



Public lecture

Painting in North Korea



DPR Korea Grand Tour, Carl de Keyzer, MAGNUM © Roberto Polo Gallery.

Dr. Ariane Perrin

5th October 2018, 18:00

Rämistrasse 59, 8001 Zurich, RAA-G-15

This event is open to the public and does not require advance registration.
The lecture will be held in English. For questions about the event, please contact the
Section for East Asian Art: kgoa@khist.uzh.ch

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Korea Foundation



Abstract

In 2018 the Democratic People's Republic of Korea celebrates 70 years of existence. Following its creation, the State used art primarily in order to disseminate its ideology and to educate the people.

Focusing on the period from the 1970s to the present, this lecture will investigate the main characteristics and developments of North Korean painting, beginning with the New Chosŏnhwa ("Korean painting") movement. We will look at the doctrinal origin of North Korean art and aesthetics based on the State ideology of Chuch'e ("self-reliance") and examine the various subject matters that formed the core of this ideology, including theme paintings illustrating important episodes in Korean history, and landscapes and their political narrative. We shall also see how these paintings are made in contemporary collective art production centres – the most important one being the Mansudae Art studio in Pyongyang – and are gaining international recognition, as revealed by the special section on North Korean art at the 2018 Gwangju Biennale.

Ariane Perrin is an art historian who holds a Ph.D. in Korean Art and Archaeology from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London. She currently teaches the History of Korean and Japanese Art in the Department of Art History of the Catholic University of Paris. She was recently Visiting Professor for Korean Art History at Ca' Foscari University in Venice. Her research interests include Koguryŏ tomb mural art and Religious and ritual paintings of the Chosŏn period (1392-1910), in particular paintings of Shamanist spirits. She is a member of the Board of the European Association for Asian Art and Archaeology (EAAA).