KOREA
IN COLOR

A Legacy of Auspicious Images - October 28, 2023–March 3, 2024 - Don't miss it!

San Diego Museum of Art - Open Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 10-5, Sat, Sun: 12-5

November 1st, 15th & 19th - Docent Tours Online - The Virtual Tours of *Korea in Color* in All are at 1 p.m. [Register by clicking here!](#)

Docent Tours In-person – No need to register, but show up early in case tours may have to be limited. Scroll down to the very bottom of the page for the in-person tour schedule **here**.

January 12th (Save the date), Lecture Panel: Don't miss Rachel Jans, Ph.D., Associate Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art, San Diego Museum of Art and Eleanor Soo-ah Hyun, Associate Curator for Korean Art, from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

FREE - January 20th, K-Pop, Korean Artists and Art Activities, an "On the Steps at The San Diego Museum of Art" community event – from 1-5 p.m.

Exhibition Details: The special exhibition *Korea in Color: A Legacy of Auspicious Images* sheds light on the use of color in Korean painting—known as polychrome painting (chaesaekhwa)—and its role in Korean art and culture. Polychrome painting flourished during the Joseon Dynasty (1392–1910) and the colorful artworks created during this era, featuring symbolic images from sacred to secular, permeated all sectors of society. Highlighting contemporary works of art in dialogue with select masterpieces from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the fifty works presented throughout these galleries highlight the continued influence of color and

the legacy of auspicious images, long overshadowed by painting created in black ink, and span a variety of media, including painting, sculpture, prints, video, and multi-media installations.

Korea in Color invites visitors to encounter the role art once played in everyday Korean life across four themes connected to a traditional household: protection offered by animals at the doorstep; symbols of abundance and longevity in the garden; scholarly objects and books in the study; and the appreciation of majestic mountains beyond the walls of the home. These four sections are organized around core elements of traditional Korean painting: *Byeoksa*, protection against evil spirits; *Gilsang*, good fortune; *Gyohun*, edification; and *Gamsang*, appreciation, and prompt consideration of how these qualities intersect with life today.

"We are honored to be the first U.S. institution to host this thought-provoking and impactful exhibition celebrating Korean history and culture through auspicious images," said Roxana Velásquez, Maruja Baldwin Executive Director and CEO at The San Diego Museum of Art. "Together with the National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in South Korea and our partners at the Korean Cultural Center of Los Angeles, we hope this exhibition brings a new perspective of Korean art that is not often represented in the Western art scene. This is also a continuation of the Museum's long-held legacy and commitment to showcasing Asian art for our community."

"We are pleased to present the exhibition *Korea in Color: A Legacy of Auspicious Images* to the audience in the United States," said Park Jongdal, Acting Director at the National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea.

Sangwon Jung, Executive Director of the Korean Cultural Center, Los Angeles, expressed, "We are deeply honored to co-present this meaningful art exhibition, commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the ROK-U.S. Alliance and the 120th year of Korean immigration to the United States. Through this exhibition, we aim to foster ongoing collaboration with SDMA and MMCA in order to showcase the allure and magnificence of Korean Art (K-Art)."

Korea in Color is selected and co-organized by The San Diego Museum of Art, the National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea, and the Korean Cultural Center of Los Angeles, and is co-curated by Rachel Jans, Ph.D., Associate Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at SDMA and Marc. *Korea in Color* will be complemented by a full-color catalogue and a variety of public programming.