

Harmony of Paper and Type_Print

This year marks our 7th anniversary of Cheongju International Craft Biennale. To commemorate Jikji's 11th anniversary as UNESCO's Memory of the World heritage and to celebrate 25th anniversary of IAPMA (International Association of Hand Papermakers and Paper Artists Association), Cheongju Korean Craft Museum planned a special exhibition on 'Paper and Type_Print,' hosting IAPMA's opening exhibition and symposium.

The operating committee of Cheongju International Craft Biennale is proud for this special projet with IAPMA to finally kick off this fall after a year long planning since August 2010. Exhibitions celebrating 25th anniversary of IAPMA have been held worldwide: some of the locations for the first half of this year include Israel Wilfred Museum, 6th Paper Triennale of Swiss Charmey Museum, Fazinazione Papier for touring exhibition in Germany, Poland, and so on. However, exhibitions at Cheongju are especially notable for it is almost 40days long. This means that Cheongju has its significance as a host, and our exhibition was also recognized worldwide through the IAPMA website.

Now, I would like to thank the artists of IAPMA who are presenting their pieces after a long submission process. I would also like to thank the board and the operating committee of Cheongju International Craft Biennale as they have worked so hard and unconditionally for this symposium.

There are five judges of Gail Stiffe (President of IAPMA, AU), Helnene Tschacher (Web editor, DE), Prue Dobinson (Member at large, GB), Charmian Pollok (Web master, GB), Yang Sanghoon (President of Korea Paper Artist Association, KR) who had helped our exhibition hold a global standard. They have selected the pieces at Cheongju Korean Craft Museum. I would like to show my appreciation towards all the judges and all the participants.

This exhibition will be held from Sep.21st to Oct. 30th for 40days along with the other exhibitions, which we are expecting many visitors. Also, the International symposium themed after 'Paper and Type' was held on the 23rd. The symposium offered exhibitions on topics such as 'Introduction to IAPMA and paper art' by Gail Stiffe, 'An illustrated Guide to the Paper Makers' Universe' by Helen Hiebert, 'Hanji: world of Joomchi' by Jieun Kim and 'World of paper art' by Peter Gentenaar.

The presenters and debaters of the symposium are IAPMA committee members and the invited artists who share different cultural backgrounds and perspectives. Their presentation and debate topics were about the potential of paper as an art form and its

academic evidence.

We especially would like to thank the committee members of IAPMA, President Gail Stiffe and Vice president Helen Hiebert who came to Korea for the events, and Peter Gentenaar who have presented amazing art work.

The opening of the exhibition was held on Sep. 21st.2011 at 'Korea Craft Museum.' The mayor of Cheongju attended the opening ceremony and gave a congratulatory speech. I'd like to share the message of mayor with the members of IAPMA.

Young Soon Cha

Wonders of the world on a piece of paper unfolded a breathtaking world of arts

Cheongju is the origin of the world oldest extant movable metal print book, Jikji. Jikji's creative and innovative way of recording-it could record the details of how our ancestors thought, lived, and pro-gressed-advanced our culture to a whole new level. Artisans specialized in metal type, paintings and calligraphy conservation and restoration, and brush making have equally put their effort, passion, and talents to make Jikji; however, invention of Jikji was never possible without Hanji, (traditional Korean paper handmade from mulberry trees) which is known for its sturdiness and durability.

This is one example of how papers mirror time and cultural values of the moment. Historically, each country has produced its unique paper to record different ideas and information of the time. People also often used these sheets of papers to create an art work or to make what we now call a book.

With this in mind, 'Cheongju International Paper Art Special Exhibition 2011' was designed to share such ideas and thoughts unfolded on a piece of paper, and to open a new chapter of paper crafts art.

Amount of paper consumption is generally considered as a measuring norm of a country's cultural sophistication: this norm came from how papers are versatilely used in our lives such as a recording medium, living supplies, furnitures, interior materials, and body armor as military equipment. In short, papers are indispensable from the most mundane parts of our lives to the most high-tech areas.

However, papers are now taking a step further from a mere recording medium-it is an art object. We wanted to highlight Jikji's historical and aesthetic significance by analyzing papers academically and artistically.

Accordingly, we have contacted artists around the world who use paper as an art object and had them send their work for Cheongju International Paper Art Special Exhibition 2011. With the theme ‘Paper and Type,’ we selected 104 pieces of 77 artists from 17 different countries, which includes crafted Hanji works—the fiber of Hanji is leaner, denser in width and more consistent in length. The exhibition also includes pieces using Japanese paper Washi, the Western print papers, wrapping papers, and other type of art papers. This will enable us to see multi faceted characteristics of paper crafts as well as its artistry by seeing various reinterpreted and recreated papers and types from the world.

Finally, we would like to recognize all the participating artists who have given a full energy and passion into their work for the theme despite the short period of working time.

Bum Deuk, Han