

MEDIA RELEASE

‘SPECTROSYNTHESIS SEOUL’ FULL ARTIST LIST ANNOUNCED

The fourth edition of the acclaimed *Spectrosynthesis* series at Art Sonje Center will examine contemporary queer art through a Korean lens.



Inhwan Oh, *Where He Meets in Seoul*, 2020, powdered incense, 436×618 cm. Installation view of *The Moment of Gieok*, Seoul Arts Center/Seoul Calligraphy Art Museum, Seoul, 2019–2020. Courtesy of the artist



Kang Seung Lee, *Untitled (King Club)*, 2021, acrylic on linen, wood, 146×213.4 cm. Courtesy of the artist and Gallery Hyundai.

HONG KONG / SEOUL, 16 January 2026 – Sunpride Foundation and Art Sonje Center are delighted to announce the full artist list and key curatorial highlights for their upcoming group exhibition, *Spectrosynthesis Seoul*. Featuring over 70 artists and groups from the LGBTQ+ community and those exploring related themes, the show will be exhibited throughout Art Sonje Center in Seoul from March 20 – June 28, 2026. *Spectrosynthesis Seoul* also marks Korea’s first major institutional presentation dedicated to queer subjects, narratives, and artistic practices —shedding light on the histories and lived realities of the Korean LGBTQ+ community in dialogue with both local and international artistic practices.

Key Highlights and New Commissions

Curated by **Sunjung Kim**, Art Sonje Center’s Artistic Director and Dr. **Yongwoo Lee**, media historian and cultural studies scholar, and Assistant Professor in Cultural Studies at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the exhibition adopts Korea as a focal point through which to showcase the works of LGBTQ+ artists and allies whose practices transcend the boundaries of time, space, and systems. Presenting works by artists in Korea and beyond, *Spectrosynthesis Seoul* explores both the current conditions and future potentials of art centred around the LGBTQ+ community, while mapping the layered terrain of Korea’s queer art scene, as well as the wider ecosystem to which it belongs.

Featured artists include leading international figures such as **Annie Leibovitz**, **Gilbert & George**, **Martin Wong** and **Robert Rauschenberg**, presented in dialogue with notable homegrown talents such as **Ayoung Kim**, **Kang Seung Lee**, and **Inhwan Oh**. See appendix for full list of participating artists.

The exhibition will also debut new works from **siren eun young jung**, **Mark Bradford**, **Maria Taniguchi**, **Grim Park**, co-commissioned by Art Sonje Center and Sunpride Foundation, as well as feature more than 30 works from Sunpride Foundation's existing collection. The selection references a list of works chosen by artist **Sung Hwan Kim** for his commissioned essay for the exhibition. His essay, drawing on his own personal standpoint to bring a unique, artist-led perspective, will be published in the exhibition catalogue to be released in March 2026.

Curatorial Approach

Introducing “trans” as a core theme, Sunjung Kim examines the transformative conditions of beings by traversing boundaries of the body, ethnicity, gender, life and death, and reality and illusion. The exhibition expands upon narratives of identity that are shaped through the accumulation of memory, articulated by artists across diverse media and regions – forming a layered visual language in which multiple sensibilities intersect.

Working in collaboration with Sunjung Kim, Yongwoo Lee focuses on the three key tenets of “memory”, “place”, and “form” to examine the practice and avant-garde sense of Korean queer art. By archiving the experiences of queer people marginalized during Korea's rapid modernization, Lee situates and links these narratives within a broader global queer discourse. In doing so, he redefines and reinterprets the queer temporal and spatial histories of Seoul neighbourhoods such as Ikseon, Nagwon, and Itaewon, all of which are recognized as the birthplaces of queer subculture in Korea.

Public Programming

The exhibition will be accompanied by performances and programs to shape and encourage a ground of coexistence where different discourses and practices intersect. More details will be announced in due course.

Sunjung Kim, Artistic Director of Art Sonje Center and curator of *Spectrosynthesis Seoul*, said: “*Spectrosynthesis Seoul* examines diverse identities, concerns, and artistic practices that have often been overlooked within dominant art-historical narratives. Reflecting this diversity and multiplicity of voices, the exhibition adopts a curatorial framework that approaches queer art through multiple, intersecting perspectives rather than a singular viewpoint. Conceived as a “space of transition” unfolding across all

floors of Art Sonje Center, the exhibition allows heterogeneous voices and positions to coexist and interact. Expanding upon earlier presentations of the *Spectrosynthesis* series, it brings together works from the Sunpride Foundation's collection alongside new and recent works by collection artists and newly invited participants, offering a layered and multifaceted view of queer art today."

Patrick Sun, Founder and Executive Director of Sunpride Foundation, shared: "It is with deep gratitude and genuine excitement that we bring "Spectrosynthesis" to Seoul. This fourth iteration of the series continues a journey that has unfolded across Asia—each chapter responding to its own social, political, and cultural conditions while remaining in dialogue with a shared commitment to artistic expressions and queer visibility. Attentive to its local context, *Spectrosynthesis Seoul* situates contemporary artistic practices within longer historical trajectories, while conceptualizing queerness as a metaphysical lens through which to understand the ongoing transformation of life and society."

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Visitor Information

SPECTROSYNTHESIS SEOUL

Press preview (by invitation only): March 18, 2026

Opening reception (by invitation only): March 19, 2026

Exhibition dates: March 20 – June 28, 2026

Opening hours: Tuesday – Sunday, 12 – 6pm (closed Mondays)

Venue: Art Sonje Center, 87 Yulgok-ro 3-gil, Jongno-gu, Seoul, South Korea

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About Art Sonje Center

Founded in 1998, Art Sonje Center is a leading contemporary art institution in Seoul, dedicated to promoting artistic creativity and cultural diversity, and global sustainability. It serves as a dynamic platform for creative expression, connecting Korean audiences with international art while elevating Korean contemporary art worldwide. Through exhibitions, performances, screenings, research, and learning programs, Art Sonje Center fosters an inclusive, open ecosystem that encourages free thinking, supports artists' bold experiments, and engages communities in critical dialogues about art, society, and the planet.

<https://artsonje.org/en/>

About Sunpride Foundation

Sunpride Foundation was launched in 2014 with the mission to embrace and promote the rich creative history of LGBTQ+ community. The foundation aims to foster a stronger, healthier and more equitable world for LGBTQ+ people and their allies; and to encourage and inspire a generation of young artists to take action and create positive changes to the LGBTQ+ experience by exhibiting and preserving art that speaks to the society at large. Sunpride Foundation has hosted institutional shows in Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei (2017), Bangkok Art & Culture Centre in Bangkok (2019 – 2020), and Tai Kwun Contemporary in Hong Kong (2022 – 2023).

<https://sunpride.hk/>

APPENDIX

List of Participating Artists

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|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Alfonso Ossorio | Ho Tam | Muyeong Kim |
| Amy Lien & Enzo Camacho | Hyunjin Cho | Nilbar Güreş |
| Annie Leibovitz | Ibanjiha | Robert Rauschenberg |
| Anson Mak | Inhwan Oh | Ru Kim |
| Au Sow Yee | Jaehun | Ryeom Kim |
| Ayoung Kim | Jaewon Kim | Sejin Song |
| Candice Lin | Jahye Khoo | Showna Kim |
| Cha Yeonsa | Jeon Nahwan | Sin Wai Kin |
| Chang Younghae | Jeong-ui Yun | siren eun young jung |
| Chang-kon Lim | Jes Fan | Sung Jaeyun |
| Cheol min Im | Jimin Hah | Tseng Kwong Chi |
| Chiang Hsun | Kang Seung Lee | Woojin Jeon |
| Ching Ho Cheng | Kim Taeyeon | Woosung Lee |
| Chitra Ganesh | Kyungmook Kim | Wu Bak |
| Dan Kim | Lee Dong-hyun | Yagwang, Yang Seungwook |
| Danh Vo | Lee Jungsik | Yongseok Oh |
| David Wojnarowicz | Lee Mingwei | Young-jun Tak |
| Derek Jarman | Lee Uin | Yuki Kihara |
| Dew Kim | Leesop Cho | Zihan Loo |
| Eikoh Hosoe | Maria Taniguchi | |
| Etel Adnan | Mark Bradford | |
| Evelyn Taocheng Wang | Martin Wong | |
| Gilbert & George | Min Yoon | |
| Grim Park | Minki Hong | |
| Haneyl Choi | Minyoung Park | |
| Hiju Yoon | Mire Lee | |
| Ho Hur | Moon Sanghoon | |