



1st September 2012

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Hyung Koo Kang - *Crossing Gazes***

Mizuma Gallery is proud to present *Crossing Gazes*, a solo exhibition by South Korean artist Hyung Koo Kang. This will be the gallery's inaugural show at Singaporean's highly anticipated arts cluster at Gillman Barracks. The exhibition will feature new works from Kang's enigmatic large-scale portraits from 14 September to 18 November 2012. Kang has exhibited extensively in solo and group exhibitions from Korea to the United States. More notably, Kang had a career defining exhibition at the Singapore Art Museum in 2011 to much critical acclaim.

*Crossing Gazes* marks the arrival of Mizuma Gallery into Singapore and the region. Though the gallery primarily deals with contemporary Japanese artists, the gallery also promotes several emerging Western and Asian artists. Singapore audiences can expect a variety of emerging and established Asian and Japanese artists who are regarded as unorthodox with their quirky sensibilities. *Crossing Gazes* is an example of the many quality shows Mizuma Gallery will bring to Singaporean audiences to encourage the cross-cultural exchange of ideas between people from different backgrounds and countries.

Kang is fast establishing himself as one of Korea's most renowned artists for his intense portraits of various celebrities, artists, political figures, anonymous figures and even himself. Several of his more notable works include an aged Marilyn Monroe and Andy Warhol, a smoking Vincent Van Gogh, and Mao Zedong. His portraits are renown for capturing the phenomenon of the fixing of the gaze in any meeting of two people. It is often said that the eyes are capable of revealing one's feelings and thoughts. Kang covets for his large-scale portraits to engulf his audience and extract mutual dialogues with the viewer and also himself through his subject's profound gaze.

"When I paint, I focus on the eyes. This is so that people can see the gaze from the paintings. I started by painting the subject on the canvas, but by the time I finish I feel like my paintings are staring at me", Kang describes.

Hyung Koo Kang: *Crossing Gazes* runs from 14 September 2012 to 18 November 2012 at Mizuma Gallery.

### **Mizuma Gallery**

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## ARTIST PROFILE

Hyung Koo Kang

1980 B.F.A. Chungang University, Seoul

### Solo Exhibitions

- 2011 *The Burning Gaze*, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore
- 2010 *Face to Face*, Arario Gallery, Beijing, China  
Youngeun Museum of Contemporary Art, Gwang-ju, Korea
- 2009 Arario Gallery, Newyork, USA  
Arario Gallery, Seoul, Korea
- 2007 *The Gaze*, Arario Gallery, Cheonan, Korea
- 2006 Lotte Art Gallery, Busan, Gwangju, Korea
- 2005 Gwangju Art Museum, Gwangju, Korea
- 2004 Sang Gallery, Seoul, Korea  
Sejong Arts Center, Seoul, Korea  
Seoul Arts Center, Seoul, Korea
- 2003 Sejong Arts Center, Seoul, Korea
- 2002 Samsung Plaza Gallery, Bundang, Korea  
Sejong Arts Center, Seoul, Korea
- 2001 Seoul Arts Center, Seoul, Korea  
Chosun-ilbo Gallery, Seoul, Korea  
Samsung Plaza Gallery, Bundang, Korea

### Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2011 壽-*Beyond the Blue*, Gallery Hyundai, Seoul, Korea  
The Seoul Art Festival 2011, Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea
- 2010 *Artist with Arario*, Arario Gallery, Seoul & Cheonan, Korea
- 2009 *Art in Super Star*, Seoul Art Center, Seoul, Korea  
*Korean Eye: Moon Generation*, SC First Bank, Seoul, Korea; Saatchi-Gallery, London, UK  
Grand Opening of Shinsegae Centum City, Shinsegae Centum City, Busan, Korea
- 2008 *Youngeun Residency 2008 - The time of the Transterence*, Youngeun  
Museum of Contemporary Art, Gwang-ju, Korea
- 2006 *Draw*, Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea  
*The picture like Photograph*, The photograph like picture, Zandari Musuem, Seoul, Korea
- 2005 *Face*, Young Eun Museum of Contemporary Art, Gwangju, Korea  
*Father*, Gail Art Museum, Seoul, Korea  
*Memory of Nature*, Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea
- 2004 *Existence and Illusion*, Gwangju Art Museum, Gwangju, Korea
- 2003 *Face*, Express, Daejeon Museum of Art, Daejeon, Korea  
*Exploration of Light and Color*, Seoul Arts Center, Seoul, Korea

### Artist in Residency

- 2008 Youngeun Residency 2008, Youngeun Museum of Contemporary Art, Gwang-ju, Korea

### Collections

- The Frank Cohen Collection, FC MOCA, Korea



Jimmy Carter Center, Atlanta, USA  
PEAK6 Investment, Chicago, USA  
Gwangju Art Museum, Gwangju, Korea  
The Republic of Korea National Red Cross, Seoul, Korea  
Pohang University of Science and Technology, Pohang, Korea  
The Amore Museum, Yongin, Korea  
Federation of Korean Trade Union, Seoul, Korea  
Gamsil Olympic Main Stadium, Seoul, Korea  
Son Ki-Jeong Memorial Foundation, Korea  
ARARIO GALLERY, Cheonan, Korea

## **GALLERY PROFILE**

Mizuma Gallery was first established in Tokyo by Sueo Mizuma in 1994 with the mission of promoting Asian and Japanese artists both on the local and international contemporary art scenes. Its Singapore opening will be the 3rd expansion for Mizuma Gallery with current spaces in Tokyo, Japan and Beijing, China. Mizuma Gallery is a key gallery for the development of Japanese contemporary art and has exhibited at important art fairs such as ARCO (Madrid), Armory Show (New York), Frieze (London), FIAC (Paris), Basel Miami (Miami) and Hong Kong Art Fair (Hong Kong).