

Press release of 14 October 2013

## Sangwoo Kim, ceramics – Eugenia A. Burgo, paintings

**Polished ceramic objects and monumental oil paintings – as different as their chosen mediums are, Sangwoo Kim and Eugenia A. Burgo both find their motivation in nature. While Kim is inspired by such things as stones shaped by time and the elements, Burgo chooses details from sea creatures, fruit or flowers as the starting point for her paintings. Using extraordinary perspectives, the work of both artists enhances awareness for beauty in supposedly inconspicuous things.**

The Korean artist **Sangwoo Kim** (\*1980) already specialised in ceramics during his art studies in Korea. He subsequently trained in the traditional Onggi-pottery and learnt how to build giant vessels from thin slabs of clay. Kim has continued to use this technique. However, since Switzerland became his second home several years ago, he has used it not to make ceramics for everyday use, but rather unmistakable artworks. He engraves some of these with Korean verses or fine lines, reminiscent of fingerprints, and burnishes all his objects for days on end. Unique patterns and a broad palette of earthy colour tones develop during the subsequent pit-firing. With their gentle curves, the ceramics are reminiscent of the natural beauty of pebbles polished by water. They radiate great calmness and, at the same time, appear animated by the play of light on their high gloss surfaces. For several years Kim has also built porcelain objects that he also burnishes. Like the clay works, they inspire through their simple, elegant and sensual forms, in which the multiple award-winning artist's perception of life and nature are clearly visible.

The large-scale paintings of **Eugenia A. Burgo** (\*1965) also reflect an attentive interaction with nature and all its diversity. Raised in Switzerland, the American artist studied painting in Boston and Florence and soon concentrated upon graphic art and oil painting. In Burgo's powerful works rich shades of colour and elaborately shaped forms draw the eye deep into the picture. To the alert eye, the apparently abstract reveals itself to be an extremely enlarged detail from nature: Details of a flower, an arrangement of sea shells or a portrait of a fish. The artist finds these details in photographs that she also modifies. Even though her pictures remain true to nature, it is not only the sensibilities of the artist that shine through but also the mysterious life of the subject. Like Sangwoo Kim, Eugenia A. Burgo allows us to experience the hidden beauty of what is around us in a new and different way.

**You and your friends are warmly invited to the exhibition preview on Thursday 31 October 2013, from 17.00 to 20.00.** Eugenia A. Burgo and Sangwoo Kim will be present.

The exhibition runs from 1 November 2013 to 11 January 2014. Christmas holidays from 23 December 2013 to 5 January 2014.

Opening hours: Wednesday to Friday 12.30 to 18.00, Saturday 11.00 to 14.00, or by appointment.

Christmas drinks with the artists on Thursday 12 December, from 17.00 to 20.00.

**Further information available from:**

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## Eugenia A. Burgo

### Education

- 1989 – 1991 Art history at the University of Zurich  
 1985 – 1986 Studio Art Centers International (S.A.C.I.) program at the Art Institute of Cleveland, Florence (IT), Specialization in graphics and oil painting  
 1983 – 1987 BA in Art, Wheaton College, Boston, Massachusetts (USA)

### Solo exhibitions

- 2012 «One Night at Mobimo», Mobimo Tower, Zurich  
 «Paintings at the Viadukt», Coté West, Zurich  
 2011 Galerie Esquisse, Nyon  
 2010 Amsterdam Whitney Gallery, Chelsea, New York (USA)  
 «The Buds», Le Sud, Weisse Fabrik, Zurich  
 2009 «Le mariage entre l'univers et le fleur», Swiss Embassy Tokyo (JP)  
 «The Garden Unveiled II», Global Art Source, Goldbachcenter, Küsnacht/Zurich  
 2008 Gallery Radical, Zug  
 2007 «To see a World in a Grain of Sand», Oliver Burger Gallery, Zurich  
 Galerie Anita Beckers, Frankfurt (DE)  
 Gallery Radical, Zug  
 2006 Le Sud, Zurich  
 «The Wild Series», Swiss Embassy, Tokyo (JP)  
 2005 Gallery XVA, Dubai (UAE)  
 Gallery Naruyama, Tokyo (JP)  
 World Fair, Swiss Pavilion, Aichi (JP)  
 2003 «The Wild Series», Alcan Holdings, Zurich  
 Laurence Asseraf Gallery, Kaufmann Arcade, Midtown Manhattan, New York (USA)  
 2002 «The Garden Unveiled», Global Art Source Studio, Feldmeilen  
 2001 «Renaissance of Still Life», J.F. Galerie, Zurich  
 1994 Galerie Ritschard, Zurich

### Group exhibitions

- 2013 «Nahrung fürs Auge – Lebensmittel in der Kunst», Wädenswil  
 2012 «Sommerfest», AB Gallery, Luzern and Zurich  
 Songbird Festival, Art Davos during WEF, Davos  
 Bunnymen Art Special with Max Grüter, Zurich  
 2007 Gallery Radical, Zug  
 2006 «Trois pinceaux venus d'ailleurs», Nadine Mecattaf, Beirut (LB)  
 2005 Seewürfel, sponsored by Intercity, Zurich  
 2003 International Artexpo, J. Javits Convention Center, New York (USA)  
 2002 Aktion Züri-Ziegel, Art Lounge, Zurich  
 2000 J.F. Galerie, Zurich  
 1989 Beaulieu Art Resources, Cambridge, Massachusetts (USA)  
 1987 Watson Gallery, Boston, Massachusetts (USA)  
 1986 S.A.C.I. Show, Palazzo Strozzi, Florence (IT)

### Selected Works

1. Eugenia A. Burgo, *Underworld (Composition No. 3)*, 2013, oil on canvas, 140 x 200 cm.
2. Eugenia A. Burgo, *Underworld (Composition No. 6)*, 2013, oil on canvas, 100 x 100 cm.
3. Eugenia A. Burgo, *The White Series (Composition Nr. 6)*, 2007, oil on canvas, 135 x 200 cm.
4. Eugenia A. Burgo, *Blue Fragment No. 1*, 2004, oil on canvas, 75 x 75 cm.

## Sangwoo Kim

### Education

- 2011 – 2014 MA in Ceramics, Seoul National University, Seoul (KR)  
 2004 – 2006 Onggi (traditional Korean earthenware) practice in Bosung (KR)  
 1998 – 2004 BA in Fine Arts, Chonnam University in Gwangju (KR), section Art and Craft

### Selected Exhibitions

- 2013 Aichi Prefectural Ceramic Museum, Aichi (JP)  
 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa (JP)  
 Cheongju International Craft Biennale, Cheongju (KR)  
 Contemporary Ceramics Switzerland, swissceramics, Museo d'Arte Mendrisio  
 Galerie du Don, Le Fel (FR)
- 2012 Arts Pluriels, Château de Réchy  
 Kiwanis sponsorship award, Bern  
 LVS Gallery, Seoul (KR)
- 2011 Galerie de l'Hôtel de Ville, Yverdon  
 International Ceramics Festival, Mino (JP)
- 2010 Galerie Jonas, Cortaillod  
 30 Concurso de Cerámica de l'Alcora (ES)  
 Galerie ArteSol, Solothurn
- 2009 5th World Ceramic Biennale Korea (KR)  
 Terralha, Festival Européen des Arts du Feu, St-Quentin-la-Poterie (FR)  
 Parcours Céramique Carougeois, Carouge  
 Westerwaldpreis, Höhr-Grenzhausen (DE)  
 V Bienal de Cerámica, El Vendrell (ES)
- 2008 Galerie l'Essor, Le Sentier  
 Triennale Spiez  
 28th Concurso de Cerámica de l'Alcora (ES)  
 Communication through Fire, Symposium, Wroclaw (PL)
- 2007 La Borne s'enflamme, La Borne (FR)  
 Art of Fire, Symposium, Luboradow (PL)
- 2004 Celadon Museum, Kangjin (KR)

### Selected Prizes

- 2012 Werkbeitrag des Kantons Bern, Berner Design Stiftung  
 2011 X Bienal Internacional de Cerámica de Manises (ES): Honourable mention  
 9th International Ceramics Competition Mino (JP): Honourable mention  
 2009 Keramiktage Oldenburg (DE): 1st prize «Der Schöne Schein»  
 2008 II Bienal de Cerámica de Marratxi (BICMA) (ES): 2nd prize

### Collections

Amore Pacific Museum (Corea), Collection Akademia Sztuk Piłknych we Wrocławiu, Wrocław (Poland),  
 Museu del Fang, Marratxi (Spain), Musée de Carouge (Switzerland), Fine Art Museum (Slovenia).

### Selected Works

1. Sangwoo Kim, *Life*, 2013, clay, hand-built, engraved and burnished, pit fired, 18 x 29.5 x 18 cm.
2. Sangwoo Kim, *Sun*, 2013, clay, hand-built, burnished, pit fired, 17.5 x 17.5 x 17 cm.
3. Sangwoo Kim, *Pagoda*, 2011, porcelain, thrown, burnished, 23 x 35 x 35 cm.
4. Sangwoo Kim, *Untitled*, 2013, porcelain, hand-built, burnished, 18 x 24 x 24 cm.