usually held at the peak.

Mt. Ansan is a local park, so it's criss-crossed by a number of hiking routes. The best ways to go up are either a) the short route via Bongwonsa Temple (near Yonsei University), or b) the slightly longer route via Seodaemun-gu District Office. The Bongwonsa Temple route, however, is a bit steep and potentially dangerous, especially in the dark and in winter—be sure to wear proper footwear and bring a flashlight. The Seodaemun-gu District Office route is gentler and safer—the hiking path begins just behind the office. Either way, it should take you less than an hour to reach the top.

## GETTING THERE

To get to Bongwonsa Temple or Seodaemun-gu District Office, take a cab from Sinchon Subway Station, Line 2.



### Hangang River

If hiking up rocky peaks in the predawn hours isn't your thing, the Hangang River offers plenty of great sunrise opportunities. Where you go along the river is really a matter of personal preference. The Hangang River bridges are always a good bet—this writer's favorite is the Yanghwa Bridge, where you can see the sun come up over the skyscrapers of Yeoui-do. You could do just as well at the Rainbow Bridge of Seonyudo Park.

The most festive way to greet the New Year on the Hangang, though, is to take one of the special predawn cruises. Cruise ships depart from the dock at Yeouido at 6:30, and cruise under the Hangang and Dongjak bridges before greeting the sun as it rises over Mt. Cheonggyesan. Participants release balloons to celebrate.

#### GETTING THERE

The Yeouido dock is a short walk from Yeouido-naru Station, Line 3.  
Cost: The New Year's cruise costs 25,000 won.  
More info (including reservations):  
T. (02) 3271-6900, [www.hcruise.co.kr](http://www.hcruise.co.kr)  
(Korean only)




## Mt. Ahasan

### GETTING THERE

Exit 2, Anhasan Station, Line 5. Turn left at the first intersection, turn right at the three-way intersection, and head towards Hwayangsa Temple. Past the temple is the Daeseongam trail entrance.

Traditionally, the most popular spot from which to watch the sunrise in Seoul has been Mt. Ahasan in Gwangjin-gu. This is not without reason. Located on the easternmost extremity of the city—part of the mountain actually lies in neighboring city of Guri—the peak offers Seoulites the earliest views of the rising sun as it comes up over the distant mountains, illuminating the winding Hangang River below. It's also an easy, 30-minute hike, with gentle and well-marked hiking paths to the top. Events to celebrate the New Year are held on the peak at sunrise.

After taking in the sunrise, take in a bit of history and culture, too, by visiting the old Goguryeo fortress on the mountain's slopes. 

# CELEBRATE NEW YEAR'S WITH TEMPLESTAY

Special programs to be held at 118 temples nationwide



If you're looking for a deeper and more spiritually demanding way to pass the New Year's, the Templestay program of the Jogye Order of Korean Buddhism hosts a number of overnight programs at temples across the country. Not only are these an unmatched opportunity to experience intimately the beauty and wisdom of Korean traditional culture, but the temples themselves are often located in remote, scenic and, above all, relaxing mountain areas far from the urban grind. You'll find few better ways to recharge both body and mind in Korea.

## Getting away from it all

Templestay is planning a diversity of programs for this New Year, including mediation programs, mountain hiking trips, film festivals and traditional games. The number of participants is increasing yearly as Koreans and international residents—especially city dwellers—seek the pristine mountain surroundings to say good-bye to the old year and hello to the new one.

In particular, it's a chance to see in practice old traditions that are rarely seen elsewhere.

Basic programs include candlelight meditation for healing and communication; traditional games in which the monks share their warm hearts with participants; chats over green tea and traditional snacks; paper lantern-making with Korean traditional paper; making temple-style rice cake soup; wish-making and more.

There are 118 temples participating in these programs, however, and specific programs differ from place to place.



## Specific programs

There are far too many programs to count, but here's some highlights to check out.

- **Samhwasa** (Donghae, Gangwon-do)  
Samhwasa might not be the largest temple in the world, but it is located in the beautiful Mureung Valley, and is just a stone's throw from the East Sea, where the best sunrises in Korea can be viewed. It hosts a two-day program (Dec 31—Jan 1) with Buddhist services, communal meals, cup lantern-making, bell-ringing and a viewing of the sunrise from nearby Mangsang Beach. Cost: 50,000 won. More info: T. (033) 534-7676.
- **Golguksa** (Gyeongju, Gyeongsangbuk-co)  
Golguksa Temple is hosting a two-day program (Jan 31—Jan 1) with a variety of programs, including meditation, chanting, bowing and best of all, training in Seonmudo, the meditative martial art for which Golguksa is famous. This is one of Korea's most unique Buddhist temples. The sunrise will be viewed from Gampo Beach. Cost: 50,000 won. More info: T. (054) 775-1689.
- **Mihwangsa** (Haenam, Jeollanam-do)  
One of this writer's favorite temples, the off-the-

beaten-path temple of Mihwangsa in southwest Korea holds a New Year's program (Dec 31—Jan 1) with views of the sunrise from Mt. Dalmasan, the rocky peak behind the temple. The views from this temple are amazing—the surroundings are lovely, and on a clear day, you can see out to the sea. Price to be announced later. More info: T. (061) 533-3521.

- **Geumseonsa** (Seoul)  
You don't need to go far to appreciate these programs. Geumseonsa, a temple in Seoul's Bukhansan National Park, hosts a two-day program (Dec 31—Jan 1) with candlelight meditation, traditional games, tea time and sunrise viewing from Mt. Samgaksan. Cost: 50,000 won. More info: T. (02) 935-9955.
- **Geumsansa** (Gimje, Jeollabuk-do)  
The fantastic Buddhist monastery of Geumsansa makes a great place to spend the New Year's. In addition to talks with the monks, tea discussions, roasted sweet potatoes and making lanterns using Korean traditional paper, you'll take in the sunrise from sacred Mt. Moaksan. This is a great opportunity to explore Jeonju, a center of Korean traditional arts and culture, too. Cost: TBA. More info: 010-6589-0108.



These are just a few of the many programs going on throughout the country. For more information, visit the official homepage of the Templestay program at [www.templestay.com](http://www.templestay.com). Or, better yet, pay a visit to the helpful Templestay Information Center, a one-stop center for all your Templestay information needs, just across the street from Jogyesa Temple (a short walk from Anguk Station, Line 3, Exit 6). ☎

# A VERY KOREAN CHRISTMAS

Don't catch the holiday blues this Yuletide

Written by Robert Koehler

Christmas can be a bittersweet time for international residents of Seoul, particularly those from the West, where Christmas is the biggest holiday of the year. In Korea, Christmas is more low-key affair, a fun day geared towards lovers and friends rather than families. To be sure, there's plenty of Christmas lights around town, and the department stores all hold Christmas sales. The "Christmas spirit," so to speak, is a bit

lacking, though.

Still, if fun is what you're after, there's plenty to be had, especially if you've got a) a significant other, or b) a couple of friends you can get together.

How you celebrate Christmas is a function of venue—you can stay at home, or you could go out. Let's look at some ways to spend a very Korean Yuletide.

## At home

### • Decorate a Christmas tree

The Christmas tree is a tradition that began in the Baltic region and Germany in the 15th and 16th centuries. It's difficult to find real Christmas trees in Korea (and fire codes would probably rule them out in most homes) but it's easy enough to find artificial trees—Costco is a good place to start, or see our shopping article on p72. If you want to do one up in Korean fashion, use a Korean *bokjumeoni* ("Blessings Pocket," small silk bag) or *beoseon* (Korean socks).

### • House party

Cook something yummy for your friends. Afterwards, watch a DVD and have a couple of drinks. Of course, if cooking is too much work, you can always order something—just allow for some time if it's snowing out.

### • Gift-giving

Giving and receiving gifts is an old Christmas tradition. Local department stores have picked up on this, often holding sales during the Christmas season. For something a bit more Korean, head to Insa-dong, where you'll find plenty of Korean traditional gifts.

### • Watch TV all day

This, sadly, is one of the most popular ways to spend Christmas for single Koreans. Expect a high dosage of "Home Alone," "Miracle on 34th Street" and "The Nightmare Before Christmas." There are some Christmas specials on TV for the Korean Wave fans, too.

## Going out

### • Buying a cake at midnight

Now, you could be a chump and buy a Christmas cake prior to midnight, but the wise wait until midnight, after which most famous bakeries slash the price of their Christmas cakes in half. It pays—or at least costs less—to wait.

### • Party like it's 1999

On Christmas, some of us think of Mannheim Steamroller. Others think of electronic and rock. The Hongdae area hosts a ton of parties on Christmas. If you're single, this is a good time to find that special someone—more couples get made on Christmas than at any other time of year. If you think you've already found Mr. or Miss Right, however, be on guard—Christmas also witnesses the greatest number of breakups. Reference our "Goings On Around Town" and "Club Info" sections for more info.

### • Go to church

Whether Jesus of Nazareth was born on Dec 25 is a matter of debate, and some Eastern Orthodox churches observe the holiday according to the Julian calendar. Still, for many Korean Christians, Dec 25 is a day to celebrate Jesus' birthday, usually at church. Almost all churches hold special services on Christmas Eve and Christmas, often with food, carols and other Noel traditions. Some churches, like Myeong-dong Catholic Cathedral and Seoul Anglican Cathedral, hold English services, too. ☞

# GIFT GIVING IN KOREA

Christmas is the season of giving, so it only seems appropriate to look at some gift-giving etiquette in Korea.

## Two hands

As with many actions, you should use two hands when giving and receiving gifts, especially to seniors and those whom you do not know well.

## Do not open

It's considered rude to open a gift in front of the giver, lest the reaction of the receiver causes a loss of face for the giver. If you are giving a gift, you may consider leaving it somewhere where the recipient might find it later. On a related note, be sure to wrap your gifts.

## Don't go empty-handed

When visiting a home, it's always a good idea to bring a gift of some sort, be it just a bottle of wine, some fruit or a dessert. If you are an international visitor, a product from your homeland might not be a bad idea.

## Don't overdo it

Gifts should be good quality, but not excessively expensive. An overly expensive gift will put the recipient in a bind, as he or she might feel expected to reciprocate with an equally expensive gift or lose face.

## Cash belongs in an envelope

If occasion arises to give cash as a gift, such as at a wedding or a funeral, put the money in an envelope. Don't just hand the cash over.

## Reciprocate

If you receive a gift, you will be expected to return the favor with a gift of similar value at some later date. This is just being polite.

## Housewarming

If you are attending a housewarming party, bring a box of laundry detergent. Not only is this practical, but carries with it the meaning of cleanliness and prosperity. Other non-perishable, practical gifts will do, too, like toilet paper.

## Do not expect letters of thanks

In the West, is considered proper to write a note of thanks when receiving a gift. Not so in Korea.

## Business gifts

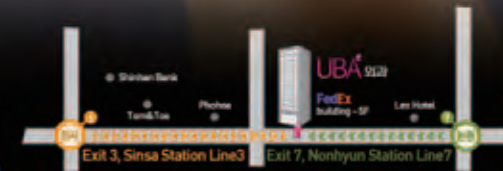
If you're doing business in Korea, be aware that the business world has its own rules of gift-giving—see "Korea Business Advisory" in the October issue of SEOUL. ☞



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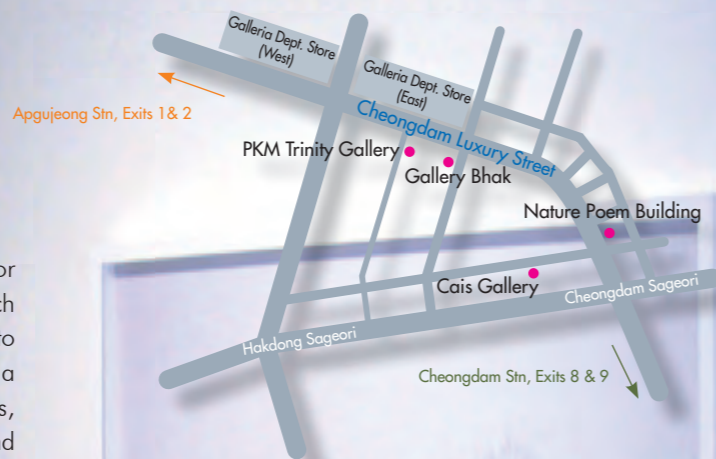
# GALLERY HEAVEN

Cheongdam-dong culture is about more than just luxury brand shopping  
 Written by Ben Jackson | Photographed by Ryu Seunghoo

**K**orean society today is notorious for wide rich-poor divide. If you want to know where those on the rich side of it hang out and do their shopping, heading to the southern neighborhood of Cheongdam-dong is always a good option. But elbow aside the exclusive multi shops, brand boutiques, foreign luxury car showrooms, casinos and classy restaurants, and you'll also find quite a collection of art galleries.

Considered one of the two main art gallery hubs in the city—the other being that in the Insa-dong-Samcheong-dong area north of the river—Cheongdam-dong's "gallery street" is home to some big names in the art world, and reportedly attracts a younger crowd of collectors, whose pockets contain "new money" rather than old. At any rate, the point is that even if your pockets contain neither large sums of new money nor of old, this is still a great area to stroll around and take in some high quality contemporary art from Korea and overseas.

The following is just a small selection of what's on offer in the Cheongdam-dong neighborhood. Check out their websites for more information on current exhibitions (if you miss the ones specified in this article).



## PKM Trinity Gallery

This is the southern Seoul branch of PKM Gallery, one of the city's top private galleries. Not to be missed. Current exhibition: Thomas Demand (until Jan 10, 2012)  
 Website: [www.pkmgallery.com](http://www.pkmgallery.com)

## Park Ryu Sook Gallery

One of Cheongdam-dong's oldest and best-known galleries. Current exhibition: Permanent exhibition, with works by Kim Chong-hak, Bill Beckley, Patrick Hughes, Yim Man-hyeok and more | Website: [www.parkryusookgallery.com](http://www.parkryusookgallery.com)

## Nature Poem Building

Not actually a gallery, but home to a whole bunch of them...

- **Opera Gallery**—The Seoul branch of an international gallery with outlets in London, Paris, New York, Singapore and several other major cities. Characterized by its displays of internationally famous artworks and large glass windows that mean you don't even have to go inside to enjoy them. But do go in. Current exhibition: "The Masters"—works by Matisse, Monet, Chagall, Picasso, Braque and more |

Website: [www.operagallery.com](http://www.operagallery.com)

- **Mezzanine Gallery**—A single-artist established in 2009 in order to introduce the work of renowned glass artist Dale Chihuly. |

Website: [www.mezzgallery.co.kr](http://www.mezzgallery.co.kr)

- **Johyun Gallery**—The Seoul branch of a gallery original established in Busan in 1990, this place has an international focus. Current exhibition: Yoo Jung-hyun's "Urban Plants" (until Dec 11)

Website: [www.johyungallery.com](http://www.johyungallery.com)

- **Pyo Gallery South**—The Cheongdam-dong-based counterpart to Itaewon's Pyo Gallery. Current exhibition: "2001 Happy End"—works by Lee Chae-il and Kim Byung-jin |

Website: [www.pyoart.com](http://www.pyoart.com)

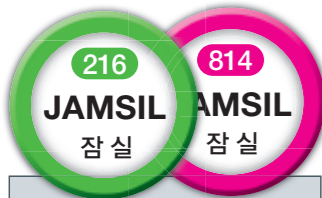
## Galerie Bhak

One of Seoul's leading galleries, specialized in contemporary Korean and international art including painting, sculpture, photography, mixed media and installations. Current exhibition: "The Breath of Master"—works by Fernando Botero, Lee Ufan and Paik Nam-june | [www.galeriebhak.com](http://www.galeriebhak.com)

## Cais Gallery

Another of the area's main galleries, introducing Korean and international artists. Current exhibition: Kang Min-soo's "Idyll, Days of Children" | Website: [www.caisgallery.com](http://www.caisgallery.com)





**About Seoul sub→urban**  
 Commuting on the subway, we've all had the thought: "What if I just got off? What's up there?" Based on the blog of the same name (seoulsuburban.com), this column will be doing exactly that: visiting new subway stations, exploring, and opening up the hidden corners of a seemingly limitless city.

# JAMSIL STATION

Line 2—Station #216, Line 8—Station #814

Winter is here, but Jamsil's Lotte World offers an indoor entertainment haven. Alternatively, brave the cold for a refreshing stroll in the snow at its lakeside park.

Written by Charles Usher | Photographed by Elizabeth Groeschen

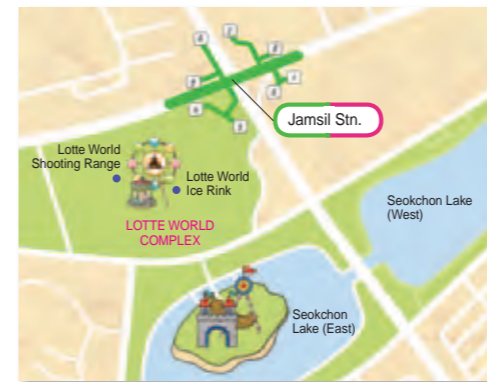
Hidden among the soaring glass and steel towers of southeastern Seoul is a wormhole, a portal to a land that physically exists within the Songpa-gu dimensions of time and space but which in truth is practically a sovereign one-block corporation-state. Welcome, ladies and gentlemen, to the Republic of Lotte.

## The Republic of Lotte

You don't even need to exit the station to cross its event horizon, so seamless is the boundary between its world and ours, and once inside you needn't ever leave. You could live at the Lotte Hotel World, buy provisions at Lotte Mart,

purchase clothing at the Lotte Department Store, grab some Chanel No. 5 at the Lotte World Duty Free Shops, procure entertainment at Lotte Cinema, and eat at Lotteria. Presumably the only thing the Republic is unprepared for is your departure, as there is no Lotte Funeral Home.

The Lotte World complex's main attraction, Lotte World Adventure, is the world's largest indoor theme park at 82,650 square meters and is connected directly to the subway station. Although that's a lot of space, it's still hard to stuff an amusement park inside a building. Lotte World does a pretty good job of pulling it off, however. You'll find all sorts of rides, arcades, and snack stalls here, and you can also watch the occasional parade or performance. There's



•Lotte World Complex  
 Towards Exit 4  
 See website for hours and ticket information  
 Website: [www.lotteworld.com](http://www.lotteworld.com)

•Lotte World Shooting Range  
 Weekdays: 9am—9pm, weekends and holidays: 9am—10pm  
 Website: [cafe.naver.com/lwshr](http://cafe.naver.com/lwshr)  
 T. (02) 414-4013

•Lotte World Ice Rink  
 Hours  
 Weekdays: 10am—9:30pm, weekends and holidays: 10am—9:30pm  
 Admission: 12 and under: 7,500 won, 13 and up: 8,500 won; skate rental: 4,500 won

•Seokchon Lake  
 Exit 2 or 3

park's bigger rides are located, among them a roller coaster-flume combination and the Gyro Drop, which lifts park goers several stories in the air before letting them plunge to the ground. Looking for something a bit less extreme? Catch a ride on the monorail that wends its way through the park or, come spring, take a cruise on the lake.

## Fire and ice

The entire Lotte World setup, like any good amusement park, is a temple to screaming, eating, game playing, and being spendthrift. If that's exactly the sort of thing that exasperates you, fear not: catharsis is at hand. Two floors below the theme park is the Lotte World Shooting Range.

In a country without a gun culture, stepping

even a small nature center where a variety of plants, insects, and fish are on display, including some hands-on exhibits where adventurous kids can get their hands grubby.

Not all of the amusement park is inside. An elevated walkway leads across Seokchon Lake to Magic Island, where the

into the range's reception area is a singularly weird experience. Weapons are bolted to the walls, which are covered elsewhere with pictures of firearms, and also a few signed photos of Korean celebrities who've visited, including Tablo from Epik High and his wife Kang Hye-jeong, who starred in *Oldboy*.

Feel like squeezing off a few rounds? Here's how: Walk up to the counter, give the attendant your ID card and 20,000 won, point to your choice of weapon. That's it. Employees will provide you with a vest and noise-muffling headphones, give you a quick tutorial, and then you're free to fire away.

Just outside the range is the Lotte World Ice Rink, where skaters glide around beneath a giant glass dome. If you've never skated before, this popular rink is a perfectly fine place to try it out; there are always plenty of beginners slowly shuffling around, clinging to the outer rail. If you're as at home on blades as you are in sneakers that's good too—as a public rink in a popular entertainment mecca, the sheet here accommodates a mix of all different levels.

## Defecting

As nurturing and providing as the Republic of Lotte is, you may find yourself wishing to defect back to the real world at some point. Head out Exit 3 and walk past the giant neon raccoon to Seokchon Lake.

Particularly popular with locals, who flock to its walking path for exercise, and with couples on dates, the lake is split into two halves by Songpa-daero, and the two parts have significantly different characteristics. Though both are pretty, with lots of trees, the east half is markedly more serene. You may even spot a heron standing stoically near its banks. This contrast is due to the fact that the Magic Island sits in the middle of the western half, so romantic evening strolls will be regularly pierced by the screams of roller coaster riders and the wheezing hydraulics of the Bungee Drop. What it takes away in calm, though, it certainly makes up for in entertainment value. 🇰🇷



# IN THE STEPS OF WONHYO

Five intrepid pilgrims retrace the route of one of Korea's greatest spiritual thinkers

Written by Robert Koehler | Photographs courtesy of Simon Phillips

Anybody who has walked the Via Dolorosa, the Camino de Santiago, or made the pilgrimage to Mecca or the Buddhist holy sites in northern India knows just how inspiring these treks can be.

In December, four intrepid Western pilgrims—Tony MacGregor, Simon Phillips, Christopher McCarthy and David Watermeyer will conduct a 500km pilgrimage across Korea, following the route of the great seventh century Buddhist monk Wonhyo, one of the country's greatest Buddhist thinkers. This trek of self-understanding will take the men through some of the most scenically spectacular and culturally rich country in Korea, from the ancient Silla capital of Gyeongju in the east to the West Sea port of Pyeongtaek. Their hope is that, as Wonhyo inspired them, they may inspire others.

## Wonhyo?

Wonhyo (617—686) was not only one of Korea's greatest Buddhist monks, but also one of its most unconventional. Born to a simple family, he grew to become one of the Silla Kingdom's preeminent Buddhist theologians, with some 80 commentaries to his name. Eventually, however, he renounced the formal Buddhist life to live amongst the people, singing and dancing on the street to teach the masses. With a Silla princess he even had a son, who became a great Confucian scholar.

One of the defining moments of his life came on a trek he made with his good friend Uisang, another great Buddhist monk who founded many of Korea's most famous Buddhist temples. The two men were traveling from Gyeongju to the West Sea coast, from which they would sail to China, where they would further their Buddhist studies, as was common for Korea's leading monks of the day. When they arrived at the port, the weather turned ugly, so the two spent the night in a cave. During the night, Wonhyo grew thirsty, and searched for something to drink. In

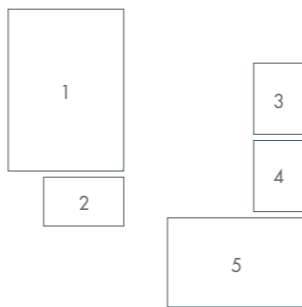
the dark, he picked up what he thought was a gourd filled with cool water. Picking it up, he drank deeply. Satisfied, he went back to sleep.

In the morning, he again looked for the gourd, but instead of a gourd, what he found was a rotten skull filled with dirty rainwater and maggots. As many of us would, he vomited, but he also experienced a profound enlightenment—the truth is created by the mind. Having found what he was looking for, he abandoned the trip to China (Uisang, however, continued) and returned to Gyeongju.

## Pilgrim's progress

"The Wonhyo Project," as it is called, has been in discussion since 2007. Canadian Tony MacGregor, a former chief copy editor of the Korea Times who developed a keen interest in Korean Buddhism at the International Zen Center at Seoul's Hwagye-sa Temple, sees the trek as an act of gratitude to the Korean people. "I had a wonderful time in Korea and deepened my understanding of Buddhism. I was treated with so much kindness and consideration by my colleagues, my students, my neighbors and just people I bumped into in daily life—people who showed me how to find places, guided me to subway stations and showed me how to avoid the motorcycles that drive on the sidewalks, he says. "I wanted a way to say thank you and when I came across stories of Wonhyo, Korea's most beloved Buddhist saint, and learned about his journey across the Korean Peninsula, I thought a great way to honor him and Korea was to re-enact his famous journey."

MacGregor also sees inspiration in the



1. Bodhisattva at Wonhyoam Hermitage, Mt. Gayasan  
2. Wonhyoam Hermitage  
3. Simon Phillips trimming moustache, Amazon jungle 2011  
4. Tony MacGregor walking the Wonhyo trail 2009  
5. Tomb and trees, Wonhyoam Hermitage

pilgrimage literature of his native West. "Since I was a youth I have dabbled in creative writing, including short stories and, like most people raised in an English-language education system, I was familiar with Canterbury Tales," he says. "The stories are enormously varied—bawdy, humorous, knightly, saintly and irreverent—and they are still popular and well-read 600 years after the death of Chaucer. I thought it would be a wonderful thing if we could write a modern, 21st Century version of Canterbury Tales that would still be read 600 years from now."

## Rediscovering Wonhyo's trail

Planning the route was no easy task, though. Korean mountain culture expert David Mason, an advisor to the project who planned much of the route with Chris McCarthy, explains, "Nobody knows which route Wonhyo and Uisang traveled from Gyeongju to Dangjin, or just where on the Dangjin-gun or Seosan coastline Wonhyo's enlightenment legendarily occurred. And the coastline has changed due to the silt-buildup of the Yellow Sea and land-reclamation of what was once swampy mud-flats in the last 1,350 years. So I simply designed this trail to pass through or by as much natural beauty and Wonhyo-associated cultural interest as possible."

A detailed itinerary of the pilgrimage route can be found at the project's homepage ([www.inthefootstepsofwonhyo.com](http://www.inthefootstepsofwonhyo.com)), but generally speaking, the route follows a 500km course from Gyeongju's historic Bunhwangsa, where Wonhyo lived and taught, through Gyeongju National Park to Pohang's picturesque lakeside temple of Oeosa, then on to Andong, Mungyeong, Suanbo, Chungju and Goesan until they reach the timeworn monastery of Sudeoksa. From there, they will hike to the holy mountain of Gayasan, before concluding with walks along the flatlands of the Dangjin coast.

## On the road


The pilgrims enjoy a real diversity of experience. Phillips has been traveling since the age of two, when he left home on his four-wheel bike for a trek that ended prematurely when a policeman spotted him four blocks from home. After leaving Korea, MacGregor began pursuing Buddhist studies in Thailand. McCarthy has been on a long spiritual quest that has brought him to Siberia, West Africa and Korea, and has pursued PhD work in the United States and Mongolia. Watermeyer, a lecturer at Dongguk University in

Gyeongju, realized the power of the pilgrimage after walking the legendary Camino de Santiago pilgrim route.

As with any pilgrimage, the band may experience some challenges, although the Korean route is not totally without its creature comforts. Several of the larger monasteries offer Templestay programs, for example.

## Open to all

The pilgrims hope this trek is just the beginning. The response so far has been encouraging. Says Simon Phillips, "There has been a general interest, particularly from the hiking community. Some may join us for weekends and day trips, but the majority express an interest in taking part in the pilgrimage next spring, when the climes are somewhat more friendly." MacGregor adds, "We may organize another pilgrimage ourselves in the summer of 2012 if there is interest." The team also has plans to write its own guidebook for the route, for the benefit of future pilgrims.

The Wonhyo pilgrimage is open to all. Donations are welcome, of course—see the project's official website (address above). If you'd like to actually take part in the pilgrimage itself—or at least parts of it—you're more than welcome. Be sure to check out the website for the schedule and updates from the trail. But even if you don't go out this time, there's nothing stopping you from making your own pilgrimage: this month's five pilgrims have pledged their support to their future counterparts. 



## MORE INFO

Website: [www.inthefootstepsofwonhyo.com](http://www.inthefootstepsofwonhyo.com)





# FEELING CULTURE

Once an aristocratic abode, Korea House combines the best of cultural preservation, historical learning and pure entertainment

Written by Ben Jackson | Images courtesy of Korea House

**M**t. Namsan is Seoul's "southern inner mountain," one of four crested by the city's ancient fortress wall in each cardinal direction. Now an island of green in the heart of the hugely expanded capital, Mt. Namsan is nonetheless a broad mountain, hiding a multitude of attractions on its various flanks.

One of these is Korea House, a large complex of Korean traditional *hanok* buildings that dates from the days of Park Paeng-nyeon, a high-ranking government minister from the early Joseon period. Last restored thirty years ago, the wooden buildings have since become one of the capital's major venues for foreign visitors to witness and experience Korean traditional culture.

## The whole package

Part of Korea House's success, in the opinion of its director, Kim Ki-sam (see separate interview box), is the way it combines so many elements of the Korean cultural experience that foreigners visiting the country want: Food modeled on Joseon period royal cuisine, traditional performances, hands-on



### MORE INFO

T. (02) 2266-9101  
Website: [www.koreahouse.or.kr](http://www.koreahouse.or.kr)  
Opening hours: Various—see website. The traditional cultural goods gallery is open from 10am—10pm.

### GETTING THERE

Chungmuro Station, Lines 3 & 4, Exit 3.

cultural experience, traditional-style weddings and traditional cultural experiences.

Korea House is run by the Korea Cultural Heritage Foundation, which means that its food, performances and other products are of a high standard. Meals consist of dishes including those traditionally served to Joseon monarchs and at royal banquets, while menus are devised with advice from some of Korea's top traditional food experts, including Han Bok-ryeo, president of the Institute of Korean Royal Cuisine. Performances are given by artists that include state designated masters in their respective genres, and feature a variety of dances—look out for the fan dance, the five drum dance and the magnificent *salpuri* dance—songs and instrumental music.

## Hands on

Many tourists today look for a more direct cultural experience when traveling in foreign countries: this is what makes Korea House's selection of traditional cultural experiences, which includes cooking, traditional knotting, *tal* (mask) making, *hanji* (Korean paper) craft, *taekkyeon* (a traditional martial

art), hourglass drumming, *danso* (short bamboo flute) playing, etiquette and tea ceremony, and traditional dancing.

While gift shops attached to tourist attractions often come across as opportunistic add-ons filled with cheap trinkets that are bound to end up lost at the back of a drawer, Korea House's traditional cultural goods gallery is one of the place's main attractions. The Korea Cultural Heritage Foundation has a dedicated product development team, which incorporates patterns, motifs, materials and other elements of traditional culture to create some stunning and useful objects—mugs, stationery, canvas bags, silk scarves, metal pendants, lacquer boxes and umbrellas, to name but a few—combining beauty with the practicality so often lacking in miniature "traditional culture" products.

## Traditional wedding

Marriage in Korea, as in any culture, is a serious business that is accompanied by a rich portfolio of customs, object, garments, foods and more. If you fancy a betrothal that adheres strictly to "traditional notions of decorum," avoiding any rogue foreign elements that have appeared in today's typical wedding ceremony, head to Korea House with your fiancé(e), family, friends and possibly even future in-laws. Fully catered wedding services are available in the highly attractive courtyard at the center of Korea House, three times daily. 



## Interview: Kim Ki-sam, director of Korea House

**SEOUL:** We heard somewhere that Korea House is around the fifth most popular destination for foreign visitors to Korea. Why do you think that is?

**Kim Ki-sam:** We have about 160,000 visitors each year. I think our popularity is down to the fact that Korea House offers a comprehensive range of cultural experiences and opportunities to experience Korean culture.

**S:** You only became director of Korea House recently. Could you tell us about your plans for the future?

**K:** Before coming into this position, I put together a plan to create a more "beautiful Korea House," which sought to bring beauty to the buildings themselves, the people working at Korea House, and the minds of people visiting it. There have recently been big changes in the style of tourism in Korea, toward direct experience. People are always talking about how beautiful Korean traditional culture is, but not enough about how to make others actually feel this beauty. We now have a new building which was built in order to offer more hands-on experience of Korean culture, and I want to combine traditional culture in its pure form—rather than developing or altering it—with cutting-edge technology to allow better understanding of it. One example is the use of 3D holographic technology to

project subtitles or backgrounds onto a stage while traditional performances are taking place.

**S:** The traditional cultural goods gallery has some very tempting objects

**K:** The Korea Cultural Heritage Foundation's product development team produces about 20 new items each year. Some of them are very popular, especially the silk scarves. I have previously worked on cultural product development, and I think one of the best ways to make our cultural heritage known is to introduce it in practical forms for everyday use. Stationery is a good example of how this can be achieved.

# ULSAN

Korea's city of industry has more than meets the eye

Written & photographed by Jason Teale

The idea of coming to Ulsan on a trip or a holiday is a hard sell even to the most eager traveler in Korea. It simply just isn't one of those places that inspire visions of white sandy beaches, foggy mountain temples or hip cafés full of fashionably-dressed people writing poetry.



Daewangam,  
the burial site of Silla King Munmu



Sinbok Rotary

Ulsan is best known for its enormous industrial sector, its massive car and ship building facilities and finally its history of whaling and whale meat. These days, however, the city is improving, with many districts such as Mugeo-dong, the university district, filling with cheap shopping and cafés. Samsan-dong is the upscale shopping area with latest trends and restaurants. There is old downtown, with its cheap shops and restaurants, Ilsan Beach and the Taehwagang River walk to take a load off.

### History

Ulsan's history goes back all the way to the dinosaurs that left their indelible footprints on the area's landscape. Following that, ancient man left his mark in the form of etchings and drawings found in two different locations around Ulsan.



Entrance to Ulsan Whale Museum in Jangsaengpo

The port of Jangsaengpo has been a popular whaling area in this part of Korea for many years. Whale meat can still be found here. The Ulsan Whale Museum tells the tale of whaling in the area; for 2,000 won you can learn all about it.

One of the newest and best attractions for the history buff is Ulsan Museum, a great place to check out. Located just up from the main gates of Ulsan Grand Park, this newly completed museum provides the perfect introduction to local history.

### What to see

There is a lot to see in Ulsan and it goes beyond the 12 scenic sights. From mountain biking to beaches, shopping to quiet cafés, Ulsan has it all and you probably didn't even know about it. With a reputation as one of the

richest yet most polluted cities in Korea, Ulsan is doing everything it can to change.

Jakgwaecheon Stream is a little slice of heaven in the country village of Eonyang (just outside Ulsan). The stream has a long history and has been the staging ground for uprisings as well as poetry contests dating back through history. Poems and names are etched into the smooth rocks along the flowing waterway, making it a unique scene.

If nature and walking are your thing, take a walk through Ulsan's newest "Grand Park", the Taehwagang River Grand Park. This area is quickly becoming a landmark of Ulsan with its unique walking bridge and bamboo forests. In recent years, authorities have taken huge steps to make the area more beautiful and appealing to visitors. Surrounding the park is a selection of cafés and restaurants that will make your day of walking that much better.

Most notably is that further down the street is



Taehwagang River Grand Park

Ulsan's "Bulgogi Street", a collection not only of *bulgogi* restaurants but *galbi* and *samgyeopsal* places as well. While none really stand out from the bunch, it is a good area to indulge your inner carnivore.

For a relaxing day by the sea try Ilsan Beach, located near the huge Hyundai shipyards. Starting with Daewangam forest you can walk along the rocky cliffs and pinewoods to the sands of the beach. Surrounding it is a selection of cafés, fresh seafood restaurants and places to wet your whistle. Again, this area has recently under gone a major development and brand name cafés have swooped in, making it a bit more “modern.” It is also a great place to find a seaside motel.

The best way to start the day, or even the year, off is to catch the sunrise from Ganjeolgot light house. This area is the main location for Ulsan's New Year's Sunrise events. It is a little bit of a way out of town, and traffic on New Year's Day is pretty crazy, but the view is worth it.

Authorities have recently improved the viewing grounds to accommodate more people by adding platforms along the coastline. Sadly, there is still just a single lane for traffic most of the way there. Perhaps the best advice that can be offered is to get there early on New Year's Day and secure your spot.

If you have an interest in the iconic “industrial

look” of Ulsan, the Onsan Petro Chemical area offers an interesting and almost alien landscape to view. On cold nights, when the “steam” is rising out of the chimneys, along with blasts of fire, you do get the feeling that you are almost in another world.

### Where to eat

Ulsan has little in the way of “high-end dining,” but across the street from the Lotte Hotel is the D'Maris Buffet, which will set you back a chunk of change (around 30,000 won) but boasts one of the largest selections in Korea.


If you don't want to break the bank but still want to enjoy great food, Namaskar is Ulsan's very own Indo-Pakistani restaurant, offering authentic cuisine. Prices run around 14,000 won and the food is amazing. There are two locations in Ulsan; the newer one is near the Lotte hotel and the original is in the old downtown area, near the end of the pedestrian street (past the fire station and just before the night clubs)

If you indeed want to try whale meat, many of

the shops in front of the Ulsan Whale museum carry this expensive and controversial dish. The street is lined with establishments selling it.

### Where to stay

There are two top-end hotels in Ulsan. The Hyundai Hotel is located in Bangeojin, a fair distance from the main areas of Ulsan. The Lotte Hotel is located in the “new downtown” area of the city, which sports a vibrant nightlife and shopping area. These two hotels constitute Ulsan's luxury accommodation. They will charge upwards of 200,000 won, with Hyundai being the more expensive choice at around 280,000 won.

Budget goers will find the area directly in front of Taehwagang Station to hang numerous options for lodging. A favorite among travelers is the Joy Motel, which is situated right across the street from the station. 



The common perception of Ulsan:  
A city built around a chemical factory



### GETTING THERE

The easiest way to get to Ulsan is by KTX. The station is located about 10 minutes out of town but there are modern buses running around the clock to get you anywhere in the city you'd like to go.

You can also fly into Ulsan which is another quick way to get in or out of the city. However, the transportation network is not as up to date as the KTX station, so you are left with taxis or buses (which are located across the parking lot).

The two main bus stations are located right next to each other in Samsan-dong right next to (and under) the Landmark Lotte Wheel. Though they take considerably longer from Seoul, buses do take you directly into the heart of the city.

# Swazi Candles

Swazi Candles are handmade in the small African Kingdom of Swaziland. Unique Hand Crafted Quality.



## hotel news

### SWAZI CANDLES MAKE ASIAN DEBUT

Astoria Hotel, Chungmuro



The Astoria Hotel has launched a range of beautiful, handmade "Swazi candles" for the first time ever in Korea and Asia. Let your home be illuminated by the magic of African craftsmanship!  
Contact: (02) 2268-7111

### WOW FESTIVE SEASON

W Seoul-Walkerhill, Mt. Achanan



In addition to some great winter packages and parties at the ultrachic WooBar, look out for Wow festive menus in both Kitchen and Namu restaurants, from Dec 16—30, plus Kitchen's mouthwatering Christmas Eve dinner and plenty more.  
Various dates and prices | Contact: (02) 2022-0111 (Kitchen)

### SPECIAL HOLIDAY MEMORIES

Park Hyatt, Daechi-dong



Cornerstone, The Lounge and The Timber House present various promotions for Christmas and the year's end. A Christmas menu, festive weekend brunches, chocolate fondue sets, caviar and oyster menus: you name it, they've got it.  
Various dates and prices | Contact: (02) 2016-1220

### GINGERBREAD: THE FUTURE OF ARCHITECTURE

JW Marriott Seoul, Banpo-dong

Head to the JW Marriott Seoul for parent-and-child gingerbread classes taught by a professional pastry chef! Naturally, students get to take their creations home with them. The hotel's Deli Shop has a great selection of tasty Christmas gifts.

Classes: Dec 10 & 17, 11:30am;  
80,000 won per team

Contact: (02) 6282-6738



### CAMPING IN THE CITY

Sheraton Grande Walkerhill, Mt. Achanan



It's December: time to go camping! Need a quick getaway from the bustling city? Enjoy a camping site overlooking the Han River and Mt. Achanan, with packaged food ready to be grilled with quality camping utensils. | 70,000—100,000 won | Contact: (02) 455-5000

### SNOW SLIDE

Banyan Tree Club & Spa, Mt. Namsan

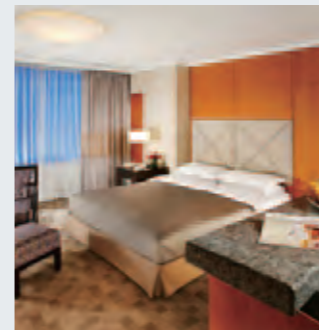
Banyan Tree's Oasis outdoor swimming pool complex has been transformed this winter into a 65-meter "snow slide," offering resort guests and members of the public alike to enjoy both tobogganing and ski lessons on an artificial slice of fun in the heart of the city.

Contact: (02) 2250-8074



### OAKWOOD WINTER PACKAGE

Oakwood Premier Coex Center Seoul



One night's accommodation, complimentary breakfast for two, free use of Oakwood's fitness center, indoor swimming pool, sauna and indoor golf range, and two DVD rentals.

Dec 1, 2011—Feb 29, 2012

Various rates

Contact: (02) 3466-7000



Authentic German Cuisine  
in the Heart of Seoul

# 12 EVENT Calendar

Dates & venues below are subject to change.

+ For detailed info on events, go to "Goings On Around Town."  
Blue-green color letters indicate closing date of event. -Ed

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

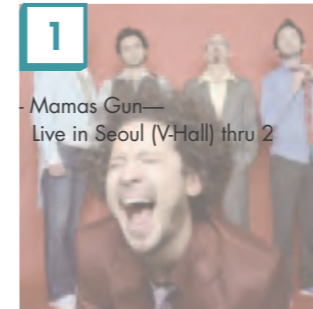
THU

FRI

SAT



Open Mind  
Emiko Suo—Kanpai (p54)



Mamas Gun—  
Live in Seoul (V-Hall) thru 2

4

- The King's Singers  
(Seoul Arts Center)

5

- Wien Quartet Invitational  
Concert with Ministry of  
Unification (Seoul Arts Center)

6

- The Musical Hero  
(National Theater of Korea)  
thru Jan 7, 2012

7

- Amadeus (Myeongdong Theater)  
thru Jan 1, 2012

8

- Hanna Chang—Songs Without  
Words (Seoul Arts Center)  
  
- The 37th Seoul Independent Film  
Festival (CGV Sangam / Korean  
Film Archive) thru 16

9

- Kun-Woo Paik & Orchestre de  
Paris (Seoul Arts Center) thru 3

10

- 2011 YG Family Concert  
(Olympic Park) thru 4  
  
- The Czech Boys Choir—  
Bonipueri (Sejong Center for the  
Performing Arts)

11

- Painters Sent as Envoys to China  
(National Museum of Korea)

12

- Friends of Korea Foundation  
(Seoul Arts Center)

13

14

- Seoul Design Festival 2011  
(COEX) thru 18

15

- Seoul Metropolitan Dance  
Theatre—Now, Movement  
(Sejong Center for the Performing  
Arts) thru 16

16

- Korea National Ballet—  
The Nutcracker  
(Seoul Arts Center) thru 25

17

- Musical Hamlet  
(Universal Arts Center)

18

- Labour of Love, Revisited  
(Arko Art Center)

20

- The Little Singers from Paris—  
Christmas Concert (Sejong  
Center for the Performing Arts)

21

- Universal Ballet—The Nutcracker  
(Universal Arts Center) thru 31

22

- Seoul Metropolitan Traditional  
Music Orchestra—Year-end  
Concert (Sejong Center for  
the Performing Arts)

23

- The 4th Seoul Doll Fair 2011  
(COEX) thru Jan 2, 2012

24

- 2AM—Christmas Concert  
(Seoul Jamsil Student Gymnasium)  
thru 25  
  
- Ronn Branton's 11th Jazz  
Christmas! (Sejong Center for  
the Performing Arts) thru 25

25

- Christmas Concert: Yuhki  
Kuramoto & Friends 2011  
(Seoul Arts Center)

26

- Kyung-Wha Chung—  
She is Back (Seoul Arts Center)

27

- Candida Höfer (Kukje Gallery)

- Open Mind  
(Sungkok Art Museum)



Korea National Ballet—The Nutcracker

29

- Nowon Lee Won-kook Ballet—  
The Nutcracker  
(Guro Arts Valley) thru 30  
  
- Seoul Ballet Theatre—  
The Nutcracker (Goyang  
Oulimnuri Arts Complex) thru 30

30

- Yang Bang Ean  
(Ryo Kunihiko)—2011 Year-end  
Concert (Bupyeong Arts Center)

31

- Gunther von Hagens'  
"Body Worlds & the Cycle of Life"  
(War Memorial of Korea)

## LONG RUNNING PERFORMANCES, EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

### Performances

- Musical Winter Sonata  
(MyungBo Art Hall)  
thru Mar 18, 2012

### Exhibitions

- Tell Me Tell Me  
(National Museum of  
Contemporary Art, Korea)  
thru Feb 19, 2012

- Tutankhamun—  
His Tomb and His  
Treasures  
(Gwacheon National  
Science Museum)  
thru Feb 26, 2012

- Karl Lagerfeld—  
Work in Progress  
(Daelim Contemporary  
Art Museum)  
thru Mar 18, 2012

### Events

- Thomas & Friends—  
My Very First Journey  
(aT Center)  
Dec 10—Feb 12, 2012

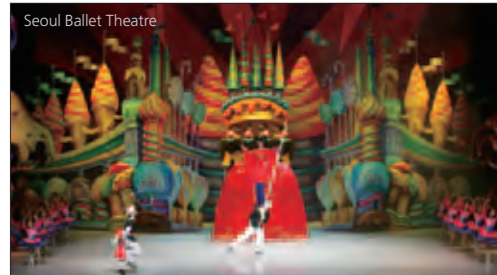
UPCOMING EVENTS

PREVIEW

FOUR WAYS OF CRACKING THE SAME NUT?

p.50-51

Fans of ballet and Tchaikovsky are in for a big treat this December, with no less than four local ballet companies offering their own interpretations of this classic. Korea National Ballet, Nowon Lee Won-kook Ballet, Seoul Ballet Theater and Universal Ballet are all putting on the Christmas favorite, bringing abundant opportunities to sink into a world of bourgeois fantasy from late imperial Russia. The Nutcracker is a highly popular Christmas event on Seoul's cultural calendar, which probably explains why so many ballet companies are producing it this year. All we can say is this: If you're a nut, consider fleeing the capital before it's too late.



NOWON LEE WON-KOOK BALLE—THE NUTCRACKER

Guro Arts Valley  
Dec 29—30, 7:30pm  
R: 30,000 won, S: 25,000 won, A: 15,000 won  
T. (02) 2029-1700-1

Daerim Station, Line 2 & 7, Exit 4. Transfer to *maeul* bus No. 10, 11. Get off at Guro Community Center.

KOREA NATIONAL BALLE—THE NUTCRACKER

Opera Theater, Seoul Arts Center  
Dec 16—25, 7:30pm (weekdays) / 2pm, 6pm (weekends) / 1pm, 5pm (holidays, no performances on Mondays)  
VIP: 90,000 won, R: 70,000 won, S: 60,000 won, A: 30,000 won, B: 20,000 won, C: 5,000 won  
T. (02) 580-1300

Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.

UNIVERSAL BALLE—THE NUTCRACKER

Universal Arts Center  
Dec 21—31, 3:30pm, 7:30pm (weekdays & Saturdays) / 2pm, 5:30pm (Sun, no performances on Mondays)  
VIP: 100,000 won, R: 80,000 won, S: 60,000 won, A: 30,000 won, B: 10,000 won  
T. 070-7124-1788

Achasan Station, Line 5, Exit 4. Walk 3 minutes.

SEOUL BALLE THEATRE—THE NUTCRACKER

Goyang Oulimnuri Arts Complex, Goyang-si  
Dec 29—30, 7:30pm / Dec 31, 3pm, 7:30pm  
R: 70,000 won, S: 50,000 won, A: 30,000 won  
T. 1577-7766

Wondang Station, Line 3, Exit 4. Walk in the direction of the underground motorways. Turn left and walk 15

BUSAN CINEMA CENTER OPENING FESTIVAL

p.56

What better way to celebrate the opening of Busan's flabbergasting, gravity-defying cinema center than with a 50-day film odyssey? This striking building, designed by Austrian geniuses at Coop Himmelblau, is more than just the new architectural and spatial centerpiece of Busan International Film Festival; its mind-boggling opening festival is to feature no less than 550 screenings of 222 films in eight sections, including 100 masterpieces from cinematic history and 50 choices from experts in the film industry. The 100 masterpieces section will feature works ranging chronologically from Georges Méliès' 1902 work "A Trip to the Moon" to Laz Diaz's 2008 award-winning epic "Melancholia." If you're kicking yourself for missing Busan International Film Festival, stop right now and get on a train to catch some of these flicks instead.

Busan Cinema Center  
Thru Dec 31 | 3,000 won  
T. (051) 780-6058  
www.dureraum.org

Busan Subway:  
Centum City Station,  
Line 2, Exits 6 or 12.



TUTANKHAMUN—HIS TOMB AND HIS TREASURES

p.48

Tutankhamun, who ruled Egypt in the second millennium during the so-called New Kingdom period, has fascinated people around the world for much of the 20th and early 21st centuries since the discovery of his tomb in 1922 by Howard Carter and George Herbert, 5th Earl of Carnarvon. The mystery of the king's early death—at the age of just 18—and its cause, as well as the abundance of intriguing objects in his tomb and their extensive tours of museums around the world have helped preserve his fame, maintain fascination with mummies and Ancient Egyptian culture, and immortalize the iconic image of his mask. This exhibition, which has already been viewed by millions on its tour of Europe, features perfect reproductions of more than 1,300 artifacts from Tutankhamun's tomb, created by German technicians in close collaboration with the Egyptian government.

Gwacheon National Science Museum  
Thru Feb 26, 2012  
Adults: 12,000 won,  
Youths: 10,000 won,  
Children: 8,000 won  
T. (02) 3677-1435 | www.tutkorea.com  
Seoul Grand Park Station, Line 4, Exit 5.



SEMF 2012 (SEOUL ELECTRONIC MUSIC FESTIVAL)

p.52

Festivals are not just for spring, summer and autumn. Life is too short to spend the winter hibernating, which is why Seoul Electronic Music Festival 2012 has scheduled itself for January. Boasting the first ever appearance in Korea by irrepressible, passionate Canadian electro-funk duo Crystal Castles, whose eponymous first album (2008) was included in NME's Top 100 Greatest Albums of the Decade, SEMF also has plenty of other big names in its lineup, including Above & Beyond, IDIOTAPE, Telepathy, Mongoose, KINGMC, ASTRO VOIZE and Bagagee Viphex13.

KINTEX | Jan 14  
132,000 won (88,000 won in advance)  
Tickets: <http://ticket.interpark.com/global> | T. (02) 323-2838  
Daehwa Station, Line 3, Exit 3. Transfer to shuttle bus.



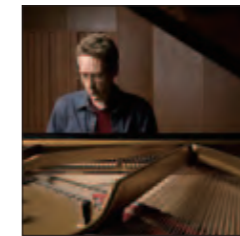
RONN BRANTON'S 11TH JAZZ CHRISTMAS!

p.52

US Jazz musician Ronn Branton has become something of a local celebrity when it comes to Christmas jazz concerts in Korea. Perhaps encouraged by his sellout performances over the last ten years, Branton is back again for an 11th session crammed with jazzy interpretations of Christmas classics such as Jingle Bells, Little Drummer Boy, O Christmas Tree and Silent Night, as well as several top Korean winter pop tunes including Winter Tree and Footprints. Branton ain't flying solo, though: he'll be joined by Klæe on the sax, Valtinho Anastacio on percussion, Choe Jin-bae on bass and Alex Do-yeon (Branton's daughter) on vocals.

Chamber Hall, Sejong Center for the Performing Arts  
Dec 24—25, 4pm, 8pm  
R: 55,000 won, S: 44,000 won  
T. (02) 888-2698

Gwanghwamun Station,  
Line 5, Exits 1 & 8.



THOMAS & FRIENDS—MY VERY FIRST JOURNEY

p.56

It's always nice to discover a series of popular children's books that wasn't written by some sort of nazi: Luckily, Thomas the Tank Engine creator Reverend W. Awdry seems to have been fairly normal, but that hasn't stopped kids from loving the family of chubby-cheeked locomotives he created and the adventures through which he shunted them. Now, you can treat your kids to an excursion on the magical island of Sodor and its railway network at this fun-packed exhibition consisting of zones based on Thomas and each of his fellow engines. Look out for "Percy's Post Office," "Thomas's Playground," "Edward's Library," "Henry's Cookies," "Toby's Night Train" and plenty more to keep your offspring absorbed for hours.

aT Center | Dec 10—Feb 12, 2012  
Children: 16,000 won,  
Others (over 13): 12,000 won  
T. (02) 576-1571 | www.thomastour.com

Yangjae Station, Line 3, Exit 7. Transfer to bus No. 470 or 471 and get off at Yangjae Flower Market.



TELL ME TELL ME: AUSTRALIAN AND KOREAN ART 1976-2011

p.55

Part of a large cultural project to commemorate the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Australia and Korea, this exhibition explores international art discourse, particularly environmental art and conceptual art, starting from the 2nd Sydney Biennale 1976, which featured the participation of Korean artists, and artist Paik Nam-jun's visit to Australia in the same year. It features works by artist Lee U-fan, as well as pieces by Shim Moon-seup and Lee Kang-so presented during the Biennale in 1976, and their more recent works. The exhibition also introduces representative works of aboriginal art by Australian aboriginal artists Emily Kame Kngwarreye and Nyapanyapa; experimental artworks of the 1970s by Stelarc and John Davis; and the works of a number of contemporary artists thought to epitomize the current trend towards multiculturalism.

National Museum of Contemporary Art, Korea  
Thru Feb 19, 2012  
Adults: 5,000 won, Youths: Free  
T. (02) 2188-6000 | www.moca.go.kr  
Seoul Grand Park Station, Line 4, Exit 4. Take the shuttle bus.



## Museums

### Animals:

#### Entering Man's Lives

Space\*C, Coreana Art & Culture Complex

Thru Nov 26

Adults: 3,000 won, Students: 2,000 won (02) 547-9177

Apgejeong Station, Line 3, Exit 2. Walk 5 minutes along Segwang street behind CGV theater.

#### The World of Letters

Durumea Museum

Thru Nov 26

Adults: 5,000 won, Youths: 4,000 won, Children: 3,000 won (031) 958-6101~2

It takes an hour to get from Dong Seoul Bus Terminal to Uijeongbu. Transfer to bus No. 32 or 32-1 and get off in front of Supreme Court Library of Paju. Go to the left side, and walk 1km in the direction of Chorigol.

#### The Characters, Thereafter

National Museum of Korea

Thru Nov 27

Free (02) 2077-9000  
Ichon Station, Lines 1 (Jungang Line) & 4, Exit 3. Walk 150m towards Yongsan Family Park.

#### The Last Harvest: Paintings of Rabindranath Tagore

National Museum of Korea

Thru Nov 27

Free (02) 2077-9000  
Ichon Station, Lines 1 (Jungang Line) & 4, Exit 3. Walk 150m towards Yongsan Family Park.

#### Is That Money? Interesting Currency

Bank of Korea Museum

Thru Nov 30

Free (02) 759-4881~2  
Hoehyeon Station, Line 4, Exit 7. Turn left through the alley besides Outback Steak House. Go straight till you see the main street. The museum is located on the opposite side of the street.

#### Looking into the Old Days thru a Small Piece of Paper

Tax Museum

Thru Nov 30

Free (02) 397-1635~6  
Jonggak Station, Line 1, Exit 1. Go straight and turn right through the alley between Jejung Pharmacy and Nonghyup Bank. Walk along Cheongjindong-gil. The museum is located at the National Tax Service bldg. on your right.

#### Painters Sent as Envoys to China

National Museum of Korea

Thru Dec 11

Free (02) 2077-9000  
Ichon Station, Lines 1 (Jungang Line) & 4, Exit 3. Walk 150m towards Yongsan Family Park.

#### Traditional Folk Art in Gyubang

Bona Museum

#### Thru Dec 11

Adults: 5,000 won, Youths: 4,000 won, Children & Seniors: 3,000 won (02) 732-6621  
Anguk Station, Line 3, Exit 6. Walk through Insa-gil. Turn right to the opposite side of Sudo Pharmacy and go straight.

#### Drawing Joseon, Encountering Joseon: Stories about Maps, Roads and Travel

Kyujanggak Institute For Korean Studies, Seoul National Univ.

Thru Dec 17

Free (02) 880-5317  
Seoul National Univ. Station, Line 2, Exit 3. Take the green bus No. 5511, 5512, 5513.

#### Yi Gyeong-yun and Paintings in 17th Century, Joseon Dynasty

National Museum of Korea

Thru Dec 18

Free (02) 2077-9000  
Ichon Station, Lines 1 (Jungang Line) & 4, Exit 3. Walk 150m towards Yongsan Family Park.

#### Gunther von Hagens' "Body Worlds & the Cycle of Life"

War Memorial of Korea

Thru Dec 31

Adults: 15,000 won, Youths: 12,000 won (02) 541-3184  
Walk 3 minutes from Samgakji Station, Line 6, Exits 11 & 12. Or walk 5 minutes from Samgakji Station, Line 4, Exit 1.

#### Technology Meets Tradition

Ewha Womans Univ. Museum

Thru Dec 31

Free (02) 3277-3152  
Ewha Womans Univ. Station, Line 2, Exit 2. Walk straight and pass the school gate. The museum is located on your left.

#### The Promise of 100 Years: Ceremonial Wedding Traditions in Korea and Japan

Ewha Womans Univ. Museum

Thru Dec 31

Free (02) 3277-3152  
Ewha Womans Univ. Station, Line 2, Exit 2. Walk straight and pass the school gate. The museum is located on your left.

#### Joseon Painters as Envoys to China

National Museum of Korea

Thru Jan 15, 2012

Free (02) 2077-9000  
Ichon Station, Lines 1 (Jungang Line) & 4, Exit 3. Walk 150m towards Yongsan Family Park.

#### Botanical Art in Cheonggyecheon

Cheong Gye Cheon Museum

Thru Feb 5, 2012

Free (02) 2286-3410  
Wangsimni Station, Lines 1 (Jungang Line), 2 & 5, Exit 7. Transfer to *maeul* bus No. 3 or 8. Get off at Seoul Metropolitan Facilities Management Corporation.

#### Shaman

National Folk Museum of Korea

Nov 30—Feb 27, 2012

Free (02) 3704-3114  
Anguk Station, Line 3, Exit 1 or Gyeongbokgung Station, Line 3, Exit 5. Walk along Samcheong-dong street. The museum is located on the left. Green bus No. 11 is available.

#### The Librarian—Library in Museum

Horim Museum Sinsa

Thru Feb 28, 2012

Adults: 8,000 won, Students: 5,000 won (02) 541-3523~5  
Gangnam-gu Office Station, Line 7, Exit 3. Turn around and go left at the corner. Walk straight and cross the road at Hak-dong Intersection. Go left and walk straight. The center is located on your right.

#### This is Korea 1970 KHZ ★ Korea Pop Culture History

Main Exhibition Hall, Sejong Center for the Performing Arts

Thru Feb 28, 2012

Adults: 12,000 won, Youths: 10,000 won (02) 737-1970  
Gwanghwamun Station, Line 5, Exits 1 & 8.

#### Animal? Or Plant?

Seodaemun Museum of Natural History

Thru Feb 29, 2012

Adults: 3,000 won, Youths: 2,000 won, Children: 1,000 won, Others: Free (02) 330-8899  
At Sinchon Station, Line 2, Exit 1 (in the direction of Dongkyo-dong), transfer to bus No. 110, 7720. Or at Exit 3 (in front of Shinchon Rotary), get on the green bus No. 03. At Hongje Station, Line 3, Exit 3 (in the direction of Muakjae), transfer to bus No. 7738.

#### Chinese Craftwork: Everyday Life in Ming & Qing Dynasty

Hwajeong Museum

Thru Feb 29, 2012

4,000 won (02) 2075-0114  
Gyeongbokgung Station, Line 3, Exit 3. Transfer to bus No. 1020, 1711. Get off at Hwajeong Museum

## Classical Music

#### Beautiful Thursday Concert

Kumho Art Hall

Every Thursday, 8pm

R: 30,000 won, S: 20,000 won, Youths: 8,000 won (02) 6303-7700  
Gwanghwamun Station, Line 5, Exit 7. Walk 200m in the direction of Seodaemun.

#### Dresdner Kapellesolisten

Concert Hall, Seoul Arts Center

Nov 28, 8pm

R: 120,000 won, S: 80,000 won, A: 50,000 won, B: 30,000 won (02) 599-5743  
Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.



# CELEBRATING IN STYLE

The Korea Foundation invites top musician friends over for its 20th birthday

The Korea Foundation has now been promoting Korea overseas, supporting Korean Studies abroad, propagating the Korean language and engaging in all kinds of cultural, artistic and human resource exchanges for 20 years. In order to celebrate, the foundation is holding an end-of-year concert this December to celebrate. Titled "Friends of Korea Foundation," this concert will bring to the stage some of Korea's top performers who have become friends of the foundation over the past two decades.

Part 1 will begin with the Korean Chamber Orchestra, which has been building a reputation for itself overseas in recent years, playing Mendelssohn's Symphony for Strings No. 10 in B Minor. This will be followed by top pianist Shin Soo-jung's rendition of Mozart's Rondo for Piano and Orchestra in D Major, then a performance of Vivaldi's Concerto for Two Cellos and String Orchestra by Yang Sung-won and Song Young, and finally and Ravel's Tzigane played by violinist Kwun Hyuk-joo.

Part 2 will see an energetic performance by popular ensemble MIK, pianist Kim Taehyung, and violinist Kwun Hyuk-joo of Josef Suk's Piano Quartet in A Minor, followed by Haydn's Concerto for Cello No. 1 in C Major (2nd and 3rd movements) played by Yang Sung-won and Bach's Piano Concerto No. 5 in F Minor with Kim Tae-hyung on the piano. Finally, the Korean Chamber Orchestra will return for a rendition of Kilar's ORAWA for String Orchestra, with Kim Min on the violin.

This is sure to be a special occasion showcasing a dazzling array of classical performers that would be difficult to find anywhere else. Ticket sale proceeds are to go toward raising funds for the needy as part of the foundation's social contribution and shared growth efforts.

#### MORE INFO

2011 Korea Foundation's 20th Anniversary Special Winter Concert: Friends of Korea Foundation  
Concert Hall, Seoul Arts Center | Dec 12, 8pm  
R: 30,000 won, S: 20,000 won, A: 10,000 won  
(02) 2151-6520 | www.kf.or.kr  
Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.

### Tutankhamun—His Tomb and His Treasures

Gwacheon National Science Museum

Thru Feb 26, 2012

Adults: 12,000 won, Youths: 10,000 won, Children: 8,000 won (02) 3677-1435, www.tutkorea.com  
Seoul Grand Park Station, Line 4, Exit 5.



**Jazz Vocalist Chie Ayado's First Concert in Korea**

Hoam Art Hall  
**Nov 29, 8pm**  
 R: 80,000 won, S: 60,000 won, A: 40,000 won, B: 20,000 won (02) 6352-6636  
 City Hall Station, Lines 1 & 2, Exit 9. Walk 5 minutes. The hall is located inside of the Joongang Ilbo bldg.

**Ensemble Berlin—Live in Korea**

Concert Hall, Seoul Arts Center  
**Nov 30, 8pm**  
 VIP: 70,000 won, R: 50,000 won, S: 40,000 won, A: 20,000 won (02) 3461-0976  
 Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.

**Kammersinfonie Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra Concert**

Hoam Art Hall / IBK Chamber Hall, Seoul Arts Center  
**Dec 2, 8pm / Dec 6, 8pm**  
 R: 50,000 won, A: 30,000 won, B: 20,000 won (02) 2277-6516  
 Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.

**Kun-Woo Paik & Orchestre de Paris**

Concert Hall, Seoul Arts Center  
**Dec 2—3, 8pm**  
 R: 270,000 won, S: 220,000 won, A: 170,000 won, B: 120,000 won, C: 60,000 won (02) 741-1521  
 Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.

**Giovanni Mirabassi—Piano Solo Concert**

Olympus Hall  
**Dec 3, 7pm**  
 R: 55,000 won, S: 44,000 won (02) 6255-3270  
 Samsong Station, Line 2, Exit 5 or Seolleung Station, Line 2, Exit 8. Transfer to bus No. 4428 and get off at Platinum apt.

**The Czech Boys Choir—Bonipueri**

Sejong Grand Theater, Sejong Center for the Performing Arts  
**Dec 3, 7pm**  
 R: 70,000 won, S: 50,000 won, A: 30,000 won, B: 20,000 won (02) 548-4480  
 Gwanghwamun Station, Line 5, Exits 1 & 8.

**Maxence Larrieu-Andras Adorjan Flute Concert**

Concert Hall, Seoul Arts Center  
**Dec 4, 2pm**  
 VIP: 100,000 won, R: 50,000 won, S: 30,000 won, A: 20,000 won (02) 780-5054  
 Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.

**The King's Singers**

Concert Hall, Seoul Arts Center  
**Dec 4, 8pm**  
 R: 100,000 won, S: 70,000 won, A: 50,000 won, B: 30,000 won (02) 541-2512  
 Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.

**Wien Quartet Invitational Concert with Ministry of Unification**

IBK Chamber Hall, Seoul Arts Center  
**Dec 5, 8pm**  
 R: 50,000 won, S: 30,000 won (02) 3436-5929  
 Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.

**Marc Grauwels & Friends Concert**

IBK Chamber Hall,

**Hanna Chang—Songs Without Words**

Concert Hall, Seoul Arts Center  
**Dec 8, 8pm**  
 R: 150,000 won, S: 120,000 won, A: 80,000 won, B: 50,000 won 1577-5266  
 Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.



**Seoul Arts Center Dec 8, 8pm**

R: 50,000 won, S: 40,000 won (02) 6292-9370  
 Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.

**Emerson String Quartet**

IBK Chamber Hall, Seoul Arts Center  
**Dec 11, 5pm**  
 VIP: 70,000 won, R: 50,000 won, S: 30,000 won (02) 580-1300  
 Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.

**Jupiter String Quartet**

IBK Chamber Hall, Seoul Arts Center  
**Dec 12, 8pm**  
 R: 50,000 won, S: 30,000 won (02) 580-1300  
 Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.

**2011 Korea Foundation's 20th Anniversary Special Winter Concert: Friends of Korea Foundation**

Concert Hall, Seoul Arts Center  
**Dec 12, 8pm**  
 R: 30,000 won, S: 20,000 won, A: 10,000 won (02) 2151-6520 www.kf.or.kr  
 Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.

**David Finckel, Wu Han, Philip Setzer Trio**

IBK Chamber Hall, Seoul Arts Center  
**Dec 13, 8pm**  
 VIP: 70,000 won, R: 50,000 won, S: 30,000 won (02) 580-1300  
 Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.

**The Little Singers from Paris—Christmas Concert**

Sejong Grand Theater, Sejong Center for the Performing Arts  
**Dec 20, 8pm**  
 VIP: 100,000 won, R: 80,000 won, S: 60,000 won, A: 40,000 won, B: 30,000 won (02) 597-9870  
 Gwanghwamun Station, Line 5, Exits 1 & 8.

**Christmas Concert: Yuhki Kuramoto & Friends 2011**

Concert Hall, Seoul Arts Center  
**Dec 25, 2pm**  
 R: 100,000 won, S: 80,000 won, A: 50,000 won, B: 30,000 won (02) 741-1763  
 Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.

**Kyung-Wha Chung—She is Back**

Concert Hall, Seoul Arts Center  
**Dec 26, 8pm**  
 VIP: 150,000 won, R: 120,000 won, S: 100,000 won, A: 80,000 won, B: 60,000 won, C: 30,000 won (02) 518-7343  
 Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.

**Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra Concert**

Concert Hall, Seoul Arts Center  
**Dec 30, 8pm**  
 R: 120,000 won, S: 90,000 won, A: 60,000 won, B: 40,000 won, C: 20,000 won (02) 3700-6300  
 Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.

**Opera Gala Big Night**

Opera Theater, Seoul Arts Center  
**Dec 29—31, 8pm**  
 VIP: 100,000 won, R: 50,000 won, S: 30,000 won, A: 10,000 won (02) 586-5284  
 Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.

**Dance**

**Korea National Ballet—The Nutcracker**

Universal Arts Center  
**Dec 21—31, 3:30pm, 7:30pm (weekdays & Saturdays) / 2pm, 5:30pm (Sun, no performances on Mondays)**  
 VIP: 100,000 won, R: 80,000 won, S: 60,000 won, A: 30,000 won, B: 10,000 won 070-7124-1788  
 Ahasan Station, Line 5, Exit 4. Walk 3 minutes.

**Ae-Soon Dance Company—Karaoke**

Arko Arts Theater

**Dec 22—23, 8pm / Dec 24, 7pm**

R: 50,000 won, S: 30,000 won, A: 20,000 won (02) 3668-0007  
 Hyehwa Station, Line 4, Exit 2. Turn left and pass by Marronnier Park. The theater is located on your left.

**Nowon Lee Won-kook Ballet—The Nutcracker**

Guro Arts Valley  
**Dec 29—30, 7:30pm**  
 R: 30,000 won, S: 25,000 won, A: 15,000 won (02) 2029-1700-1  
 Daerim Station, Line 2 & 7, Exit 4. Transfer to maeul bus No. 10, 11. Get off at Guro Community Center.

**Seoul Ballet Theatre—The Nutcracker**

Goyang Oulimnuri Arts Complex, Goyang-si  
**Dec 29—30, 7:30pm / Dec 31, 3pm, 7:30pm**  
 R: 70,000 won, S: 50,000 won, A: 30,000 won 1577-7766  
 Wondang Station, Line 3, Exit 4. Walk in the direction of the underground motorways. Turn left and walk 15 minutes through the alley of Oulim Apt.

**Musicals**

**Musical Hamlet**

Universal Arts Center  
**Thru Dec 17, 8pm (weekdays) / 3pm, 7pm (Sat) / 2pm, 6pm (Sun, no performances on Mondays)**  
 VIP: 100,000 won, R: 80,000 won, S: 60,000 won, A: 40,000 won  
 Tickets: http://ticket.interpark.com/global www.musicalhamlet.com  
 Ahasan Station, Line 5, Exit 4. Walk 3 minutes.

**Nun Sensation**

Samsung Hall, Ewha Womans University  
**Thru Dec 18, 8pm (Tue, Thu, Fri) / 3pm, 8pm (Wed) / 3pm, 7pm (Sat) / 3pm (Sun)**  
 VIP: 80,000 won, R: 70,000 won, S: 50,000 won  
 Tickets: http://ticket.interpark.com/global (02) 6925-5600  
 Ewha Womans Univ. Station, Line 2, Exit 2. Walk straight and pass the school gate. The museum is located on your left.

**Annie**

Sejong Grand Theater, Sejong Center for the Performing Arts  
**Dec 15—29, 7:30pm (weekdays) / 3pm, 7pm (weekends, no performances on Dec 26)**  
 VVIP: 70,000 won, VIP: 50,000 won, R: 40,000 won, S: 30,000 won  
 Tickets: http://ticket.interpark.com/global (02) 399-1772  
 Gwanghwamun Station, Line 5, Exits 1 & 8.

**2011 Cats in Seoul**

Charlotte Theater  
**Thru Dec 31, 8pm (weekdays) / 3pm, 8pm (Sat) / 2pm, 7pm (Sun, no performances on Mondays)**  
 VIP: 120,000 won, Jellicle Seat: 120,000 won, R: 100,000 won, S: 80,000 won, A: 50,000 won  
 Tickets: http://ticket.interpark.com/global 1577-3363  
 www.musicalcats.co.kr  
 Jamsil Station, Lines 2 & 8, Exit 3. Walk straight beside Lotte Dept. Store and cross the road. Walk straight and turn right.

**The Musical Hero**

Main Hall 'Hae', National Theater of Korea  
**Dec 6—Jan 7, 2012**  
**8pm (Tue—Fri) / 3pm, 5:30pm (Sat) / 2pm, 6:30pm (Sun)**  
 VIP: 120,000 won, R: 100,000 won, OP: 90,000 won, S: 70,000 won, A: 40,000 won  
 Tickets: http://ticket.interpark.com/global (02) 2280-4115-6  
 Take shuttle bus at Dongguk Univ. Station, Line 3, Exit 2 or take yellow bus No. 2 at Exit 6.

**Fame**

Woori Art Hall, Olympic Park  
**Nov 25—Jan 29, 2012**  
**8pm (weekdays) 3pm, 7pm (Sat) / 2pm, 6pm (Sun, no performances on Mondays)**  
 VIP: 110,000 won, R: 99,000 won, S: 77,000 won, A: 66,000 won 1588-5212  
 Olympic Park Station, Line 5, Exit 3.

**The Musical Evita**

LG Arts Center  
**Dec 9—Jan 29, 2012**  
**8pm (weekdays) / 3pm, 7:30pm (Sat) / 2pm, 6:30pm (Sun, no performances on Mondays)**

**The Musical ZORRO**

Blue Square  
**Thru Jan 15, 2012**  
**8pm (Tue, Thu, Fri) / 4pm, 8pm (Wed) / 3pm, 7:30pm (Sat) / 2pm, 6:30pm (Sun)**  
 VIP: 130,000 won, R: 110,000 won, S: 80,000 won, A: 50,000 won, B: 30,000 won  
 Tickets: http://ticket.interpark.com/global (02) 548-1141, www.zorrothemusical.co.kr  
 Hangangjin Station, Line 6. Take the passage between Exit 2 & 3.



VIP: 130,000 won, R: 100,000 won, S: 80,000 won, A: 50,000 won, B: 30,000 won  
 Tickets: http://ticket.interpark.com/global  
 GS Tower B1 floor is directly connected to Yeoksam Station, Line 2, Exit 7. Take the LG Arts Center elevator from there.

**Notre Dame de Paris in Korea (English Version)**

Grand Theater, Sejong Center for the Performing Arts  
**Jan 19—Feb 5, 2012**  
**8pm (weekdays) / 3pm, 7pm (Sat) / 2pm, 6pm (Sun, no performances on Mondays)**  
 VIP: 200,000 won, R: 150,000 won, S: 120,000 won, A: 90,000 won, B: 60,000 won  
 Tickets: http://ticket.interpark.com/global  
 Gwanghwamun Station, Line 5, Exits 1 & 8.

**The Musical Beautiful Girl**

Chungmu Art Hall  
**Dec 6—Feb 5, 2012**  
**8pm (Tue, Thu, Fri) / 4pm, 8pm (Wed) / 4pm, 8pm (Sat) / 3pm, 7pm (Sun)**  
**Peak day—**  
 R: 99,000 won, S: 77,000 won, A: 55,000 won  
**Regular day—**  
 R: 90,000 won, S: 70,000 won, A: 50,000 won  
 Tickets: http://ticket.interpark.com/global (02) 577-1987  
 Sindorim Station, Lines 1 & 2, Exit 1.

**Mamma Mia!**

D Cube Art Center  
**Thru Feb 26, 8pm (Tue, Thu, Fri) / 3pm (Wed) / 3pm, 7:30pm (Sat) / 2pm, 6:30pm (Sun, no performances on Mondays)**  
 VIP: 110,000 won, R: 90,000 won  
 Tickets: http://ticket.interpark.com/global (02) 3141-9027  
 Euljiro 3-ga Station, Lines 2 & 3, Exit 8.

Sindang Station, Line 6, Exit 9. Walk 50m in the direction of Dongdaemun Stadium.

**Next to Normal**

Doosan Art Center  
**Thru Feb 12, 2012**  
**8pm (weekdays) / 3pm, 7pm (weekends, no performances on Mondays)**  
 R: 90,000 won, S: 60,000 won  
 Tickets: http://ticket.interpark.com/global (02) 744-4033  
 Jongno 5-ga Station, Line 1, Exit 1. Walk 30m along 5-ga Pharmacy Alley.

**Mamma Mia!**

D Cube Art Center  
**Thru Feb 26, 8pm (Tue, Thu, Fri) / 3pm (Wed) / 3pm, 7:30pm (Sat) / 2pm, 6:30pm (Sun, no performances on Mondays)**  
 VIP: 110,000 won, R: 90,000 won  
 Tickets: http://ticket.interpark.com/global (02) 3141-9027  
 Euljiro 3-ga Station, Lines 2 & 3, Exit 8.

**Musical Winter Sonata**

Haram Hall, MyungBo Art Hall  
**Thru Mar 18, 2012, 8pm (weekdays) / 4pm, 7pm (weekends)**  
 50,000 won  
 Tickets: http://ticket.interpark.com/global (02) 3141-9027  
 Euljiro 3-ga Station, Lines 2 & 3, Exit 8.

## Theater

### NArT Festival 'JANG'

Namsan Arts Center  
 Thru Dec 11, 8pm (weekdays) / 3pm, 7pm (Sat) / 3pm (Sun, no performances on Mondays)  
 25,000 won  
 (02) 758-2150  
 Myeong-dong Station, Line 4, Exit 1. Turn around and walk about 300m along the hill on your right. Cross the road. The center is located next to 7-eleven convenience store.

### The Vagina Monologues

Chungmu Art Hall  
 Dec 2—Jan 29, 2012  
 4pm, 8pm (Tue) / 8pm (Wed, Fri) / 4pm, 7pm (Sat) / 2pm, 5pm (Sun)  
 45,000 won  
 1666-8662  
 Sindang Station, Line 6, Exit 9. Walk 50m in the direction of Dongdaemun Stadium.

### Amadeus

Myeongdong Theater  
 Dec 7—Jan 1, 2012  
 7:30pm (weekdays) / 3pm (weekends, holidays & Dec 21, no performances on Tuesdays)  
 R: 50,000 won, S: 35,000 won, A: 20,000 won  
 1644-2003  
 Euljiro 1-ga Station, Line 2, Exit 6. Walk straight and turn left at the Myeong-dong entrance. Walk a couple minutes and you'll be able to find the theater on your left.

R: 110,000 won, S: 88,000 won  
 Tickets: <http://ticket.interpark.com/global>  
 Sports Complex Station, Line 2, Exit 6 or 7.

### Mogwai

AX-Korea  
 Nov 30, 7pm  
 77,000 won  
 010-8546-8381  
[www.supercolorsuper.com](http://www.supercolorsuper.com)  
 Gwangnaru Station, Line 5, Exit 2. Cross the road, turn left and walk 5 minutes. The hall is located behind the youth center.

### SEMF2012 (Seoul Electronic Music Festival)

KINTEX  
 Jan 14  
 132,000 won (88,000 won in advance)  
 Tickets: <http://ticket.interpark.com/global>  
 (02) 323-2838  
 Daehwa Station, Line 3, Exit 3. Transfer to shuttle bus.



Above and Beyond

### 2011 Lee Seunggi's Concert of Hope

Gymnasium No. 1, Olympic Park  
 Dec 10, 7pm / Dec 11, 5pm  
 VIP: 132,000 won, R: 110,000 won, S: 88,000 won, A: 77,000 won, B: 55,000 won  
 Tickets: <http://ticket.interpark.com/global>  
 (02) 410-1114  
 Olympic Park Station, Line 5, Exit 3.

### Nah Youn-sun—French Christmas Concert

IBK Chamber Hall, Seoul Arts Center  
 Dec 15—16, 8pm  
 R: 88,000 won, S: 66,000 won (02) 548-4480  
 Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus, or green bus No. 4429.

### tacit.sound[0]—structural sounds

LIG Art Hall  
 Dec 22—23, 8pm  
 Adults: 20,000 won, Students: 15,000 won (02) 6900-3900  
 Gangnam Station, Line 2, Exit 8. Walk 100m. The hall is located at the opposite side of Yeoksam District Tax Office.

### Jaurim—Never Die

Blue Square  
 Dec 23, 8pm / Dec 24, 7pm / Dec 25, 6pm  
 R: 88,000 won, S: 66,000 won  
 1544-1591  
 Blue Square is directly connected to Hangangjin Station, Line 6, between Exit 2 & 3.

### 2AM—Christmas Concert

Seoul Jamsil Student Gymnasium  
 Dec 24, 6pm / Dec 25, 5pm  
 VIP: 110,000 won, R: 99,000 won, S: 88,000 won, A: 77,000 won, B: 55,000 won  
 Tickets: <http://ticket.interpark.com/global>  
 1577-3363  
 Sports Complex Station, Line 2, Exit 8.

### No Brain—Rock Forever

AX-Korea  
 Dec 24, 6pm  
 55,000 won  
[www.nobrainpunk.com](http://www.nobrainpunk.com)  
 Gwangnaru Station, Line 5, Exit 2. Cross the road, turn left and walk 5 minutes. The hall is located behind the youth center.

### Ronn Branton's 11th Jazz Christmas!

Chamber Hall, Sejong Center for the Performing Arts  
 Dec 24—25, 4pm, 8pm  
 R: 55,000 won, S: 44,000 won (02) 888-2698  
 Gwanghwamun Station, Line 5, Exits 1 & 8.

### Yang Bang Ean (Ryo Kunihiko)—2011 Year-end Concert

Bupyeong Arts Center, Incheon  
 Dec 30, 8pm  
 VIP: 55,000 won, R: 44,000 won, S: 33,000 won, A: 22,000 won  
 Tickets: <http://ticket.interpark.com/global>  
 (032) 500-2000  
 Baegun Station, Line 1, Exit 2.

### Yim Jae-beum Concert

Gymnasium No. 1, Olympic Park  
 Dec 30, 8pm / Dec 31, 7:30pm  
 SR: 143,000 won, R: 121,000 won, S: 110,000 won, A: 99,000 won, B: 88,000 won (02) 3474-2865  
 Olympic Park Station, Line 5, Exit 3.

### An Evening with Pat Metheny w/ Larry Grenadier

Sejong Grand Theater, Sejong Center for the Performing Arts  
 Jan 13, 8pm  
 Admission: TBC  
 (02) 563-0595  
 Gwanghwamun Station, Line 5, Exits 1 & 8.

\*\*\*  
 NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTYS: See p67.  
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## Korean Music

### Shim Sae-mi—Gayageum Recital

Umyeondang, National Gugak Center  
 Dec 2, 8pm  
 20,000 won  
 (02) 2277-8896  
 Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exit 5. Take *maeul* bus No. Seocho 12 or green bus No. 4429 and get off at the National Gugak Center.

## Concerts

### Brian McKnight—Just Me Korea Tour

Jamsil Indoor Stadium  
 Nov 26, 8pm  
 VIP: 119,000 won, R: 99,000 won, S: 79,000 won  
 Tickets: <http://ticket.interpark.com/global>  
 (02) 407-2589  
 Sports Complex Station, Line 2, Exit 6 or 7.

### Boyz II Men—Unicef Harmony Concert

Jamsil Indoor Stadium  
 Nov 27, 7pm  
 VIP: 140,000 won,

### Mamas Gun—Live in Seoul

V-Hall  
 Dec 1—2, 8pm  
 66,000 won  
 Tickets: <http://ticket.interpark.com/global>  
 010-3718-6784  
 Hongik Univ. Station, Line 2 & A'REX Line, Exit 9. Go straight and turn left at the intersection. Cross the road in front of Richemont Bakery. Walk along the GS25 alley. The club is on your left.

### 2011 YG Family Concert

Gymnasium No. 1, Olympic Park  
 Dec 3, 6pm / Dec 4, 2pm, 7pm  
 88,000 won  
 Tickets: <http://ticket.gmarket.co.kr>  
 1566-5702  
 Olympic Park Station, Line 5, Exit 3.



Highlights from Last Month  
 2011 Seoul Lantern Festival  
 by Ryu Seunghoo  
 SEOUL

**Be-Being—  
Palace Music Project**

LIG Art Hall  
Dec 8—9, 8pm /  
Dec 10, 5pm

20,000 won  
1544-3922  
Gangnam Station, Line 2, Exit 8.  
Walk 100m. The hall is located  
at the opposite side of Yeoksam  
District Tax Office.

**Gonggam!  
Youth Gugak**

Umyeondang,  
National Gugak Center  
Dec 21—23, 7:30pm

8,000 won  
(02) 580-3300  
Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3,  
Exit 5. Take *maeul* bus No. Seocho  
12 or green bus No. 4429 and get  
off at the National Gugak Center.

**Seoul Metropolitan  
Traditional Music  
Orchestra—  
Year-end Concert**

Sejong M Theater, Sejong Center  
for the Performing Arts  
Dec 22, 7:30pm

R: 30,000 won, S: 20,000 won  
(02) 399-1761  
Gwanghwamun Station, Line 5,  
Exits 1 & 8.

**Complete Pansori  
Performance  
'Wanchang Pansori':  
Ahn Sook-sun—  
Manjeongje Heungboga**

Small Hall 'Dal',  
National Theater of Korea  
Dec 31, 8pm  
20,000 won  
(02) 2280-4115  
Take shuttle bus at Dongguk Univ.  
Station, Line 3, Exit 2, or yellow bus  
No. 2 at Exit 6.

**Korean  
Dance**

**Seoul Metropolitan  
Dance Theatre—  
Now, Movement**

Sejong M Theater, Sejong Center  
for the Performing Arts  
Dec 15—16, 7:30pm  
R: 30,000 won, S: 20,000 won  
(02) 399-1766  
Gwanghwamun Station, Line 5,  
Exits 1 & 8.

**Art  
Exhibitions**

**Show Me Your Hair**

Contemporary Art  
Space\*C, Coreana Art &  
Culture Complex

Thru Nov 30

Adults: 3,000 won,  
Students: 2,000 won  
(02) 547-9177  
Apgujeong Station, Line 3, Exit 2.  
Walk 5 minutes along Segwang  
street behind CGV theater.

**Skull Skull Skull**

Various artists  
Space PinkBlue  
Thru Nov 30

Free  
010-7191-7552  
Naebang Station, Line 7, Exit 7.  
Walk straight and cross the road at  
Hamjibak Sageori. The gallery is at  
the second block, across Baekseon  
Sauna.

**Image of Artists**

Photography  
The Museum of Photography, Seoul  
Thru Dec 3

Free  
(02) 418-1315  
Mongchontoseong Station,  
Line 8, Exit 2. The gallery is located  
on the 19th floor of Hanmi Tower.

**Seoul Int'l Quilt Festival**

Quilt  
Hall C, COEX  
Dec 1—3  
1-day pass: 15,000 won,  
3-day pass: 33,000 won  
(031) 785-5419  
www.siqf.com  
Samseong Station, Line 2, Exits 5 & 6.

**Art of Communication**

Works of Anri Sala, Yang Ah Ham,  
Philippe Parreno and Jorge Pardo  
National Art Museum, Deoksugung  
Thru Dec 4

5,000 won (including Deoksugung  
Palace entrance fee)  
(02) 2188-6000  
www.moca.go.kr  
Seoul Grand Park Station, Line 4,  
Exit 4. Take the shuttle bus.

**SAFA (Seoul Art Festival  
Association)**

Art Festival  
JW Marriott, Seoul  
Dec 2—4  
10,000 won  
070-4119-0090  
www.safa.or.kr  
Express Bus Terminal, Lines 3, 7 & 9,  
Exits 3 or 7.

**Kim Hye-jeong—  
Carpel**

Pottery  
Yido Gallery  
Thru Dec 6

Free  
(02) 741-0724  
Anguk Station, Line 3, Exit 2.  
Walk 15 minutes. The gallery is near  
Anguk Zen Center.

**Translated**

A group exhibition of the works of 11  
artists who participated in the 2011  
International Residency Exchange  
Programs at the art studio of the  
National MOCA, Korea  
The Korea Foundation  
Cultural Center  
Thru Dec 10

Free  
(02) 2151-6520  
www.kf.or.kr  
Mirae Asset CENTER 1: Euljiro 1-ga  
Station, Line 2, Exit 4.  
Turn left along Hana Bank. The  
bldg. is located behind SKT Tower.

**Art Edition 2011**

Exhibition  
SETEC  
Dec 8—11  
10,000 won  
(02) 521-9613~4  
www.artedition.kr  
Hangnyeoul Station, Line 3. SETEC  
is connected with every exits.

**Selectively Revealed**

Australian and Korean Art  
Goyang Aramnuri Arts Complex,  
Goyang-si  
Thru Dec 11  
3,000 won  
(031) 960-0180  
Walk from Jeongbalsan Station,  
Line 3, Exit 3.

**Eduardo Chillida**

Sculpture and more  
Shinsegae Gallery,  
Shinsegae Main Store  
Thru Dec 12

Free  
(02) 310-1924  
Hoehyeon Station, Line 4, Exit 7.  
Walk straight and turn left at the  
intersection.

**Rho Jae-oon—  
Mulian Mulian**

Contemporary Art  
Atelier Hermes  
Thru Dec 13

Free  
(02) 544-7722  
Gangnam-gu Office Station, Line  
7, Exit 3. Walk in the direction of  
Hakdong Intersection. Cross the  
road and turn left towards Cine City.  
Turn right along Horim Art Center.  
The Atelier is located on your left.

**Ecojun Company—  
Valuation**

Eco Design  
KT&G Sangsang Madang  
Nov 27—Dec 15

Free  
(02) 330-6200  
www.sangsangmadang.com  
Hongik Univ. Station, Line 2 &  
A'REX Line, Exit 9. Turn left and  
go two blocks. Walk through the  
Walkable Street on your right.  
Cross the road and go straight. The  
bldg. is located next to Luxury Su  
Noraebang.

**Byoung-ho Kim—  
Solo Exhibition**

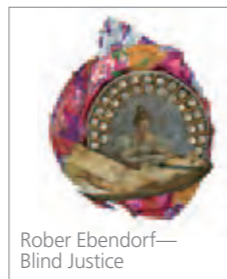
Sculpture  
Arario Gallery, Seoul  
Thru Dec 18  
Free  
(02) 723-6190

**Open Mind**

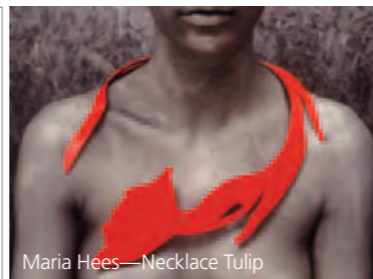
International Contemporary Metal Art Exhibition-History  
and the New Material

Sungkok Art Museum  
Thru Dec 25

Adults: 3,000 won, Youths: 2,000 won  
(02) 737-7650  
Gwanghwamun Station, Line 5, Exit 7. Walk in the direction of  
Seodaemun. Turn right at the alley between the Salvation Army Hall  
and the Seoul History Museum and walk 300m.



Rober Ebendorf—  
Blind Justice



Maria Hees—Necklace Tulip

Anguk Station, Line 3, Exit 1.  
Walk 5 minutes in the direction of  
Jeongdok Public Library. The gallery  
is located on your left.

**Craft Trend Fair 2011**

Craft  
Hall C, COEX  
Dec 15—18  
7,000 won  
(02) 733-9012~4  
http://craftfair.kcdf.kr  
Samseong Station, Line 2, Exits 5 & 6.

**Labour of Love,  
Revisited**

The rise of amateurism in digital age  
Arko Art Center  
Thru Dec 18  
Free  
(02) 760-4850~2  
Hyehwa Station, Line 4, Exit 2. Turn  
left and pass by Marronnier Park.  
The center is located on your right.

**Lee Ufan—Dialogue**

Painting  
Gallery Hyundai New Space  
Thru Dec 18  
Free  
(02) 2287-3500  
Anguk Station, Line 3, Exit 1. Walk  
along Samcheong-dong street. The  
gallery is located on your right.

**Rediscovery of  
Korean Painting**

Korean Painting  
Seongnam Arts Center,  
Seongnam-si  
Thru Dec 18  
Adults: 4,000 won,  
Youths: 3,000 won,  
Kindergardeners: 2,000 won  
(031) 783-8000  
Imae Station, Bundang Line, Exit 1.

**Seoul Design Festival  
2011**

Design  
Hall B, COEX  
Dec 14—18  
7,000 won  
www.designfestival.co.kr  
Samseong Station, Line 2, Exits 5 & 6.

**Baek Hyeon-jin—  
THIRTEEN PIECES +  
bonus**

Painting  
Doosan Art Center  
Thru Dec 31  
Free  
(02) 708-5050  
Jongno 5-ga Station, Line 1, Exit 1.  
Walk 30m along 5-ga Pharmacy  
Alley.

**Kwon Kisoo—  
Solo Exhibition**

Contemporary Art  
Gangnam Space, Gallery Hyundai

**Dec 7—31**

Free  
(02) 519-0800  
Apgujeong Station, Line 3, Exit 2.  
Walk 500m. Turn Right and walk  
600m. Turn left and walk 800m  
along the LG Fashion shop.

**Exhibit of Old Painted  
Movie Signs**

Movie Signs  
Chungmu Art Hall  
Dec 8—31  
Free  
(02) 2230-6628/78  
Sindang Station, Line 6, Exit 9.  
Walk 50m in the direction of  
Dongdaemun Stadium.

**Shim Yong-sik**

Traditional Windows and Cabinets  
Korean Craft Promotion Foundation  
Thru Dec 31  
Free  
(02) 733-9040~2  
Anguk Station, Line 3, Exit 6. Walk  
along the Insa-gil. Turn right to  
the alley on the opposite side of  
Ssamziegil.

**Neue Empiriker**

Contemporary Art  
Zaha Museum  
Thru Jan 1, 2012  
Free  
(02) 395-3222  
Gyeongbokgung Station, Line 3,  
Exit 3. Transfer to bus No. 0212,  
1020 or 7022 and get off at Buam-  
dong office.

**The Far Side of  
the Moon**

Contemporary Art  
Gallery Skape  
Nov 24—Jan 8, 2012  
Free  
(02) 747-4675  
Hangangjin Station, Line 6, Exit 2.  
Transfer to bus No. 0018, 110B, 144  
or 3011 and get off at Soon Chun  
Hyang Univ. Hospital.

**Colorful**

Gift Fair  
KT&G Sangsang Madang  
Dec 16—Jan 9, 2012  
Free  
(02) 330-6200  
www.sangsangmadang.com  
Hongik Univ. Station, Line 2 & A'REX  
Line, Exit 9. Turn left and go two  
blocks. Walk through the Walkable  
Street on your right. Cross the road  
and go straight. The bldg. is located  
next to Luxury Su Noraebang.

**City Within the City**

Contemporary Art  
Art Sonje Center  
Thru Jan 15, 2012  
Adults: 3,000 won,  
Students: 1,500 won  
(02) 733-8945

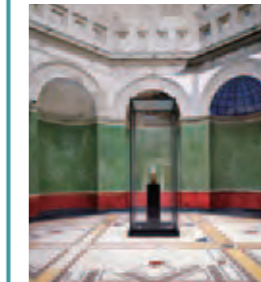
Anguk Station, Line 3, Exit 1.  
Walk 7 minutes in the direction of  
Jeongdok Public Library.

**The Court Painters of  
Joseon Dynasty**

Traditional Painting  
Leeum, Samsung Museum of Art  
Thru Jan 29, 2012  
Adults: 10,000 won,  
Youths (ages 7-18): 6,000 won  
(02) 2014-6900  
Hangangjin Station, Line 6, Exit 1.  
Walk 100m towards Itaewon. Turn  
right at the first alley and walk the  
hill.

**Candida Höfer**

Photography  
Kukje Gallery  
Nov 25—Dec 25  
Free  
(02) 735-8449  
Anguk Station, Line 3, Exit 1  
or Gyeongbokgung Station,  
Line 3, Exit 5. Walk along  
Samcheong-dong street.  
The museum is located on  
the right.



Neues Museum Berlin IX

**Countdown**

Various artists  
Culture Station Seoul 284  
(Former Seoul Station)  
Thru Feb 11, 2012  
Free  
(02) 3407-3500/7  
www.seoulstation.org  
Seoul Station, Lines 1, 4 & A'REX,  
Exit 2.

**Tell Me Tell Me**

Australian and Korean Art  
1976-2011  
National Museum of  
Contemporary Art, Korea  
Thru Feb 19, 2012  
Adults: 5,000 won,  
Youths: Free  
(02) 2188-6000, www.moca.go.kr  
Seoul Grand Park Station, Line 4,  
Exit 4. Take the shuttle bus.

**Davie Lachaoelle  
Photo Exhibition**

Photography  
Hangaram Design Museum,  
Seoul Arts Center

**Nov 22—Feb 26, 2012**

Adults: 13,000 won,  
Youths: 10,000 won,  
Children: 6,000 won  
(02) 512-0851  
Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3,  
Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus,  
or green bus No. 4429.

**The Gold Treasures  
of Ukraine: From the  
Steppe of Eurasia to the  
Korean**

Relics  
Hangaram Art Museum,  
Seoul Arts Center  
Dec 1—Feb 26, 2012

Adults: 12,000 won,  
Youths: 8,000 won,  
Children: 5,000 won  
(02) 580-1300  
Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3,  
Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus,  
or green bus No. 4429.

**Chocolate,  
The Exhibition**

Experience program  
V-Gallery, Seoul Arts Center  
Dec 12—Mar 3, 2012

10,000 won  
(02) 585-9991  
Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3,  
Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus,  
or green bus No. 4429.

**Magnum Photo  
Exhibition: Companions  
for the Globe**

Photography  
Hangaram Art Museum,  
Seoul Arts Center  
Dec 23—Mar 4, 2012

Adults: 10,000 won,  
Youths: 8,000 won,  
Children: 5,000 won  
(02) 2277-2438  
Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3,  
Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus,  
or green bus No. 4429.

**Hello, a Genius Artist of  
Chosun Dynasty**

Calligraphy  
Seoul Calligraphy Art Museum,  
Seoul Arts Center  
Dec 23—Mar 4, 2012

Adults & Youths: 10,000 won,  
Children: 11,000 won  
(02) 2113-6680  
Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3,  
Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus,  
or green bus No. 4429.

**Karl Lagerfeld—  
Work in Progress**

Photography  
Daelim Contemporary Art Museum  
Thru Mar 18, 2012  
Adults: 5,000 won,  
Youths: 3,000 won,  
Children: 2,000 won

(02) 720-0667  
Gyeongbokgung Station, Line 3, Exit 4. Walk 5 minutes in the direction of the Blue House.

(033) 461-0373-6  
www.injefestival.co.kr  
Take the bus from Dong Seoul Bus Terminal to Inje. The trip takes two hours. Take the festival shuttle bus from there.

## Festivals

### New Year's Eve Bell Ringing Ceremony

Bosongak Belfry  
Dec 31  
Free  
Jonggak Station, Line 1.

### 2012 Sunrise Festivals

**Naksan Beach:**  
Yangyang-gun, Gangwon-do

**Seongsan Ilchulbong Peak:**  
Seogwipo-si, Jeju-do

**Homigot Cape:**  
Pohang-si, Gyeongsangbuk-do

**Jeongdongjin:**  
Hourglass Park, Gangneung-si, Gangwon-do

**Gyeongpo:**  
Gyeongpo Beach, Gangneung-si, Gangwon-do

**Busan:**  
Dadaepo Beach & Yongdusan Park, Busan

**Maryang-ri:**  
Maryang Port, Seocheon-gun, Chungcheongnam-do

### Gimjang (preparation for making kimchi) Festival

Yangpyeong Nongchon Nadeuri, Yangpyeong-gun, Gyeonggi-do  
Thru Dec 31  
20,000 won per person  
Reservations:  
www.ypnadri.com  
Your own car is advisable.

### Pocheon Baekwoon Valley Dongjangkun Festival

Baegun Valley, Pocheon-si, Gyeonggi-do  
Jan 1-31, 2012  
Admission depends on program (031) 535-7242  
www.dongjangkun.co.kr  
Take the bus heading from Dong Seoul Bus Terminal to Wasu-ri and get off at Dopyeong-ri. The trip takes about an hour.

### Inje Icefish Festival

Inje Bridge, Inje-gun, Gangwon-do  
Jan 28-Feb 5, 2012  
Admission depends on program

### Taebaeksan Mountain Snow Festival

Hwangji Lake O2 Resort, Mt. Taebaeksan, Taebaek-si, Gangwon-do

Jan 27-Feb 5, 2012

Admission depends on program (033) 550-2085  
http://festival.taebaek.go.kr/event/snow/2011/pages  
Take the bus from Dong Seoul Bus Terminal to Taebaek. The trip takes three and a half hours.

### Starlight Garden Fair

The Garden of Morning Calm, Gapyeong-gun, Gyeonggi-do

Dec 3-Feb 29, 2012

Adults: 7,000-8,000 won, Youths: 5,000 won, Children: 4,000 won  
1544-6703  
www.morningcalm.co.kr  
Take the bus from Sangbong Station, Line 7, heading to Chuncheon and get off at Cheongpyeong Bus Terminal. It takes about an hour and a half. From there, catch a cab or take a bus heading to the tree garden.

### Herb Island

#### Light Festival

Herb Island, Pocheon-si, Gyeonggi-do

Thru Apr 30, 2012

Adults: 3,000 won, Others: 2,000 won (031) 535-6494  
www.herbisland.co.kr  
It takes about an hour to get from Dong Seoul Bus Terminal to Pocheon by intercity bus. Transfer to bus No. 57 in front of Hanmaeum Pharmacy located near the terminal.

## Other Events

### Digital Media & Content Fair 2011

Hall D, COEX  
Dec 6-8  
3,000 won  
(online registration in advance: Free)  
(02) 6000-6685/93  
www.digimfair.or.kr  
Samseong Station, Line 2, Exits 5 & 6.

### World Cyber Games 2011 Grand Final

Bexco, Busan  
Dec 8-11  
4-day pass—  
Adults: 10,000 won, Youths: 6,000 won  
Tickets: http://ticket.yes24.com/Home/PerfFN/PerfListFN.aspx  
www.wcg.com  
It takes three hours to get from Seoul to Busan by KTX. Busan Subway: Centum City Station, Line 2, Exit 1 or Busan Museum of Art Station, Line 2, Exit 7.

### The 4th Seoul Doll Fair 2011

Hall A, COEX  
Dec 23-Jan 2, 2012  
Adults: 10,000 won, Youths: 8,000 won, Children: 6,000 won  
(02) 724-0906  
http://dollfair.mt.co.kr  
Samseong Station, Line 2, Exits 5 & 6.

### Thomas & Friends—My Very First Journey

aT Center  
Dec 10-Feb 12, 2012  
Children: 16,000 won, Others (over 13): 12,000 won  
(02) 576-1571  
www.thomastour.com  
Yangjae Station, Line 3, Exit 7. Transfer to bus No. 470 or 471 and get off at Yangjae Flower Market.

### Korea Grand Sale 2012

Seoul, Busan, Gangwon-do, Jeju and local areas  
Jan 9-Feb 29, 2012  
1588-5644  
www.koreagrandsale.or.kr

## Sports

### 2011 Korea Ice Hockey League

Mokdong Ice Rink  
Nov 21-Dec 2  
Free  
(02) 425-7001-2  
Omokgyo Station, Line 5, Exit 3. Walk 10 minutes.

### 2011 Santa Sports Festival

Events: Marathon (5km), Walking (5km), Tug-of-War, Skating  
Peace Gate, Olympic Park  
Dec 10  
All Events: 10,000 won  
(02) 2036-9211-4

www.santafestival.co.kr  
Olympic Park Station, Line 5, Exit 3.

### Polar Bear Swim

Haeundae Beach, Busan  
During January  
http://bear.busan.com  
It takes three hours to get from Seoul to Busan by KTX. Take the subway to Haeundae Station, Line 2, Exit 1.

### The 30th YongPyong International Ski Festival

YongPyong Resort, Gangwon-do  
Feb 10-12, 2012  
(02) 3270-1231/5  
www.yongpyong.co.kr  
Daewon Express Tour:  
(02) 2201-7710 (English)

## Cinema

### Robert Altman Special

Cinematheque  
Nov 22-Dec 4  
Adults: 6,000 won, Youths: 5,000 won, Seniors: 4,000 won  
(02) 741-9782  
Jongno 3-ga Station, Lines 1, 3 & 5, Exit 5. Walk straight for 5 minutes. The theater is located in Nagwon Arcade.

### The 37th Seoul Independent Film Festival (SIFF)

CGV Sangam / Korean Film Archive  
Dec 8-16  
6,000 won, www.siff.or.kr

### Busan Cinema Center Opening Commemorative Film Festival

Busan Cinema Center  
Thru Dec 31  
3,000 won  
(051) 780-6058  
www.dureraum.org  
Busan Subway: Centum City Station, Line 2, Exits 6 or 12.

### Automata

Korean Film Museum, KOCCA bldg.  
Thru Mar 4, 2012  
Free  
(02) 3153-2072  
DMC Station, Line 6, Exit 2. Transfer to bus No. 7711 or 7730 and get off at Sangam Worldcup Park 5-danji Apt.

Merry Christmas



COOKIN' NANTA

Adieu 2011



Looking For Something Special  
This DECEMBER?  
- Absolutely, NANTA!

Over 3 seats reservation, Get special 30 % discounts  
12.01 to 12.31



Thank you for your love in NANTA.

★Should make an online reservation in advance.

How to: Booking Page → In the 'ticket type' section, click "Goodbye 2011". Proceed with your reservation and payment.

★Discount only applies for a reservation of at least 3 seats.

HONG DAE NANTA THEATRE Mon.-Sun. & Holidays 17:00, 20:00  
MTEONG DONG NANTA THEATER Mon.-Sun. & Holidays 14:00, 17:00, 20:00  
SANGBUK JEONG DONG NANTA THEATRE Mon.-Sun. & Holidays 17:00, 20:00

REGULAR EVENTS

JUMP

Martial arts meets comedy in a lively performance that leaves audiences in awe and laughing out loud.

IBK JUMP Theater, Cine Core bldg.  
Mon, 8pm / Tue—Sat, 4pm, 8pm / Sun, 3pm, 6pm  
R: 50,000 won, S: 40,000 won  
(02) 722-3995,  
www.hijump.co.kr  
Jongno 3-ga Station, Lines 1, 3 & 5, Exit 15.



Pungnyu Hanmadang

A weekly demonstration of authentic traditional performances hosted by Korea Heritage Cultural Foundation.

Theater Pungnyu, Korea Heritage Cultural Foundation bldg.

Every Friday, 7:30pm  
5,000 won  
(02) 3011-2178~9  
www.chf.or.kr  
Seolleung Station, Line 2, Exit 8.  
Walk in the direction of Gangnam-gu Office. The theater is located next to Ramada Hotel.

Seoul Namsan Traditional Theater Regular Performance

Experience Korean traditional music at the only stage with acoustics specialized for gugak (traditional) performances.

Seoul Namsan Traditional Theater  
Wed, Fri, 7:30pm / Sat, 5pm  
Adults: 20,000 won, Youths: 10,000 won  
(02) 2261-0515  
www.sejongpac.or.kr/sngad,  
www.sngad.or.kr  
Chungmuro Station, Lines 3 & 4, Exit 4.

The Marionette

The Korean b-boy crew, Expressions, use their puppet-inspired dance routine to create one of the most well received performances in Korea.

63 Art Hall, 63 City  
Tue—Sun, 8pm (no performances on Mondays, 1st & 3rd Tuesdays)  
30,000 won  
(02) 789-5663~5  
www.63.co.kr

Take the free shuttle bus from Yeouido Station, Line 5, Exit 5 / Yeouinaru Station, Line 5, Exit 4 / Saetgang Station, Line 9, Exit 1.

Kim Duk-soo, Regular Performance 'Pan'

Kim Duk-soo, the originator of *samulnori* (Korean traditional percussion music performed with four instruments), has produced "Pan," a performance of traditional Korean arts and music.

Gwanghwamun Art Hall

KOREAN TRADITIONAL STAGE, MISO

Chongdong Theater  
Daily (no performance on Mondays) 4pm, 8pm  
R: 50,000 won, S: 40,000 won, A: 30,000 won  
(02) 751-1500, www.koreamiso.com  
City Hall Station, Lines 1 or 2, Exit 1.

An exemplary show of Korean culture and tradition, MISO has flourished over the years to become a wildly successful, open run performance with a playhouse dedicated to the show. It incorporates traditional dance, vocal and drum performances to reveal the dynamic love story of Chunhyang and Mongnyong. A presentation of Korea's elegance and romance, MISO is truly a national treasure.



LEGEND OF FLOWER

Walkerhill Theatre, Sheraton Grande Walkerhill Hotel  
Daily (no performances on Sundays) 4:50pm, 7:30pm  
'Show only' from 60,000 won, 'Show with Dinner' from 95,000 won  
(02) 455-5000, www.legendofflower.com/eng  
Free shuttle buses every 10 mins from Gangbyeon Station, Line 2, Exit 1 and Gwangnaru Station, Line 5, Exit 2.

Walkerhill Theatre presents LEGEND OF FLOWER, an original show that's been called "Asia's leading grand-scale show." It tells the love story of Ara and Mir, divided into four themes: flower, water and fire, wind, and earth. Traditional Korean elements like *buchae-chum* (fan dance) and *Salpuri-chum* (spirit-cleansing dance) are enhanced with modern technology for a sensational experience of sight, smell, and sound. Plus, you can enjoy a dinner with a show, and satisfy your palate as well.



Wed—Fri, 8pm / Sat—Sun, 2pm  
R: 40,000 won, S: 30,000 won  
(02) 722-3416  
www.ghmarthall.com  
Gyeongbokgung Station, Line 3, Exit 1. Walk 10 minutes along the Sajik Park and turn right.

Korea House Traditional Art Performance

Korea House, a center dedicated to preserve Korean traditional culture, hosts daily evening performances ranging from mask dances to instrumental music, accompanied by dinner.

Korea House  
Everyday  
1st show: Dinner 5pm~6:30pm  
Performance 6:30pm~7:30pm  
2nd show: Dinner 7pm~8:30pm  
Performance 8:30pm~9:30pm  
50,000 won  
(02) 2266-9101~3  
www.koreahouse.or.kr  
Chungmuro Station, Lines 3 and 4, Exit 3.

KOUS Traditional Art Performance

Korea House's second location in Gangnam offers a mass of cultural activities, including traditional art performances available with dinner.

KOUS  
Every Wednesday, 8pm  
R: 10,000 won  
(02) 3011-1720  
www.kous.or.kr  
Samseong Station, Line 2, Exit 4.  
Walk 10m and turn left. Walk 3 more minutes.

National Folk Museum: Open performance for visitors—Korean performing arts

The National Folk Museum offers a varied program to show foreigners a comprehensive display of Korean culture.

National Folk Museum  
Sat, 3pm  
Free  
(02) 3704-3114  
www.nfm.go.kr  
Gyeongbokgung Station, Line 3.  
Walk 15 minutes from Exit 5.

JAMI at Samcheonggak

An immersion of Korean traditional culture at a lunch concert of fusion dance and singing followed by Korean food and tea.

Ilhwadang (performance hall of Samcheonggak)  
Every Mon—Wed at noon  
50,000 won (performance + meal)  
(02) 765-3700 (#2), 740-3208~9  
www.samcheonggak.or.kr  
Take the shuttle bus.  
Shuttle bus: National Palace Museum of Korea / Jogyesa Temple (Anguk Station, Line 3, Exit 6) / Youngpoong Bookstore (Jonggak Station, Line 1, Exit 5) / Samsung Fire & Marine Insurance bldg. (Euljiro 1-ga Station, Line 2, Exit 1) / Press Center (City Hall Station, Line 1, Exit 4) / Kyobo Book Centre (Gwanghwamun Station, Line 5, Exit 3) / Gallery Hyundai (Anguk Station, Line 3, Exit 1)

Ballerina Who Loves B-Boy

Two opposites reconcile as a refined ballerina pursues the raw art of breakdancing.

LotteWorld Art Hall  
Wed—Thu, 8pm / Fri, 5pm, 8pm / Sat—Sun, 3pm, 6pm  
R: 50,000 won  
(02) 2266-3727  
www.showbboy.com  
Jamsil Station, Lines 2 & 8, Exits 3 & 4.

Drumcat

An all-female cast of drummers showcases their talents in an energetic performance with a mix of feline sensuality and rock star prowess.

MyungBo Art Hall  
Mon—Sat, 2pm, 8pm / Sun and holidays, 2pm, 6pm  
R: 50,000 won, S: 40,000 won  
(02) 2274-2121  
www.drumcat.co.kr or  
www.myungbo.com  
Euljiro 3-ga Station, Lines 2 & 3, Exit 8.

Drawing: Show [HERO]

An entertaining storyline coupled with mesmerizing special effects techniques, this show ingeniously integrates drawing with performance.

MyungBo Art Hall  
Tue—Fri, 8pm / Sat, 4pm, 7pm / Sun, 3pm, 6pm  
R: 50,000 won, S: 40,000 won  
(02) 766-7848  
www.drawingtheater.com  
Euljiro 3-ga Station, Lines 2 & 3, Exit 8.

Fanta-Stick

The traditional and modern merge to produce a novel performance that revolutionizes Korean traditional music beyond your beliefs.

2F, KyungHyang Art Hill  
Tue—Sun, 8pm  
R: 50,000 won, S: 30,000 won  
(02) 3143-5959  
www.fanta-stick.co.kr,  
www.kjenter.com  
Gwanghwamun Station, Line 5, Exit 6 / Seodaemun Station, Line 5, Exit 5 / City Hall Station, Line 1, Exit 1 or Line 2, Exit 12.

Sachoom

The chronicles of a life told through the telling movements of hip-hop, jazz, contemporary, and pop dance.

Sachoom Theater (Nagwon Arcade)  
Tue—Fri, 8pm / Sat, 4pm, 7:30pm / Sun, 4pm  
50,000 won  
070-8249-3023  
www.sachoom.com  
Jongno 3-ga Station, Lines 1, 3 & 5, Exit 15.

KUNG

An eclectic group of hip-hop, street and traditional dancers express emotions.

B-boy Theater

CLUB INFO

ELECTRONIC: PLASTIK FUNK

Club M2  
Nov 26  
Admission: TBC  
(02) 3143-7573  
Hapjeong Station, Lines 2 & 6, Exit 3 or Sangsu Station, Line 6, Exit 1.

ROCK: DEERHOOF

KT&G Sangsang Madang  
Dec 9, 7:30pm  
43,000 won  
(38,000 won in advance)  
baramseoul@gmail.com  
Hongik Univ. Station, Line 2 & A'REX Line, Exit 9, Hapjeong Station, Lines 2 & 6, Exit 3 or Sangsu Station, Line 6, Exit 1.

GLOBAL DESIGN TOURNAMENT: CUT & PASTE SEOUL 2011

Platoon Kunsthalle  
Dec 10, 7pm  
25,000 won  
(20,000 won in advance)  
(02) 3447-1191  
cutandpaste@platoon.org  
Gangnam-gu Office Station, Line 7, Exit 3.

HEAVY METAL: METAL HONEY

KT&G Sangsang Madang  
Dec 16, 6pm  
35,000 won  
(25,000 won in advance)  
(02) 330-6212  
Hongik Univ. Station, Line 2 & A'REX Line, Exit 9, Hapjeong Station, Lines 2 & 6, Exit 3 or Sangsu Station, Line 6, Exit 1.

ELECTRONIC: TV ROCK

Club Heaven  
Dec 17  
Admission: TBC  
(02) 549-4488  
Gangnam-gu Office Station, Line 7, Exit 3.



ELECTRONIC: FRENCH HORN REBELLION

Rolling Hall  
Dec 17  
24,000 won  
(18,000 won in advance)

010-8546-8381  
Hapjeong Station, Lines 2 & 6, Exit 3 or Sangsu Station, Line 6, Exit 1.

ROCK: ANNYEONG AND ANNYEONG

Soundholic City  
Dec 17, 6pm  
22,000 won  
1544-1555  
Hongik Univ. Station, Line 2 & A'REX Line, Exit 9.

SPECIAL HOLIDAY SHOW: SCI (SEOUL CITY IMPROV)—IMPROV BOSTON

Moon Night (formerly Club After)  
Dec 17, 9pm  
20,000 won  
www.seoulcityimprov.com  
Itaewon Station, Line 6, Exit 3.

ROCK: LIVE DAY

Queen, Jammers, Ta, Lydian, Sapiencia 7, Rolling Hall  
Dec 22  
11,000 won  
(02) 332-5150  
Hongik Univ. Station, Line 2 & A'REX Line, Exit 9.

SUPER CHRISTMAS PARTY: THE AWESOME 80S PROM

King Club, the Lounge  
Dec 23—24, 8pm  
Standing: 30,000 won, VIP: 250,000 won  
http://cafe.naver.com/awesomeprom  
Itaewon Station, Line 6, Exit 3.

LIVE: GLEN CHECK WITH VIEWZIC

KT&G Sangsang Madang  
Dec 24, 8pm  
35,000 won in advance  
www.glencheck.co.kr  
Hongik Univ. Station, Line 2 & A'REX Line, Exit 9, Hapjeong Station, Lines 2 & 6, Exit 3 or Sangsu Station, Line 6, Exit 1.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY: COUNTDOWN FANTASY 2011-2012

AX-Korea  
Dec 30—31, 3:30pm  
2-day pass: 99,000 won, Dec 30: 55,000 won, Dec 31: 66,000 won  
www.mintpaper.com  
Gwangnaru Station, Line 5, Exit 2. Cross the road, turn left and walk 5 minutes. The hall is located behind the youth center.

PUNK ROCK: CRYING NUT—SELF BALGWANG

Sogang University Mary Hall  
Dec 30, 7:30pm / Dec 31, 5pm  
33,000 won  
070-7836-5466  
Sogang University can be reached

via Exit 1 of Daeheung Station, Line 6.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY: COUNTDOWN SEOUL 2012

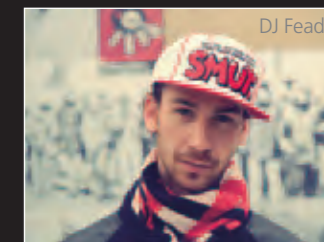
Times Square  
Dec 31, 7pm  
99,000 won  
(77,000 won in advance)  
www.countdownseoul.com  
Yeongdeungpo Station, Line 1, Exit 3.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY: 2011-2012 FINAL MAGIC PARTY

Rolling Hall  
Dec 31, 7:30pm  
44,000 won in advance  
www.rollinghallent.com  
Hapjeong Station, Lines 2 & 6, Exit 3 or Sangsu Station, Line 6, Exit 1.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY: HIGH LIGHT FESTIVAL

Sheraton Grande Walkerhill Hotel  
Dec 31, 8pm  
Walkerhill Theater: 77,000 won, Vista Hall: 121,000 won, Walkerhill Theater + Vista Hall: 143,000 won  
(02) 323-2838  
Take shuttle bus at Gwangnaru Station, Line 5, Exit 4 (in the direction of Gangbyeon Station.)



NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY: DJ BELZEBASS

WooBar, W Hotel—Walkerhill Hotel  
Dec 31, 10pm  
60,000 won  
(50,000 won in advance)  
(02) 2022-0333  
Take shuttle bus at Gwangnaru Station, Line 5, Exit 4 (in the direction of Gangbyeon Station.)



GOINGS ON AROUND TOWN

Wed—Fri, 8pm / Sat, 6pm / Sun, 2pm  
50,000 won  
(02) 323-5233, www.sjboys.com  
Sinchon Station, Line 2, Exit 1.  
Transfer to bus No. 273. Get off at Samjin Pharmacy bus stop.

**MiSuDa**

In the quiet courtyard of a Korean *hanok* village, become a Joseon-era aristocrat and learn the etiquette and traditions:

Seoul Namsan Traditional Theater  
Tue—Sat, 4pm  
50,000 won  
(02) 2261-0512~5  
www.sejongpac.or.kr/sngad,  
www.sngad.or.kr  
Chungmuro Station, Lines 3 & 4,  
Exit 4. Turn 180 degrees at the top  
of the stairs, then take the first  
street on the right. Head up through  
the large traditional gateway. Seoul  
Namsan Traditional Theater is  
signposted from here.

**National Theater of Korea Regular Performances**

The National Theater of Korea has prepared four monthly events, composed of *pansori* performances, chamber concerts, and traditional to contemporary Korean music.

- 1) Midday Concert  
Once a month, 11am  
10,000 won
- 2) Full-length Pansori Singing  
Last day of every month, 3pm

- 20,000 won
- 3) Chamber Concert  
Once a month, 7:30pm  
20,000 won
- 4) Midday Pansori Singing  
First Tuesday of the month, 11am  
10,000 won  
(02) 2280-4114, www.ntok.go.kr  
Take shuttle bus at Dongguk Univ.  
Station, Line 3, Exit 2 or take yellow  
bus No. 2 at Exit 6.

**Seoul Arts Center: Thursday 11am concerts/ Saturday concerts**

Enjoy Korea's classical music scene at two monthly concerts hosted by the Seoul Arts Center.

- 1) SAC 11am Concert  
Every 2nd Thursday, 11am  
20,000 won
- 2) SAC Saturday Concert  
Every 3rd Saturday, 11am  
20,000 won, 3rd fl.: 15,000 won  
(02) 580-1300, www.sac.or.kr  
Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3,  
Exits 4 & 5. Transfer to shuttle bus,  
or green bus No. 4429.

**Paradiso Story**

Wooden Sawtooth Puppet Play  
Paradiso Theater  
Tue—Thu: 3pm, 5pm / Fri: 5pm /  
Sat—Sun: 1pm, 3pm  
20,000 won  
(02) 764-2897  
www.paradiso2011.com  
Jongno 5-ga Station, Line 1, Exit 2.  
Walk 200m.

**NATIONAL GUGAK CENTER: SATURDAY PREMIUM PERFORMANCES**

Umyeondang, National Gugak Center  
Every Saturday, 4pm  
10,000 won  
(02) 580-3300, www.gugak.go.kr/eng  
Nambu Bus Terminal Station, Line 3, Exit 5. Take *maeul* bus No. Seocho 12  
or green bus No. 4429 and get off at the National Gugak Center.

The National Gugak Center's weekly Saturday performances have been upgraded to include a more varied and compelling repertoire, and rightfully renamed Saturday Premium Performances. The first, third and fifth week will present a comprehensive overview of Korean performing arts for beginners, with iconic performances, like *samulnori* (four instruments), *pansori* (traditional singing), and *janggu* (hourglass drum) dance. The second week will be reserved for performances by distinguished musicians, and the fourth week highlights culturally vital rituals and arts. Foreigner-friendly and dedicated to the preservation of Korean heritage, the Saturday Premium Performances is your gateway to Korean culture.



**Bbalaе (Laundry)**

Popular musical describes the life in Seoul of a bookstore temp and a Mongolian migrant worker.

Hakchon Blue Theater  
Thu—Fri: 8pm / Wed: 4pm, 8pm /  
Sat: 3pm, 7pm / Sun: 4pm  
40,000 won  
(02) 928-3362  
www.mtsobak.com  
Hyehwa Station, Line 4, Exit 2.  
Walk along the Marrognier Park.  
Turn left at the third corner and  
walk about 20m. The theater is  
located on your left.

**Original Drawing Show: The Look**

Drawing show colorfully blends the classical and the modern and Eastern and Western art.

Daehangno Changjo Art Center  
Tue—Fri: 8pm /  
Sat—Sun: 4pm, 7pm  
Adults: 40,000 won,  
Youths: 20,000 won  
070-4070-8336-9  
www.drawingshow.com  
Hyehwa Station, Line 4, Exit 4. Cross  
at the crosswalk in front of Baskin &  
Robbins. The theater is located on  
the 6th floor of the Mr. Pizza bldg.

**Bibap**

Representative Korean food *bibimbap* reinvented into a musical  
(Bibap = Bibimbap + Beat Box + B-boy)  
Cecil Theater  
Tue—Fri, 8pm / Sat, 4pm, 8pm /  
Sun, 3pm, 6pm  
R: 50,000 won, S: 40,000 won

(02) 501-7888, www.bibap.co.kr  
City Hall Station, Lines 1 & 2, Exit 3.  
Turn left at the first corner.

**Karma**

Nonverbal fantasy performance  
blending graceful dance, martial arts,  
and Eastern painting

Gaya Theatre  
Weekdays: 8pm,  
Sat: 3pm, 7pm, Sun: 3pm  
VIP: 70,000 won,  
R: 50,000 won, S: 40,000 won  
(02) 336-1289, www.karma.kr  
Chungjeongno Station,  
Line 5, Exit 7.

**Jazz and the City**

Top-notch jazz performances for just 1,000 won

Olleh Square  
Thu—Fri, 7:30pm / Sat—Sun, 5pm  
1,000 won  
1577-5599  
Gwanghwamun Station, Line 5, Exit 2.

**Dialogue in the Dark**

An experience in total darkness where, led by guides and trainers, one learns to interact and communicate by relying on other senses.

9F, Beotigo Tower, Sinchon  
Open Run  
Adults: 30,000 won,  
Youths: 20,000 won  
(online reservation required)  
(02) 313-9977  
www.dialogueinthedark.co.kr  
Sinchon Station, Line 2, Exit 3.  
Walk 100m.

**NANTA**

Jung Dong: Mon—Sun 2pm, 5pm, 8pm  
Myeong-dong: 2pm, 5pm, 8pm  
Hongdae: 5pm, 8pm  
VIP: 60,000 won, S: 50,000 won, (Myeong-dong—A: 40,000 won)  
(02) 739-8288, www.nanta.co.kr/en  
Jung Dong: Seodaemun Station, Line 5, Exit 5.  
Myeong-dong: Myeong-dong Station, Line 4, Exit 6 or  
Euljiro 1-ga Station, Line 2, Exits 5 or 6.  
Hongdae: Hongik Univ. Station, Line 2, Exit 9.

Truly a one-of-a-kind performance, NANTA has thrilled audiences and won over critics since its international debut in 1999. The first Asian production to hit Broadway, it's an electrifying display of Korean traditional tempos in a fresh, modern style. Drama ensues as four cooks must prepare a wedding banquet in an hour. This vivacious and comical show is a nonverbal performance that showcases the rhythmic energy of Korean culture, sweeping all types of audiences off their feet.



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FILMS

DINING OUT

QUICK BITES

NIGHTLIFE

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COMMUNITY PAGE

SEOUL LIVING

# IDOL ENDORSEMENTS TRUST YOUR IMPULSE

Written and photographed  
by Antonia Lam

I bought it because...

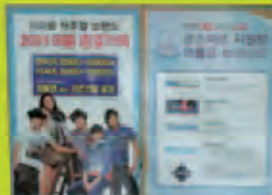


▲ ... Girls Generation was on my Vitamin C

▼ ... Shinee was on my coffee



▲ ... Hyunbin was on my tea



▲ ... U-KISS was at my E-Mart



◀ ... FT Island will Do face mask with me

Whether you're a newcomer to Seoul,  
long-time expat or Korean resident,

## SIWA

has something for you!

Founded in 1952, the Seoul International Women's Association is Seoul's largest and oldest international women's group. Bringing together women from over 50 countries, SIWA provides opportunities for friendship, cultural exchange, personal growth and community service.

Come join the fun!

Find out more at [www.siwapage.com](http://www.siwapage.com)



# 2011 IN FILM

## SEOUL'S FILM STAFF REVIEWS A YEAR FULL OF UNEXPECTED SURPRISES AND SUCCESSES



Sunny



The Crucible



Leafie: A Hen into the Wild



Late Blossom



Punch

Written by Phillip Maher and Park Myoungsook

In 2011, Korean movie audiences proved to be far less predictable than most of the films they were watching. The blockbuster 3D spectacle *Sector 7* was trounced in ticket sales by a depressing true story about deaf children, while *Countdown*, with superstars Jeon Do-yeon and Jeong Jae-yeong, was crushed by a cartoon chicken. Perhaps most unbelievable of all, a relatively simple film about seven oddball female friends emerged to battle Megatron and Optimus Prime for the year's top spot at the box office. Here's a look back at five of the year's biggest cinematic surprises, all of which showcase subjects rarely seen on Korean screens.

### 1. Sunny—(써니)

In Korea (and almost everywhere else in the world), a film with no male stars typically lasts no more than a fortnight in the theaters, but *Sunny* was still selling tickets four months after its May release. This rousing comedy about a pair of women searching for their fellow misfit friends from high school rode unanimous word-of-mouth praise to become the year's biggest hit.

### 2. The Crucible—(도가니)

This true tale of sexual abuse at a school for deaf children was undoubtedly the most important Korean film of 2011, as it led to real-life investigations of the school in question. Through October, it was the third highest grossing Korean film of the year, and many are hoping that its surprising success will pave the way for future films to address social problems in Korea.

### 3. Leafie: A Hen into the Wild—(마당을 나온 암탉)

Most foreigners' knowledge of Korean animation begins and ends with Rough Draft Studios (where *The Simpsons* is drawn), but Myung Films vaulted to the top of the field with this touching tale of a doting mother hen who adopts a baby duck, which is based on a beloved children's book. The studio risked a huge investment (almost three billion won and more than six years of production) on a film that eschews a Disney-esque happy ending, and it was substantially rewarded when *Leafie* became the most successful Korean animated film ever.

### 4. Late Blossom—(그대를 사랑합니다)

Like films about female friendship (see #1), movies about old folks have a tendency to disappear quickly from theaters, but this poignant look at the joys and sorrows experienced by two elderly couples (one new couple and one lifelong pairing) defied the odds by selling more than 1.6 million tickets.

### 5. Punch—(완득이)

Based on a popular teen novel, *Punch* initially looks like yet another Korean film about male bonding, this time between a jaded high school teacher (Kim Yoon Suk) and a hot-headed teen hottie (Yoo Ah In). But this late season box office hit attains a new level of respect for its unprecedentedly realistic depiction of the trials faced by Southeast Asian immigrants in Korea, as the lead character's mother is a Filipino immigrant.

# BIZARRELY INTERESTING CAFÉS IN SEOUL

Written by Daniel Gray

This is about much more than caffeine and magazines



## Cafe 1mm: A full-sized museum in a regular-sized cafe

Choi Jeong-rim is an artist that can create life-like miniatures such as Korean street food carts, living rooms, *hanok*, miniature outfits, gardens, dinner tables and much more. Her café is set in one of the alleys of Samcheong-dong in a quaint little white house that has a blue fence door. The details on all of the miniatures are so distinct that you need a magnifying glass to enjoy them all. When the cafe is not busy, Ms. Choi can be found at her desk making new miniature creations. It's a little café, but there is a lot to be seen.

### MORE INFO

Open from 10:30am—9:30pm  
 T. (02) 725-7776 | Website: [www.worldmini.net](http://www.worldmini.net)  
 Directions: Go out Anguk Station Exit 1 and walk to Samcheong-dong. Make a left at the parking lot that is across from a church.



## Books Cooks: A foodie's café

This teahouse and cafe is the place for foodies with an eye for art. You enter this *hanok* by passing through a quaint yard. From the outside it looks small, but the inside is expansive as it dips down into an open kitchen that displays herbs, cakes, and teas the energetic chef is preparing. Here the brownies are rich in chocolate and I enjoyed the most bittersweet, sour and peppery *omija* tea. To the left there is a library filled with cookbooks from all over the world. You can get small meals here, but Books Cooks is famous for its Afternoon High Tea (2—5pm). You get a variety of tea, finger sandwiches, and scones. It's a civilized way to spend an afternoon. ☺

### MORE INFO

Open from 10am—10pm | T. (02) 743-4003  
 Website: <http://blog.naver.com/bookscooks>  
 Directions: Go out Anguk Station Exit 2 and walk towards Bukchon. When you see sign for the "Law Offices of Book Chon" go up the stairs and you are there.



## Princess Party: Enjoy a cup of coffee and get married

Soooo... at Princess Party, you can get a cup of coffee or drink and then you are invited to go to one of the dressing rooms to try on any number of different dresses, suits, hats, and other outfits and then either lounge around in their velvet furniture or enjoy a fashion shoot on their stage. It's a bit bizarre to see marriages taking place in the afternoon, but it is the norm at Princess Party Café—luckily commitments are non-binding. (Note: There is a dress rental fee at the café that starts at 10,000 won)

### MORE INFO

Hours: 11:30am—10:30pm | T. (02) 6361-8520  
 Website: <http://cafe.naver.com/partyprincess/>  
 Directions: On the first floor of the Ibis Hotel, across from Lotte Department store in Myeong-dong.



Cafés in Korea have been popping up like pimples on a teenager and have had to get increasingly creative to stay competitive. Since coffee is such a high-margin product, many people have been pairing it with other services such as hand-drip coffee and dry cleaning and coffee and flower arrangements. You can even get your fortune told while you wait for your coffee to cool. The interiors of the cafes are impressive and are getting increasingly lavish as more and more sprout up. Here are some of the more interesting concepts on the café scene.

## QUICK BITES: ROMANTIC X-MAS



Christmas in Korea is a holiday for couples. If you don't plan adequately, there won't be any restaurants to take your beau or belle to and you'll just be left out in the cold. Here are some romantic places to spend your Christmas dinner.

### South of the river

#### Italian Bistro Arumdaun Siktak

This hip Italian restaurant offers an array of flavorful Italian dishes in a cool atmosphere. Its authentic carbonara and classic Caesar are the best I have had in the city. Each meal starts with a complimentary soup and finishes with homemade panna cotta or ice cream.

T. (02) 564-0987 | **Getting there:** Seolleung Station, Line 2 and Bundang Line, Exit 10. Head straight on, then turn left at the Posco Junction. Take the second left, then the first right.

#### Table 34

Located on the 34th floor of the InterContinental Seoul Parnas Building, this is one of the top restaurants for French food in the capital. From pâté, consommé and steak, to cake, it offers superbly made cuisine using the finest local and overseas ingredients.

T. (02) 559-7631 | **Getting there:** Samseong Station, Line 2, Exit 6

#### Dining Bar Shun

After spending nine years in Japan, Pak Beom-seok returned to his homeland with an arsenal of skills. His tofu salad has the texture of mozzarella, his acid sushi is like cerviche, and his sashimi is expertly cut.

T. (02) 501-0449 | **Getting there:** Seolleung Station, Line 2 and Bundang Line, Exit 10. Head straight on, then turn left at the Posco Junction. Take the fourth right, then the first left.

### North of the river

#### Sausalito Lobster

This steamed whole lobster with a table full of sauces and side dishes makes for a sumptuous feast in a homey restaurant. The owner puts on a show as he dissects the entire lobster from claw to flipper. The fried rice at the end is epic.

T. (02) 720-5077 | **Getting there:** Jongno 3-ga Station, Lines 1, 3 & 5, Exit 5. Pass under the raised Nagwon Arcade building and you'll see Sausalito Lobster on the left.

#### Nwijo

This Korean restaurant set in a *hanok* prides itself in using homemade sauces and pastes. The coursed meal includes fresh mountain greens salad with an apple dressing, wild sesame soup, pork with kimchi wraps, and lotus rice.

T. (02) 730-9301 | **Getting there:** Anguk Station, Line 3, Exit 6. Turn left down Insa-dong's main street, then take the first big alley on the left. Nwijo is some way down this alley. ☺

# ANOTHER SCALP

Pete Kang explains how the secret to healthy hair is letting it grow from healthy, well-nourished skin



**Pete says:**

“Those with scalp problems often have “high temperature” scalps, leading to sensitive skin and thinning hair.

“The first step to be taken, therefore, is decreasing the scalp temperature. For this, we use moisture scalp oil with a mist machine to open the scalp. The second step is scaling the scalp, massaging it with our nutritive scalp care products and systems for blood circulation, and cleaning it up. The third step is putting nutrition into the scalp.

“This process, including the massage, takes about one and a quarter hours and should be done at least once every two weeks, depending on the condition of the scalp. That’s why I don’t really recommend the scalp care system for single treatments only: Improvements become visible and tangible after at least five treatments. You will experience less hair loss, and thicker hair growth, than when your scalp was still sensitive. Buying a coupon for ten treatments, moreover, offers large savings over a single treatment.

“Leekaja hairbis Cheongdam head salon, where I work, is a full-service hair salon that offers many different options when it comes to treatment.

“We offer scalp moisture, scalp cleansing and hair repair treatments, as well as selling products for you to use at home, and providing follow-up treatment. Come in for free consultation at our Cheongdam head salon and ask for Pete Kang—I always appreciate talking hair with you!

“If you want great hair, you’ll need a great scalp!”

Nowadays, scalp problems are a common occurrence in Korea due to factors such as stress and nutritionally unbalanced foods. Those from other countries, especially, can be susceptible to hair loss and sensitive scalp because of the different lifestyle, water, spicy foods, and other new things they encounter here. Such unfamiliar factors can also cause stress, another problem that exacerbates scalp conditions.

If you find yourself answering “yes” to any of the questions below, call Pete to make an appointment for a consultation:

- Is your hair or scalp normally oily when you wake up in the morning?
- Can you see red spots on your scalp?
- Do you have thin and damaged hair?
- Do you lose a lot of hair, especially after shampooing?
- Do you find dandruff on your shoulders when you wear black?



**PETE KANG QUALIFIED AS A HAIRDRESSER AND WORKED IN LONDON.**

He graduated as best student from the Sassoon Diploma Course, before working for the Sassoon salon in Covent Garden. It was in London that Pete found his “mark” as a hairdresser: in other words, his own personal style.

Pete says, “I want to give my clients organic haircuts and colors that stay beautiful even after they step out of the salon and into the wind. When people touch their hair by themselves, it should fall into place naturally. That’s why I design haircuts based on clients’ individual bone structures, face shapes, and skin tones.”

# PARTYING TILL 2012

There’s no excuse for just letting midnight quietly slip by

Written by Ko Yeon-kyung and Ben Jackson  
Images courtesy of various organizers

## Countdown Fantasy 2012 (Dec 30—31, 3:30pm)

Back for a second year, this is Korea’s first indoor winter festival. Organized by successful festival outfit Mint Paper, this year’s CDF takes place on a smaller scale than last year, when freakishly cold weather made operating the outdoor stage an ordeal for organizers, performers and audiences alike. Look forward to acts including Gate Flowers, The Moonshiners, Achime, Yozoh, The Koxx, Claziquai, Peterpan Complex and Have a Tea over two days of top music, climaxing of course with the turn of the new year. The venue is AX-KOREA, on the bank of the Hangang River in eastern Seoul.

www.mintpaper.com  
Admission:  
Dec 30 55,000 won;  
Dec 31 66,000 won;  
both days 99,000 won  
Tickets:  
http://ticket.yes24.com  
Getting there:  
Gwangnaru Station,  
Line 5, Exit 2. Head  
straight, then take the  
first right. AX-KOREA is  
on the right, on the way  
to the Hangang River.



**DJ Belzebass New Year Party (Dec 31, 10pm)**

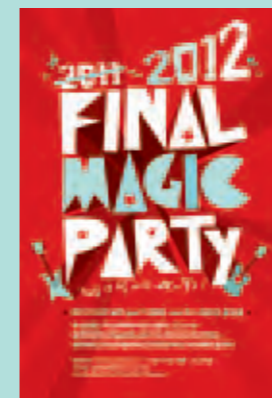
DJ Belzebass @ WooBar, W Seoul-Walkerhill. One of the capital’s most stylish venues, WooBar is a great place to see in the new year under the guidance of Italian nu-ravemeisters Belzebass.

T. (02) 2022-0333 | Admission: 50,000 won (in advance)/60,000 won (on the door, includes one welcome drink) | Getting there: Gangbyeon Station, Line 2, Exit 1. Take the shuttle bus from opposite Techno Mart.

## 2011-2012 Final Magic Party (Dec 31, 7:30pm)

If you don’t plan on being in your right mind as the new year begins, you still haven’t forgotten the excitement of autumn’s rock festivals, you want to put all the events of 2011 behind you and welcome 2012 in style, or you want to come together and celebrate with a bunch of famous indie bands, this is the event for you. Look out for names including Goonamguayeoridingstella, Prana, Romantic Punch, Broken Valentine, Vanilla Unity, Eastern Sidekick, J Rabbit, We Dance, Trans Fixion, Dalmoon and GOGOSTAR.

www.rollinghallent.com | Admission: 44,000 won (in advance) | Tickets: http://ticket.auction.co.kr | Getting there: Hapjeong Station, Lines 2 & 6, Exit 6.



## High Light Festival 2012 Countdown (Dec 31, 10pm)

A red-hot collection of new icons on the club and pop scene, High Light Festival emphasizes that it’s not a party—it’s a new level altogether. Head to the Sheraton Grande Walkerhill hotel to spend New Year’s Eve with the likes of Far East Movement, Sebastian, DJ FEADZ, Justin Michael, IDIOTAPE, DJ YUP, Beat Burger and more. Sheraton Grande Walkerhill is located on Mt. Ahasan (see Exploring Seoul, p18), meaning you can climb to the summit to enjoy the New Year sunrise when you’ve finished (or are just taking a quick break from) partying.

highlightfestival.mnet.com | Admission: 66,000—143,000 won (call for details) | Getting there: Getting there: Gangbyeon Station, Line 2, Exit 1. Take the shuttle bus from opposite Techno Mart.

## Countdown Seoul 2012 at Times Square (Dec 31, 7pm)

If you thought Times Square in New York was a meaningful place to spend New Year’s Eve, forget about it. Times Square in Seoul, Korea’s largest shopping mall, is where anybody who’s anybody will be spending the transition into 2012. Another indoor event, this one will feature three stages—pop, electronic and indie rock—a variety of lounges and more than 20 bands. Headlining will be Korean band UV, illuminatingly introduced by the Countdown Seoul 2012 as “fresher than the freshly squeezed orange juice from the food corner in the basement of a department store.” UV will be joined by breakbot and So Me, from top French electronic label Ed Banger Records, and plenty of others. The perfect option for all-night dancing.

www.countdownseoul.com  
Admission:  
66,000 won (Nov advance)/  
77,000 won (Dec advance)/  
99,000 won (on the door)  
Tickets: http://ticket.  
interpark.com  
Getting there:  
Yeongdeungpo  
Station, Line 1. Use the  
underground passage.



# THREE WAYS MEETING KOREANS FOR DRINKS WILL PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS IN KOREA

We're not talking coffee here, either.

Written by Steven S. Bammel

## PROFILE

Steven S. Bammel is the creator of Korea Business Central (KoreaBusinessCentral.com), as well as president of Korean Consulting & Translation Service, Inc. (KoreanConsulting.com). He writes the "Nojeok Hill: My View from the Top" weblog (NojeokHill.KoreanConsulting.com).

In Korea, drinking and business often go hand-in-hand. This much is well-known, but the reasons behind it are often not apparent to Westerners. In fact, social/business drinking is deeply embedded in the culture (within male culture that is; for better or for worse, Western women doing business in Korea will not be able to experience the same dynamics of this male bonding ritual).

Fortunately, there is some accommodation here for foreigners. As a non-Korean, you are not obligated to join the drinking if you absolutely don't want to do so; Koreans understand that drinking in the West is more of a private thing and they will respect your decision not to partake.

I'll also point out that drinking in Korea usually does not involve activities that you would be ashamed to tell your friends and family about back home, but sometimes it does. Keep in mind that you will not lose the business advantages of drinking by refusing to compromise your morals.

## 1. Drinking gives you the chance to build friendships.

In Korea, the concept of "*jeong* (情)" is big. It's a word that Koreans consider unique to their country and, roughly explained, refers to the sharing of concern for one another and emphasizes the Korean view of people in society being mutually interdependent on each other.

The Korean eating and drinking rituals are full of this "*jeong*" concept, which is symbolized in Korean minds by eating from shared dishes at the table, the pouring of alcohol into the glasses of others but never into one's own cup and the constant push to eat and drink more.

Koreans will question how much "*jeong*" a person has if the office environment is the only place where business is done and discussed. Indeed, it's outside the office that personal relationships are built, and friendships in Korea are all about expressing "*jeong*".

## 2. Drinking builds mutual respect.

By putting in a full day of work, then going out drinking with your Korean counterparts in the evening and finally showing up ready for work bright and early the next morning, you'll be sharing in the schedule that your new Korean friends follow. They will interpret this as an expression of respect for Korean culture and that you also know what it means to put in a full day of work.

This may seem trite, but it's not. Many Korean men are proud of their all-day workday and respect others who do the same. Since relationships are so important to business in Korea, Korean businessmen view these social gatherings as extensions of the business day, not as functions whose only value is in the enjoyment of the time spent.

## 3. Drinking fosters the honest sharing of information.

In a social gathering, Koreans will want everyone to drink at generally the same rate. Some (particularly those whose faces turn red quickly) will stop before others, but if one person just refuses to drink from the get-go or is clearly not drinking their share, others generally will hold back on what they imbibe and the dinner discussion will be inhibited.

This is because drinking involves a certain degree of loss of control which leads to vulnerability and, Koreans will tell you, honesty. So if everyone isn't keeping up, people will wonder what the person who's not drinking has to hide.

On the other hand, with everyone drinking, you'll find that communication becomes more open and business discussion flows in directions that it wouldn't back in the office. It may seem hard to believe, but promises made over drinks can often be worth more, not less, than those made in the office.

In conclusion, like business cards, language proficiency, gift giving and others, drinking in business is one more tool available to you for building business relationships and you'll do well to try to be part of it when in Korea. ☞



### GO DEEPER!

For more articles on understanding modern Koreans and what makes them tick, use the QR Code below to visit a dedicated page on Steven's weblog:



Korean Air's A380 provides you with

1.3 times the space

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Showcase offers onboard shopping for luxury items.



While cocktails are served in spacious lounges and

bars



Prestige Sleeper Seats comprise the entire upper deck.

94



providing greater

comfort



There's more to our A380 than meets the eye

Korean Air's A380 has the fewest seats to give you 1.3 times the normal space for a more comfortable flight experience. While onboard, unwind at our Duty Free Showcase, lounges and bars, or simply relax in entire upper deck devoted to just 94 Prestige Sleeper Seats. Less crowding also means a lighter plane and cleaner skies through which to fly in comfort and luxury.



**KOREA PASS CARD INFORMATION**

- Card Types: 50,000 / 100,000 / 300,000 / 500,000 won
- Transportation function available.
- Use of the Card: All credit card-affiliated business in Korea. (Discount affiliates: See the Korea Pass guide book and coupons)
- Reimbursement: available at 7-Eleven with no surcharge when use exceeds 80% of face amount

For more information, please call 02-1330 Travel Info Service.

www.koreapass.or.kr/en

### One More Night Promotion

For a journey long enough to touch your heart. Stay as long as you please and get one more night at no charge.

Foreign Independent Traveler (FIT) will get 1 extra night free when traveler book a room at designated hotels for 3 or 4 nights. Especially, traveler can enjoy more benefits during the period of the Korea Grand Sale 2012 such as additional discount of room rate, F&B discount, welcome drink and etc.

**Reminders**

- Promotional offer differs at each hotel.
- Reservations can be made via the hotels' websites or by phone.

City	Hotel	Tel
Seoul	Renaissance Seoul Hotel	82-2-555-0501
	Grand Ambassador Seoul	82-2-2275-1101
	Ritz Carlton Seoul	82-2-3451-8000
	Mayfield Hotel	82-2-2660-9000
	Imperial Palace Hotel	82-2-3440-8000
	Hotel Seokyo	82-2-330-7777
	Hotel PJ	82-2-2280-7000
	Courtyard by Marriott Seoul Times Square	82-2-2630-3000
	Seoul KyoYuk MunnHwa HoeKwan (The TEMF Hotel)	82-2-571-8100
	IP Boutique Hotel	82-2-3702-8000
	Hamilton Hotel	82-2-794-0171
	Sheraton Grande Walkerhill	82-2-455-5000
	Grand InterContinental Seoul Parnas	82-2-555-5556
	Shilla Hotel Seoul	82-2-2233-3131
Lotte Hotel Seoul	82-2-771-1000	
Lotte Hotel World	82-2-419-7000	
Busan	Lotte Hotel Busan	82-51-810-1000
	Novotel Ambassador Busan	82-51-743-1234
	Paradise Hotel	82-51-742-2121
Daegu	Hotel Inter-Burgo Daegu	82-53-602-7114
	Hotel Inter-Burgo EXCO	82-53-3800-1114
	The Grand Hotel Daegu	82-53-742-0001
Incheon	Paradise Hotel	82-32-762-5181
	Best Western Premier Songdo Park Hotel	82-32-210-7000
Ulsan	Sheraton Incheon Hotel	82-32-835-1000
	Lotte Hotel Ulsan	82-52-960-1000
Gangwondo	Seorak Kensington Stars Hotel	82-33-635-4001
	Alpensia Resort	82-33-339-0000
	Kensington Flora Hotel	82-33-530-5000
Chungcheong bukdo	Hotel Inter-Burgo Wonju	82-33-769-8114
	Cheong Pung Resort	82-43-640-7000
	Ramada Plaza	82-43-290-1000
Gyeongsang bukdo	Danyang Tourist Hotel	82-43-423-7070
	Kolon Hotel	82-54-745-9001
	Hotel Concorde in Gyeongju	82-54-745-7000
Gyeongsang namdo	Hotel Hyundai (Gyeongju)	82-54-749-2233
	Comodore Hotel Gyeongju	82-54-745-7701
	Gyeongju Hilton	82-54-745-7788
Jeju	Pullman Ambassador Changwon City 7	82-55-600-0700
	Hyatt Regency Jeju	82-64-733-1234
	Haevichi Hotel & Resort	82-64-780-8000

### Enjoy the privilege of delightful travels and shopping in Korea!

\*Korea Grand Sale 2012, Korea's biggest shopping festival, is scheduled to be held from January 9 to February 29 in 2012 throughout Korea, and will be an attraction during which traditional and modern cultures coexist with the participation of the so-called 'BIG 20', the major tourist-preferred retail outlets.

During the festival, more than 21,000 stores will provide all foreign visitors with a special discount rate of up to 70% on shopping, accommodation, tourism resources and so on. Special Tourist Zones in Seoul, Busan, Gangwondo, Jeollabukdo, Gyeongsangbukdo, and Jeju are awaiting all guests to serve their benefits.

Korea sincerely invites you to this amazing 52-day shopping festival. Please come and enjoy your privileges while experiencing Korea.

#### How to enjoy Korea Grand Sale

Collect a discount card or coupon at a designated venue. Present one to the participating stores when you pay. Please find out where you can collect a discount card or coupon at the Korea Grand Sale website. For further information, please visit [www.koreagrandsale.or.kr/](http://www.koreagrandsale.or.kr/)

### Korea Grand Sale 2012

Period: January 9 - February 29, 2012  
Target: Foreign visitors  
Cities: Seoul, Busan, Gangwondo, Jeollabukdo, Gyeongsangbukdo, and Jeju  
Except for these cities, you may also have benefits in other cities where BIG 20 runs their branches or stores.  
Participating Fields (Big 20): Department Stores, Wholesale Marts, Duty Free Shops, Shopping Malls, Hotels, Theme Parks, Restaurants, Convenience Stores, Cosmetic Stores, Casinos, Theaters, Banks, Souvenir Shops, etc. (approximately 21,000 stores participate in)

Category	Store Name	Address	
Department Store	Galleria Luxury Mall	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Hyundai Department Store	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Lotte Department Store	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Shinsegae Department Store	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Donghwa Duty Free	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Early Five Korea	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Lotte Duty Free	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	The Style Duty Free	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Wakenail Duty Free Shop	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	E-mart	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
Dining	Marche	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	On the Border	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Sunhill	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Tofte	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Charim	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Hancock	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Krispy Kreme Doughnuts	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Angel-Five Coffee	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Callibere	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Letticia	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
Entertainment	Ballerina Who Loves B-boy	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Chongdong Theater (Mae)	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Drawing Show (Hae)	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Drum Cat	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Ferret-Stock	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Karao	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Korea House	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Legend of Flower 2	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Musical (Winter Sonata)	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Namsa	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
Beauty	Atissam	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Elude House	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Insohwa	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Olive Young	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Chocokwangpang	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Dragonhillspa & Resort	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
	Others	Buy the way	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul
		Family Mart	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul
		GS 25	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul
		Seven Eleven	100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul
Hana Bank		100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
Korea Exchange Bank		100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
Woori Bank		100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	
C&H Kang Land		100, Gyeongseong-ro, Seoul	

### Promotion

- Opening Event**
  - Opening Ceremony of Korea Grand Sale 2012
  - Official Event and Ice Skating Show
  - Korean Stars Photography Exhibition
  - Korean Film Exhibition
- Welcome Event**

"Welcome Event" is a Special Greeting Event for foreign tourists. It will introduce the Korea Grand Sale Event Promotion and visitors will be served a variety of gifts in lucky draw events.
- Big Chance**

Enjoy a 100% winning scratch card event 'Big Chance' at designated hot shopping centers.

  - Winning Prize: Flight Tickets, Hotel Vouchers, Korea Pass, etc.
- Hot Spot Event**
  - Korean Stars Photography Exhibition
  - Charity Bazaar with Korean Stars
  - Korean Stars Fan Autograph Event
  - Korean Film Exhibition

Now approaching the end of its second year, Visit Korea Year 2010-2012 is still working hard to reach its ambitious targets for Korean tourism: bringing in 10 million foreign tourists; generating \$13 billion in income and earning Korea a place among the world's top 20 tourist destinations in the world by 2012.

What this translates into for tourists is an interesting collection of special events and promotions that do their utmost to make a good impression on visitors. Highlights include Korea Grand Sale; the One More Night Promotion; free daily shuttle buses from Seoul to key provincial city destinations; discount coupons for a variety of restaurant, cafés, cosmetic brands, multi shops and more; and some huge discounts on high-speed rail journeys.

**Korea Grand Sale (Jan 9—Feb 29, 2012)**

Unlike the mega-discounts of other well-known international shopping destinations like Hong

Kong and Singapore, Korea Grand Sale combines shopping discounts of up to 50% with discounts on Korean Wave products and other cultural events, as well as accommodation and several more areas.

The sale includes some 21,100 branches of 72 famous department stores, duty free stores, hotels, large supermarkets and convenience stores, offering discounts ranging from 10% to 50%—the biggest sale in the history of Korea. Big names participating include Galleria Luxury Hall; Hyundai, Lotte and Shinsegae Department Stores; Donghwa, Lotte, Shilla and Walkerhill duty free stores; restaurants such as Marche, On the Border, Charim and Krispy Kreme; Ballerina Who Loves B-boy, Miso and Drum Cat; and much more.

**One More Night Promotion**

Everyone hates checking out of a really good hotel. Luckily, in conjunction with Visit Korea Year, 48 luxury hotels throughout the country are



participating in a scheme to offer an extra free night's stay to guests reserving rooms for three nights or more. During the Korea Grand Sale period, many hotels will be offering additional promotions on food and beverages.

**Coupons galore**

Make sure you get connected to a printer and hit the Visit Korea Year website before heading to Korea (or after you get here!). That way, you can print out coupons that will get you discounts of between 5% and 50% on a wide range of goods and services, from cosmetics to performances, duty free shopping, dining, shooting ranges, shoes, donuts, Korean green tea, fusion omurice, coffee and more.

**Shuttle buses**

An unmissable service for those aiming to get out of Seoul and explore Korea's beautiful provinces comes in the form of Visit Korea Year's

free daily shuttle bus services from Seoul to Busan, Seoul to Jeonju and Seoul to Gyeongju.

For the duration of Korea Grand Sale, Visit Korea Year will also run a free shuttle bus service between areas of Seoul north of the Hangang River, which has the city's highest concentration of tourist attractions, to areas south of the river where a lot of the businesses taking part in the grand sale are located.

**KTX discounts**

Visit Korea Year has also recently started offering a whopping 30% discount on KTX high-speed rail tickets to tourists booking via its website—check the conditions carefully (you'll need to get the tickets from one of several special designated ticket offices).

**MORE INFO**  
Websites: <http://english.visitkoreayear.com/>  
[www.koreagrandsale.or.kr](http://www.koreagrandsale.or.kr)

# CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Where to get the perfect tree and all the other bits and pieces

Written by Valerie Pergay

It's being to look a lot like Christmas...or is it? If not, it's about time to deck the halls of the Express Bus Terminal. Hidden away on the third floor are stalls full of holiday decorations that will soon have you rockin' in around the Christmas tree. It can be a bit overwhelming to shop through the maze so, before you go, be prepared and know what you are looking for.

## Ornaments

Once you have chosen your tree, it's time to decide the theme. From traditional or vibrant and festive to minimalist chic, there are many ornaments available to fit your style.

Traditional trees use ornaments made of fabric and wood with shapes like pine cones, angels, snowman and elf figurines, snowflakes, star shapes, and candy canes. Ornament balls can be found in many materials like glass, plastic, foam, wood and metals with different finishes from shiny to matte. They can also be printed or painted with different themes. You will find them in shops like 180 and 308.

Specialty baubles in silver made of mercury glass or transparent glass are designed with glitter in dainty swirls and stripes and other delicate textures. These can be found in shops 270 and 300. Before you put on your ornaments, don't forget to put the lights on.



## Christmas tree

Christmas trees come in different sizes, styles and colors. Fresh trees are expensive and hard to find in Seoul so I recommend using an artificial tree that is ever "green" and reusable.

You can find sizes as small as a foot or as tall as 6 feet. From four to six feet, prices of artificial fir trees without decorations range from 30,000 to 60,000 won.

If you want something different from the traditional tree (shop 300), an all white snow covered tree is another modern option (shop 272). Shop 286 sells a Christmas tree sculpture made out of layers of chunky wood that is hip and eco friendly.

## Other holiday decorations

If doing a tree is not your thing, there are many types of decorations available that can still evoke the Christmas spirit.

### • Wreaths

A round Christmas wreath hung at your door is a wonderful way to give your guests a warm holiday welcome. Wreaths come in many styles from the traditional look of green fir with pine cones or a simple yet striking mix of red berries and twigs. You can also transform wreaths as table centerpieces into advent wreaths by adding four candles.

### • Candles

There is nothing more festive than illuminating your home with the soft glow of candles. From votives, tea lights and specialty candles, you can find many choices in shop 180. Next door, in shop 207, you will find basic pillar candles in many colors and sizes.

### • Garlands

Traditional garlands are made of pine but you can be creative and use other types of stylish ones. Take for example the garlands found in shop 272, made of plastic crystal beads resembling frozen rain drops that you can hang on a wall. Combine them with some white Christmas lights and you can make a home look festive and elegant. In shop 287, you will find modern garlands that you can suspend from the ceiling, like the snowflake-shaped glass garland or the angelic cherubs in white foam.

### • Poinsettia

The red poinsettia plant, also known as the Christmas plant for its pointy leaves, thought to represent the star of Bethlehem, has become a symbolic and



easy decoration for Christmas. You can find real potted poinsettia plants at the flower markets but since their leaves contain sap that can cause contact dermatitis, it is best to opt for the artificial kind. Many stalls carry different sizes and colors like the classic red but also white, purple, gold and silver.

### • Snowman

Weather nowadays is so unpredictable but you can still count on having a white Christmas by bringing Frosty home. Stall 239 carries white classic snowmen, snow boys and snow babies made from foam while shop 274 and 310 have the whole family available in all the colors of the rainbow.

### • Reindeer

No need to wait for Santa in order to see Rudolph as you can have him in your living room right now. Shop 287 has a reindeer sculpture made of metallic silver that can be displayed in any modern home. Shop 305's reindeer is more traditional, covered in artificial green pine. ❄️

## GETTING THERE

Express Bus Terminal Station, Lines 3, 7 and 9, Exit 2. Take the escalator up and turn left (indicated by a Gyeongbu Line sign) and enter the Express Bus Terminal Building. Take the escalator to the 3rd floor (also the flower market floor) and turn left where you will find stands of Christmas-themed decorations.



# CONQUERING THE WORLD WITH SOFT POWER

Korea Culture and Information Service plays a key role in the country's standing overseas

Written by Ben Jackson | Photographs courtesy of KOCIS

Nation branding is a concept that has been buzzing around the corridors of power since the beginning of President Lee Myung-bak's administration in 2008. This field of theory and practice is one that aims to measure and improve the image of a certain country in the eyes of the citizens of others; many believe that improving Korea's national brand can eliminate a "Korea discount," whereby consumers overseas pay less for Korean products than they are actually worth, and

possibly create a "Korea premium"—the reverse effect. A good national brand, in other words, is good news for exports.

In addition to bodies newly created by Lee, such as the Presidential Council on Nation Branding, existing organizations have gained new importance: one of these was the Korea Culture and Information Service (KOCIS), which had been established in 1971 to boost Korea's image and spread knowledge of its culture around the world.

## Riding the wave

Korea's national brand received a boost from the recent phenomenon that has come to be known as the "Korean Wave," a surge of popularity enjoyed by various Korean cultural genres in other Asian countries and across the rest of the world. Korean pop music ("K-pop"), TV dramas and feature films have proved particularly popular overseas in recent years, bringing enormous benefits for Korea's recognition level and popularity abroad.

This combination of top-down promotion and grass-roots popularity has created great opportunities for KOCIS, which is in turn working to maximize the benefits derived by Korea from its new-found international cultural prowess. KOCIS is now proceeding with a major expansion of the Korean Cultural Centers that it runs in various countries around the world (from 12 to 24; possibly eventually 28). These centers provide bases for the exhibiting and performing of Korean culture, as well as teaching Korean

language, giving lectures, promoting the study of Korean language and culture, and more.

One recent accomplishment of the Korean Cultural Centers in 17 countries around the world was to take a count of the number of Korean Wave fan clubs and their members; the staggering result suggested that there are 3.3 million Korean Wave fans around the world—roughly equivalent to the population of Uruguay. These included 287,294 members of a fan club of boy band SS501 counted by the Korean Cultural Center in Shanghai, 96,333 members of a Korean film club in Vietnam, 2,458 members of a Super Junior fan club in Russia, and plenty more associations devoted to bands, actors and other aspects of Korean culture in places as diverse as Kazakhstan, Poland and Turkey. In New York, the drama-based site Dramafever was clocked with 500,000 members.

## Interview: Seo Kang-soo, director of KOCIS



**SEOUL magazine:** We've heard the number of Korean Cultural Centers around the world is increasing.

**Seo Kang-soo:** Yes, we've been building four new ones every year. There were 12 before we began this project; by the time we've finished there will be 24. It's not confirmed yet, but we hope to carry on with another four after that, to give a total of 28.

We're also building three new Korea Centers, in New York, Paris and Singapore. Korea Centers are like Korean Cultural Centers, but combined with other bodies such as the Korea Tourism Organization and the Korea Creative Content Agency (KOCCA).

Construction is due to start on New York Korea Center in Lower Manhattan this autumn, while the Paris center is being built to replace the existing Centre Culturel Coréen, which has outgrown its current space, at a cost of 80 billion won.

Our overseas centers and cultural centers will also be making more active use of social network services, such

as blogs, Twitter and Facebook, to spread information on Korean culture more actively to people in the countries where they are located.

**S:** Please tell us about the recent success of Korean culture overseas.

**SKS:** There has been an explosion in K-pop's popularity. The recent hit scored by the SM Town concert in Paris is just one illustration of this. K-pop music is good; the dancing is sophisticated, the artists are attractive. I think another advantage is that the artists have a clean image and aren't associated with drugs or anything like that. This means that parents in many countries are happy to

let their children enjoy K-pop without worrying about bad influences.

In fact, Korea's brand as a whole has been very successful overseas recently, thanks not just to culture but also to other fields such as science and sports. We have plenty of successful footballers, golfers and strong performances in both the summer and winter Olympics.

We want to commercialize this cultural popularity and to make sure the demand for Korean culture around the world is met.

**S:** Can you tell us more about the link between cultural and commercial success for Korea overseas?

**SKS:** You can't establish a direct statistical link, but the anecdotal evidence is very strong. For example, in one country in the Middle East, Korean dramas such as *Jewel in the Palace* and *Jumong* achieved huge TV audience shares of around 85%. In the same country, sales of Hyundai cars went from 30,000 in one year to 200,000 the next, while sales of items such as Samsung Galaxy phones and LG LCD products also rose significantly.

## Korean Cultural Centers and Korea Centers around the world

SEXUAL DYSFUNCTIONS—  
THE WOMEN'S WORLD PART 4

## Menstrual pain

Every month, approximately 25% of women complain about menstrual pain before or during their monthly period. The main symptom related to this condition, known as dysmenorrhea, is pain that is concentrated in the lower abdomen, umbilical region, or pubic region of the abdomen (commonly felt in the right or left abdomen), and which may radiate to the thighs and lower back. It may also include symptoms such as nausea and vomiting; diarrhea or constipation; headache; dizziness, fainting, fatigue, and/or disorientation; and hypersensitivity to sound, light, smell and touch. In some severe cases, dysmenorrhea begins immediately following ovulation and can last until the end of menstruation. This is because dysmenorrhea is often associated with changes in hormonal levels in the body that occur with ovulation. In Western medicine, birth control pills are often prescribed for dysmenorrhea because “the pill” stops ovulation from occurring.

Dysmenorrhea can be classified as either primary or secondary based on the absence or presence of an underlying cause. Secondary dysmenorrhea is associated with an existing condition, such as endometriosis, fibroids, or ovarian cysts. The presence of a copper IUD can also cause dysmenorrhea. Western medicine considers primary dysmenorrhea to be related to certain hormones and chemicals that are released when the unnecessary built-up uterine tissue is shed in the absence of a fertilized ovum.

## Liver qi stagnation and liver blood stasis

Certain chemical compounds called prostaglandins and other inflammatory mediators are released during menstruation due to the destruction of endometrial cells. This causes the uterus muscle to contract and constrict the blood supply to the tissue of the endometrium, which, in turn, breaks down and dies. These uterine contractions continue as they squeeze the old, dead endometrial tissue through the cervix and out of the body through the vagina. These contractions, and the resulting temporary oxygen deprivation to nearby tissues, are responsible for the pain or “cramps” experienced during menstruation.


In Oriental medicine, the common cause of menstrual pain is a combination of liver *qi* stagnation and liver blood stasis. The liver is seen as the organ that cleanses the blood and maintains blood circulation. However, the liver detoxifies not only the foodstuff we digest, but also the emotional distress to which we are exposed. In other words, excessive emotions and states, such as worry, anger,

sadness, and stress, disrupt the liver's ability to keep the *qi* and blood circulation flowing smoothly. This causes blockage of energy in the liver meridian. Since the liver meridian runs directly through the ovaries and uterus, this blockage can lead to lower abdominal pain and menstrual cramps.

*Qi* stagnation causes a dull, achy pain, and therefore women with *qi* stagnation often complain of PMS (premenstrual syndrome) symptoms. Liver blood stagnation, however, is a more serious blockage of the actual menstrual blood flow. This results in severe stabbing abdominal pain and dark clots with the period. If not properly addressed, *qi* and blood stagnation could progress into endometriosis, cysts, and fibrosis.

A traditional treatment approach would focus on relieving the *qi* stagnation by inserting needles in acupuncture points related to the liver meridian, and prescribing herbal formulas. Such formulas contain herbs that promote blood circulation (red and white peony root, angelica root, or Chinese motherwort) and also warm the lower abdomen (cinnamon and turmeric). Since cold constricts and slows down the flow of *qi* and blood, it is also important to avoid cold foods such as ice cream and cold beverages before and during periods. Likewise, women suffering from menstrual pain should not wear skirts in cold weather.


Hot packs applied on the abdomen during cramping episodes might help to relieve the pain, as would a soft massage with the hands. For additional “self treatment”, massage two acupressure points: one is located at the bottom center of the palms, next to the wrist fold; and the other is situated about three finger-widths (about 5—7cm) above the prominence of the inner malleolus of the ankle. Massage each spot with the thumb for a few minutes.

To be continued... 

## K-pop World Festival

Organized by Korean Cultural Centers around the world, K-pop contests this year selected the best non-Korean performer(s) of any K-pop song; winners from each country head to Korea this month for the global final at 6pm on December 7th at the indoor race track stadium in the southeastern city of Changwon.


Broadcast live for two hours on top Korean channel KBS, as well as worldwide on KBS World and Arirang TV, the global final is a big-budget event that is intended to further promote the music, dancing and fashion styles associated with K-pop around the world.

Trends come and go, in areas as diverse as manufactured goods, tourism, pop music and drama. But as long as Korea continues making efforts to raise the global profile of its culture, thereby improving its national brand, it stands a greater chance of creating an integrated, positive and synergistic image for all areas of its exports. 



**DR. RAIMUND ROYER**

([raimundroyer@jaseng.co.kr](mailto:raimundroyer@jaseng.co.kr))  
is Korea's only “Western” Oriental  
medical doctor and the medical  
director of the Jaseng Hospital of  
Oriental Medicine's International  
Clinic ([www.jaseng.net](http://www.jaseng.net)).

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# COMMUNITY PAGE

## DSSI CHRISTMAS MARKET

Nov 26, 4:30pm—8pm

Deutsche Schule Seoul International, Hannam-dong  
A German taste of Christmas, with *gluehwein* and handicrafts. This year's supported charity is "Shoulder-to-Shoulder." More info: Visit [www.dsseoul.org](http://www.dsseoul.org)

## PLAY: CATRIJN'S CORNER BY MELANIE STEYN

Nov 26, 7pm & Nov 27, 3pm

Munhwa Auditorium, Suncheon National University

This play by Melanie Steyn, author of *Once Around the Sun* (2010, Seoul Selection), is a fairly light-hearted story at times, about a time-traveling ghost, but the themes are serious and there are very dramatic moments. The ghost is a female slave from Indonesia who returns to Stellenbosch, near Cape Town, in 2010. At first she isn't sure what has called her back... Admission: Donations of 2,000 won or more are requested, and will be sent to South Africa's Community Chest Western Cape and earmarked for the Women on Farms Project. More info: Email [melsteyn@gmail.com](mailto:melsteyn@gmail.com)

## SPORTS

### Seoul Synergy

Triathlon training—not for the inexperienced. Eight mile runs along the Han River: Sun at 7:30am and Thu at 7:25pm; long bike ride Sat 7:30am.

### Seoul Flyers

For all ranges of races; runners of all ability welcome. Join with a membership fee of 50,000 per year. More info: [www.seoulflyers.com](http://www.seoulflyers.com)

### Seoul Hash House Harriers

A self-described "men's drinking club with a running problem." Visit <http://seoulhash.com> for more info.

### Sunday Seoul Football League

SSFL is an impressively organized football league for expats in Seoul and its nearby areas. To get involved visit, [www.ssfkorea.com](http://www.ssfkorea.com).

### Seoul International Dart Club

Dillingers and Bless U (both in Itaewon) will host Monday Night Dart Tournaments alternatively. For details go to: [www.seouldarts.net](http://www.seouldarts.net)

## EXHIBITION: EROTIC FANTASIES

Nov 26—Dec 17

Don't miss this deliciously erotic exhibition by a group that seeks to highlight important issues related to the massive social changes taking place in Korea. More info: <http://koreaiac.com>

## BASS CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Dec 1, 11:30am—3:30pm

Namsan II Room, Grand Hyatt  
Join the British Association of Seoul for its traditional Christmas lunch, games, singing & prizes. Will the ANZA table win the Christmas Carol Chaos again?! More info: Visit [www.britishseoul.com](http://www.britishseoul.com)

## GERMAN CHRISTMAS-DINNER

Dec 2

Grand Hyatt Hotel  
Head for Deutscher Club Seoul's festive event to enjoy a tombola, live-music and a delicious buffet at the Hyatt Hotel. Cost: 110,000/120,000 won members/non-members. More info: Contact Event-Manager Martina Heidrich at [MartinaHeidrich@gmx.net](mailto:MartinaHeidrich@gmx.net).

## FKCCI GALA 2011—PARIS, 1789

Dec 3, 6:30pm

Grand Hyatt Hotel

This year, two exceptional Premiere performances of the musicals "1789, Les Amants de la Bastille" and a Korean version of the French musical "Mozart L'Opéra Rock" will highlight the gala. More info: Visit [www.fkcci.com](http://www.fkcci.com)

## FRENCH CHRISTMAS MARKET

Dec 10, 10am—4pm

Ginkgo Tree Park, Seorae Maeul, Bangbae-dong  
French Christmas Market with all the seasonal delicacies: *foie gras*, smoked salmon, homemade sausages, pâté, wine, etc. Santa Claus will be there to receive letters from children, while there is also a lottery whose benefits will be given back to local people in need. More info: See the Facebook page of Itaewon's Le Saint-Ex restaurant ([www.facebook.com/lesaintex](http://www.facebook.com/lesaintex)).

## LIBERATING HERSTORIES

Dec 10—16 (Opening night Dec 10, 7pm—10pm)

Cafe Anthracite, near Sangsu Station  
An exhibition displaying paintings by former "comfort women" and by international artists. Throughout the exhibition visitors will also be able to attend film screenings and workshops addressing issues of

## Seoul Survivors Rugby Football Club

Men's rugby team—check out their eponymous Facebook page too.

## Canada Ball Hockey Korea

Nearly 300 online members, 120 players and a lot of good times! More info: Visit [www.cbhk.org](http://www.cbhk.org)

## Seoul Warriors

A diverse group of football enthusiasts dedicated to spreading the knowledge and popularity of American football in Korea and Asia. More info: Facebook or [www.seoulwarriors.com](http://www.seoulwarriors.com)

## Seoul Cricket Club (SCC)

Check out this group on Facebook.

## Seoul Baseball League

Aims to provide foreigners and Koreans living in the Republic of South Korea an opportunity to join together and play baseball. See Facebook for more info and official website link.

sexual slavery, human trafficking, rape warfare, and violence towards women. To participate: Email [sharinghouse.art@gmail.com](mailto:sharinghouse.art@gmail.com). More info: Visit <http://sharinghouseart.tumblr.com>

## EARLY KOREAN MOVIE: ROMANCE PAPA

Dec 12, 12:30pm

Seminar Room, Floor 19, Mirae Asset Center 1 Building West Tower  
The Korea Foundation Cultural Center screens *Romance Papa* (Shin Sang-ok, 1960). Admission: Free, but spaces limited. To book, call (02) 2151-6531 or email [yjcho@kf.or.kr](mailto:yjcho@kf.or.kr) or [hykim@kf.or.kr](mailto:hykim@kf.or.kr).

## ANZA GLOBAL CAFÉ

Dec 13, 10am—noon

Paris Grill Bar and Café, Grand Hyatt Hotel  
Please check [www.anzakorea.com](http://www.anzakorea.com) for confirmation of time and venue.

## ROSE KYUNGYUN KONG EXHIBITION: "THE GARDEN OF HER"

Dec 14—27 (opening reception: Dec 14, 5pm)

Noam Gallery, Insa-dong  
Rose K. Kong's long-awaited and life-affirming new solo exhibition. Lush, vibrant and bursting with color, Kong's paintings are a glorious and unabashed celebration of life. More info: Call/email Daniel Kim at 010-9698-7623/[thirdeye75@gmail.com](mailto:thirdeye75@gmail.com).

## IMPROV BOSTON SHOW

Dec 17, 9pm—11pm

Moon Night (formerly Club After), Itaewon  
Seoul City Improv, the capital's premiere improv comedy troupe, is happy to announce the arrival of a special holiday guest-Santa Claus: International improv sensation, ImprovBoston! Admission: 20,000 won (includes a drink) at the door. Reservations: email [seoulimprov@gmail.com](mailto:seoulimprov@gmail.com). More info: Visit [www.seoulcityimprov.com](http://www.seoulcityimprov.com).

## INTRO TO IMPROV WORKSHOP WITH WILL LUERA/OPEN REHEARSAL

Dec 18, 11am—2pm/7pm—10pm

Bar Carmen, Gyeongnidan/WhiteBox Theatre near Hyochang Park Station

Will Luera, artistic director of ImprovBoston, holds an "Intro to Improv" class for anyone who would like give this dynamic performance art a try/

ImprovBoston runs SCI's weekly rehearsal. Cost: 25,000/10,000 won. Reservations: email [seoulimprov@gmail.com](mailto:seoulimprov@gmail.com). More info: Visit [www.seoulcityimprov.com](http://www.seoulcityimprov.com).

## PLAY—A FLORAL BIER: MODERATO CANTABILE

Dec 29—Jan 8, various times

Main Hall, Daehangno Arts Theater  
Lim Hyoung-taek directs a performance by Seoul Factory for the Performing Arts. Admission: R 35,000; A 25,000; S 20,000 won. Performances Mon—Thu 8pm, Fri 3pm & 8pm, Sat & Sun 3pm & 7pm. No performances on Jan 1 and 2. English subtitles. More info: Call 010-8671-0999 or email [seoulfactory@hotmail.com](mailto:seoulfactory@hotmail.com)

## DDPP KOREA

1st and 3rd Thu every month, 8pm—9pm

B1 830-5 Yeoksam 1-dong, Gangnam-gu  
Dance Dance Party Korea is a women-only 100% freestyle dance workout session. More info: Email [ddppkorea@gmail.com](mailto:ddppkorea@gmail.com)

## INTRODUCTION TO HANGEUL SEOYE (KOREAN CALLIGRAPHY)

Autumn 2011—autumn 2012, Every Mon, 11am—noon  
No. 1203 Suwon Building, 88 Gyeongun-dong

A year-long course taught by award-winning calligrapher Young Hee Moon (Excellence, Grand Art Exhibition of Korea, Calligraphy Div. First Prize, Seoul Grand Art). Cost: 10,000 won/month; students purchase own brush, ink and paper. More info: Email [m-seohyun@naver.com](mailto:m-seohyun@naver.com)

## PLATOON KUNSTHALLE EVENTS

Nonhyeon-dong's subcultural capital presents: **Bling & Platoon Night Flea Market** (Dec 3) and **Cut & Paste Seoul 2011** (Dec 10). More info: [www.kunsthalle.com](http://www.kunsthalle.com)

## RAS LECTURES AND CULTURAL EXCURSIONS

Courtesy of the Royal Asiatic Society Korea Branch.

Lectures: **A Gayageum Evening with Jocelyn Clark** (Dec 13). Lectures take place at 7:30pm in the Residents' Lounge on the 2nd floor of Somerset Palace, Seoul. Cost: free/5,000 won RAS members/non-members. Excursions: **Walking lecture excursion through Joseon**



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USAGY has a population of more than 25,000 people. We have multiple advertising venues for you to choose from and some of these venues include the Community Connection FMWR monthly magazine, 'A Glance at Yongsan' weekly newsletter, ball field banner signs, Yongsan Lanes TV ads and much more!

For more information, call the USAGY FMWR Marketing Office at 0505-724-3424 or go to the USAG Yongsan, FMWR Facebook page.

Dynasty Seoul (Nov 27), Shopping spree (Dec 3), Jongno Street Food Tour (Dec 4) and Magoksa and Gagwonsa Temple Tour (Dec 11). Costs and departure times vary: see [www.raskb.com](http://www.raskb.com)

## SEORAE GLOBAL VILLAGE CENTER CULTURAL CLASSES

*Sagunja* (Dec 2, 16), *hanji* handicraft (Dec 5), *maedeup* (Dec 6, 13), **charity day: "Journée patisseries et patisseries du coeur:"** making various pastries (Dec 9), **Moroccan cookery** (Dec 1), **Sri Lankan cookery** (Dec 2), **art for adults (making cards with hanbok patterns)** (Dec 12), **art for children (making a Christmas wreath)** (Dec 16), **wine** (every Friday), **Korean language** (Mon—Fri), **holiday classes for children** (Dec 21, 22, 23, 27, 29). More info: See <http://global.seoul.go.kr/seorae/>

## SIWA EVENTS AND TOURS

December events courtesy of Seoul International Women's Association  
**Newcomers' meeting** (Dec 1), **experience of traditional Korean medicine** (Dec 2), **National Assembly guided tour** (Dec 6), **coffee morning at the Grand Ambassador Hotel** (Dec 7), **Gyeonghuigung Palace and Seoul History Museum—guided tour by Prof. D. Mason** (Dec 9), **treasures of Korean cinema (movie & lecture)** (Dec 12). More info: See [www.siwapage.com](http://www.siwapage.com)

## USEFUL EXPAT RESOURCES

- **Korea Business Central**  
Highly active on-line community focused on doing business in Korea

## CULTURE

### BH Productions

A not-for-profit-theatrical production company. The company stages plays in the English language by international playwrights, in Seoul, other parts of Korea and overseas. More info: Email [thebhpcpany@yahoo.com](mailto:thebhpcpany@yahoo.com)

### Camarata Music Company

Highly successful musical organization that also provides musical opportunities for children in orphanages and low-income areas. See [www.camaratamusic.com](http://www.camaratamusic.com) or call 010-9806-8655.

### Fine art classes in English

Mon 9am—noon; Tue & Thu, 6pm—9pm  
Learn to draw or paint at the Big Green Studio. More info: Email [szpada@gmail.com](mailto:szpada@gmail.com) or visit <http://mstewartprintmaker.com>

### International Artists Community (Seoul)

Good forum, with a website that has links to other good artistic groups too. See <http://koreaiac.com> or Facebook.

### Laughing Tree Gallery

An expat-run "interdisciplinary creative production house" in Haebangchon, with art exhibitions, film screenings and more. See Facebook or visit [www.laughingtree.com](http://www.laughingtree.com).

### Meetup

This site is a good resource when it comes to finding various other cultural groups in Seoul. See [www.meetup.com](http://www.meetup.com)

### O'ngo food tours and cooking classes

O'ngo food communications provides regular Korean food tours and cooking classes, in English. More info: See [www.ongofood.com](http://www.ongofood.com)

### Seoul Players

A non-profit group bringing English-language theater to Seoul. See [www.seoulplayers.com](http://www.seoulplayers.com) or hunt them down on Facebook.

### Seoul Book & Wine Club

Discussion, friendship and great wines. See [www.meetup.com/SeoulBookandWineClub](http://www.meetup.com/SeoulBookandWineClub)

### Seoul City Improv

Seoul's first improv comedy troupe in English is always looking for new talent and is open to all. Regular performances in Itaewon, Haebangchon and sometimes Hongdae. See [www.seoulcityimprov.com](http://www.seoulcityimprov.com) or email [seoulcityimprov@gmail.com](mailto:seoulcityimprov@gmail.com).

### Seoul Writers' Collective

A literary, pot-luck soup kitchen for writers. See [www.meetup.com/writers-779](http://www.meetup.com/writers-779)

### Seoul Writers Workshop

Seoul-based creative writing group that aims to improve its writing skills through workshops. See [seoulwriters.wordpress.com](http://seoulwriters.wordpress.com) or Facebook.

### Stand Up Seoul

Popular stand-up comedy group with regular performances. See Facebook for more info.

### Dream Dance Studio

A variety of belly dancing and other dance classes. See [hongdaebellydance.wordpress.com](http://hongdaebellydance.wordpress.com)

# “What Makes You See This?”

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[www.angukzen.org](http://www.angukzen.org)

\* Direction: 5 minutes on foot or 3 minutes by Green Bus #2 from Exit 2 of Anguk Station, Subway Line 3

| [www.koreabusinesscentral.com](http://www.koreabusinesscentral.com)

### - Seoul Global Center

Highly useful center offering help on-line or in-person with almost all aspects of ex-pat life. It also oversees seven local Global Village Centers T. (02) 2075-4180 | Website: <http://global.seoul.go.kr>

### - Seoul Global Business Support Center

Provides extensive, free services for foreigners seeking to open businesses in Seoul. T. (02) 6001-7240 | Website: <http://global.seoul.go.kr/bizsupport>

### - Seoul Space

Korea's premier startup incubator and IT hub | <http://seoulspace.co.kr>

### - Korea4expats.com

A website crammed with useful info on events, life in Korea and much, much more.

### - Nanoomi

A community of writers, translators and Korea-enthusiasts who have come together to share Korean blogospheres with the world | <http://nanoomi.net>

### - iTour Seoul

Seoul's main tourism website, full of info on accommodation, dining, shopping, and other aspects of travel in the capital. Website: [www.visitseoul.net](http://www.visitseoul.net)

### - 120 Dasan Call Center

Seoul's one-stop telephone information service, available in

English, Korean and many other languages. T. (02) 120

### - International Clinic

Itaewon-based clinic providing advanced healthcare for expats in Korea since 1987, in fluent English. T. (02) 790-0857 | Website: [www.internationalclinic.co.kr](http://www.internationalclinic.co.kr)

### - Expatkorea.com Forum

Talk about anything and everything with loads of other expats. | [www.expatkorea.com](http://www.expatkorea.com)

### - Seoul Style

Website associated with Groove Magazine, providing useful info on dining, entertainment, shopping, night life and plenty more. See [www.seoulstyle.com](http://www.seoulstyle.com)

### SEoul CIGAR AFICIONADO SOCIETY

Korea's cigar group for all those that enjoy a good cigar and the camaraderie of friends. "Building Korea's cigar culture one cigar at a time." More info: <http://seoulcigaraficionadosociety.blogspot.com>

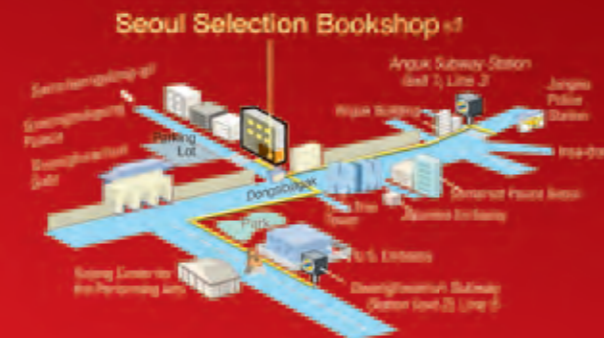
Do you have any events or other info for our January Community Page? If so, please send details by December 10 to [writer@seoulselection.com](mailto:writer@seoulselection.com)

## CULTURE STATION FOR TOURISTS & EXPATS

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# WHAT WERE YOU LIKE BEFORE DREAMING?

*Dharma friends who got out of either-or view!*

*You are still dreaming even though you awoke from a dream because the dream in your sleep is another dream.*

*How can you awake from this dream?*

*He who dreams a big dream will go deeper and deeper into it without mentioning it is a dream.*

*Dharma friends!*

*Even if the dream in the dream is like this, what were you like before dreaming the dream?*

*Six times six is thirty six.*



Written by Master Subul Sunim  
Director of Anguk Zen Center and  
Dongguk University's  
International Seon Center  
Translated by Boo Ahm  
(Song Soo-kyong)



# Your International School of Choice



# KIS

## KIS CURRENT STUDENTS ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2010 SAT average score 1,953 (US average 1,509), Similar score range of the 15-30 American boarding schools such as Lawrenceville or The Taft School.
- 100% College Acceptance Rate, 94% accepted to schools in the US including Columbia, Cornell, Princeton, and UPenn.
  - 6% accepted in schools outside of the US including McGill, Waseda, KAIST, and Yonsei
  - AP(Advanced Placement) accepted rate – KIS(79%), US nationwide (56.5%)

**Pangyo Campus(PK-G12)** 82.31.789.0505 | 373-6 Baekhyeon-dong, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do, Korea 463-420

**Gaepo Campus(PK-G2)** 82.2.561.0509 | 155-1 Gaepo-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul, Korea 135-240

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