

ASIA-EUROPE III

International touring Exhibition

In 2009 Erny PIRET organised the ASIA-EUROPE exhibitions by way of thanks for his long friendship with the Japanese artist Kakuko Ishii.

I have now the honour of having been appointed the curator of the third edition.

I assume that the exhibition ASIA-EUROPE III represents quite a different vision in a new and daring way. I undertook the arduous task not to restrict the chosen themes and works to what they were in former days. I conceived this exhibition as a work of art itself, in which I invested my personality and sensitivity.

It was of course a perilous exercise, but it was a very exciting one. My vision of the textile and fibre art involves works for which the artists exclusively use the technique to express themselves, making the polychromies accessory.

I present a variety of creations from 2 Asian countries: Japan and South Korea and 13 European countries : France, Belgium, Poland, Hungary, Spain, Luxemburg, the Czech Republic, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Germany and Italy. Wall hang- ings, ceiling hangings, ground installations and works on pedestals, the presence of each work in this exhibition is based on a judicious choice.

The work of Asian artists are authentic, steeped in their own culture and history, con- tinuing their traditions. There are no reasons for European artists to envy them. They can truly be proud of their innovative, original and diverse creativity. I selected Euro- pean artists who create artworks starting with their research in relation with tech- niques that are being used in our European culture, with an authentic approach, with creativity and innovation and often diverse and surprising materials and techniques. It will be a harmonious presentation of a friendly encounter and dialogue between two cultural identities, in the continuity of their traditions.

Excited by the idea of participating, several artists have decided to create new work for this occasion and exhibit it for the first time. Other artists joined the initiative with major creations, whose personal concept is the result of research over many years.

The previous two editions of the exhibition ASIA-EUROPE were very successful according to the visitors, but also by the achievement of the participating artists.

This third edition, being looked forward to by as well artists and museums as by tex- tile art lovers - allow me to mention the many " likes " on Facebook and the reading of our blog - will in the near future evolve to an ever growing interest.

Marika Szaraz

Curator of the International touring Exhibition Asia-Europe III