



german  
pavilion  
gwangju  
biennale  
2024

in  
between  
water  
두물마을

Press release, 20 September 2024

## Longega

**Longega Project creates a place of encounter and exchange within the first German Pavilion at the 15th Gwangju Biennale in South Korea**

**Artists collective Longega Project:** Fabian Feichter, Youlee Ku, Siyoung Kim, Nele Ka, Oliver Haussmann

**Exhibition: „in between water – 두물마을“**

Duration: September 8 – December 1, 2024

Venue: Gwangju History & Folk Museum, 48 -25 Seoha-ro, Buk-gu, Gwangju, South Korea

[www.german-pavilion-gwangju-biennale.org/](http://www.german-pavilion-gwangju-biennale.org/)

Curation:

Longega Project in cooperation PLATFORM Munich and Sophie-Charlotte Bombeck



Longega Project, „Stöa“, exhibition “in between water”, German Pavilion at the 15th Gwangju Biennale, South Korea.  
Photo: Choi Jin Woong.

**Gwangju, South Korea** – This is the first time that the Gwangju Biennale for Contemporary Art in South Korea, first held in 1995, features a German pavilion. The exhibition ‘in between water - 두물마을’ is organised by five Munich-based artists collaborating in the Longega Project collective.

Over the past nine years, they have been organising a residency for international artists in the Ladin village of Longega in the South Tyrolean Alps. Located at the foot of the Dolomites, they have the opportunity to interact with each other as well as with the surroundings, the language, the legends and myths. Everyday activities and artistic practices overlap.

Many years of collaboration with the South Korean Horanggasy Creative Studio have now produced a meeting place at the Biennale.

**Kang Ki Jung**, Mayor of Gwangju Metropolitan City, **Dr Park Yang Woo**, President of the Gwangju Biennale Foundation, **Gitte Zschoch**, Secretary General of the Institute für Auslandsbeziehungen (ifa), **Martin Kasperek**, Head of the Cultural Department at the German Embassy in Seoul, **Dr Christian Landspersky**, Director of PLATFORM Munich, and **Heon Ki Jeong** from Horanggasy Creative Studio & Residency, jointly inaugurated this first German pavilion at the 15th Gwangju Biennale on 7 September 2024.

### A modest wooden hut – a symbol for encounters and rapprochement of different cultures through the means of art

Longega Project displays multiple installations throughout the German pavilion, some of which can be walked through, as elements of the artistic and collaborative processes. Over the course of the next three months, a sculptural wooden hut with an offset roof will serve as a stage for performances, readings, music performances and workshops by invited guest artists.

*"For us, it was important to create a place where you can rediscover yourself in different ways and where the everyday, seemingly ordinary elements can be rediscovered. We have transformed seven elements of the Longega Project into art installations that have the same effect on us as they do in South Korea and elsewhere: a hut, a forest, a river, a campfire, gathering and searching, a workshop and a badminton court,"* explains Fabian Feichter, an artist and one of the founders of the Longega Project.

Another installation featuring fluorescent plants refers to the ancient human drive to forage and gather. An installation of trees standing on vibrating fitness plates addresses a life between contemplation and the compulsion to optimise. An electric campfire and sculptures inspired by folklore instruments invite visitors to share their stories. A reconstructed bridge made of wax generates a tension between dysfunctionality and symbolic power.

### Hosting and being hosted

More than 15 Korean, German and international artists contributed to the supporting programme in the German pavilion, including the renowned Korean writer **Hyesoon Kim**, who read from her poetry collection '**Autobiography of Death**' (2020, Zephyr Verlag).

The music group **Kunststoffwerkstatt**, in cooperation with **franz allein** and the Korean singer and actress **Hwang Mi Young**, performed a Singspiel by the electric campfire. Frequent **badminton tournaments** invite visitors of the pavilion to make active use of the space. An audio guide accompanies them through the venue, telling stories and conveying personal details from the artists' perspectives.

Thus, the pavilion references the Biennale's theme 'Pansori' (sound of public space). The renowned French curator Nicolas Bourriaud, artistic director of the Gwangju Biennale, recalls the traditional Korean musical form of the 17th century and creates a musical metaphor that views the interplay of different voices and sounds as a reflection of the profound global upheavals of the Anthropocene. He congratulated the team of the German Pavilion, „*neighbours here in Gwangju and also in Europe*“ on their „fantastic work.“



The German Pavilion is curated by Longega Project in collaboration with PLATFORM Munich and Sophie-Charlotte Bombeck, who has been running a residency programme between Gwangju and Munich together with artist **Siyoung Kim** since 2018. Building on long-standing relationships, the basis for a permanent country presence in the dialogue between Germany and Korea is now being laid in cooperation with PLATFORM Munich and Horanggasy Creative Studio (Gwangju).

**Invited guest artists:** Claudio Matthias Bertolini, Federico Delfrati, Sung Young Hong, François Huber, Ho Bin Kim, Hyesoon Kim, Hwang Mi Young, Jayi Kim, Kyu Nyun Kim, Micah Monique Vandendriessche, Stephanie Müller & Klaus Erika Dietl, Sool Park, Sul Park, Jehyun Shin, Seyoung Youn, Chosun University in Gwangju

Programme during the exhibition period:

**Performance 3 (ON AIR)**

Performance

Kyu Nyun Kim und Micah Monique

Vandendriessche

Sunday, October 6, 2024

Sunday, December 1st, 2024

**re-member (ver. longega)**

Workshop

Jayi Kim

Sunday, October 13, 2024

Sunday, November 11, 2024

**The Pacer Test: An Artistic Exploration of Endurance and Creativity**

Performance

Ho Bin Kim

Sunday, October 13, 2024

**Vom Wald**

Workshop for children

Sul Park

Saturday, October 19, 2024

Saturday, November 16, 2024

**Fragments of Echoes**

Open Stage

with Poets Kim So-yeon, Lee Jenny, Lim Sol-ah, Kim Sun-oh, Kim Lee-yoon, Ha Mina

Sunday, October 20, 2024

**Schwebende Hütte/ Floating hut**

Performance with musical presentation

Performance lead: Jehyun Shin

Performance artists: Biju Lee, Sung Yong Hong,

Jehyun Shin

Gayageum performers: Hyojin Park, Jee Yeon Kim

Haegeum performer: Jae in Hwang

Choreographer: Yuri Seo

Saturday, October 26, 2024

Saturday, November 23, 2024

**Herta**

Lecture and subsequent workshopsSeyoung Youn

Sunday, October 27, 2024

Sunday, November 17, 2024

**Intercultural Art Dialogue: Exchange and Perspectives**

Talk

Students from Chosun University Gwangju with

Prof. Yuseup Kim / Stephanie Müller and Klaus

Erika Dietl

Tuesday, October 29, 2024



## Quotes from the opening speeches

### A place of encounter and exchange

In his speech, the **Mayor of Gwangju, Kang Ki Jung**, emphasised: *„I am very happy to have the German pavilion here in Gwangju. The team of this year’s German pavilion „in between water“ they came across as the meaning of meeting - We do believe that this is the place of meeting between Korea and Germany and also between Gwangju and Germany.“*

*„Longega is also a quest, an encounter, a passage, an in between states. The project brings together artists of different backgrounds, of different disciplines, of different practices and of different countries. This is a residency program that we are seeing here. This residency dates back for a couple of years that Longega Project and Horanggasy Creative Studio have been working together. There have been ties between Germany and South Korea that we are seeing here incapsulated in the pavilion. This is an encounter that we are visiting,“* states **Gitte Zschoch, General Secretary of ifa** - Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen and sponsor of the project.

*„Art needs to dialogue, brings together people across borders and long distances. [...] I’m pleased that this pavilion and the Biennale will be a unique place for international encounters for the next three months,“* emphasises **Martin Kasperek, Head of the Cultural Department of the German Embassy in Seoul.**

### On national representation

**Gitte Zschoch, General Secretary of the ifa**, commented on the concept of national representation as it is known from the Venice Biennale: *„Each curator, each artistic team, each artist ask themselves the question what does it mean to represent a country? [...] I think that the team of this pavilion chosen by the Biennale has found their very own format to do this. There will be performances, there will be workshops. Local artists, local students and communities will also be invited. I think this is difficult for international art festivals or art biennials to achieve. [...] I want to congratulate the team for this concept and we are looking forward to seeing how it will transform in the next two months.“*

In the words of the **project lead, Dr. Christian Landspersky**: *„Especially with a project of national representation it always requires a certain kind of sensibility and responsibility. We are very happy with Longega Project who faced this challenge and found a solution to come up with a transnational project which overcomes borders and doesn’t stick to borders in mind by cultural and artistic exchange.“*



## **About those involved**

### **Longega Project**

Longega Project is an exchange program for artists, founded by Fabian Feichter and Youlee Ku. The headquarters are located in Longega (South Tyrol, Italy) at an altitude of 1,000 meters above sea level. Since 2017, Longega Project has been inviting artists from South Korea and Germany to the Longega Project International Artist House in South Tyrol, Italy, every summer. In 2019, organizational members Siyoung Kim and Judith Neunhäuserer joined the project. Since this year, one artist from South Tyrol has been invited to the Horanggasy Creative Studio in Gwangju, South Korea, as part of the exchange program. The project is based on the desire to enable artists to spend time in the landscape of South Tyrol and to promote an exchange of ideas and joint artistic activities. The results of the residencies of international artists and their exchange have been presented at several locations. Longega Project regularly organizes events, workshops and exhibitions together with the residency artists

[www.longegaproject.art](http://www.longegaproject.art)

### **Meet the Artists of Longega Project**

**Fabian Feichter** (born 1986 in Brixen, Italy) lives and works between Munich, South Tyrol and South Korea. Feichter comes from an artistic family: his father and grandfather are wood sculptors, his mother is a painter and musician. In 2014, he completed his studies in sculpture at the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich as a master student of Prof. Olaf Metzger. His final project was awarded the DAAD Prize. In 2019, he received the Ludwig Gies Prize from the LETTER Foundation. It is a journey through small stories or experiences that may not always be the most relevant, but still spark a spark, that are of the utmost interest to him. Feichter's works, realized in different media, such as sculptures or installations, are often characterized by a sarcastic humor. He is interested in the moments of feeling, through which he creates experiences with a wide range of emotions and gives great importance to small moments. Since 2017, he has been experimenting with analog electronic music and is part of three music groups: Kunststoffwerkstatt, Verra and Frauenstrasse. In the same year, he founded the Longega Project with Youlee Ku.

[www.fabianfeichter.com](http://www.fabianfeichter.com)

@feichter\_fabian

**Youlee Ku** (b. 1988 in Seoul, South Korea) lives and works between South Korea, Italy, and Germany. From 2007 to 2012, she studied in the Department of Fine Arts at Sungkyunkwan University in Seoul, and from 2014 she studied under Prof. Olaf Metzger and Prof. Alexandra Bircken at the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich. In her artistic practice, she incorporates elements from her surroundings and phenomena from the cultures around her. She engages with various materials, techniques, and approaches. Her work includes installations and performances, video pieces, as well as plastic art and sculptures. Themes such as the relationship between art and nature, the history of origin, states of presence and absence, and the transition between form, transformation, and deformation are at the core of her artistic interest. Youlee Ku has participated in several international exhibitions and has been making experimental music and performances as part of the band Verra since 2018. She has realized a number of art festivals and exhibitions and co-founded the Longega Project in 2017.

[www.kuyoulee.com](http://www.kuyoulee.com)

@youleeku

**Siyoung Kim** (b. 1976 in Berlin) based in Munich, Germany, graduated with a BFA in painting from Chosun University in Gwangju, Korea, and then completed her diploma at the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich under Prof. Axel Kasseböhmer and Prof. Schirin Kretschemann. In addition to her artistic work, she is involved as a project partner for artists in residence, especially between Korea, Germany and South Tyrol. Since 2021 she is a member of the Longega Project. Since 2019, Siyoung Kim has curated various exhibitions and projects and participated in numerous exhibitions as an artist, including 'hey



alter' at the Pinakothek der Moderne 2023. She has been awarded 2024 City of Munich Prize in the field of Fine Arts.

Siyoung Kim's artistic work is a multi-layered expression of human society, captured from different perspectives. As an observer of the diversity of different cultures, she has had both inspiring and disconcerting experiences. The fusion of these influences is reflected in her wide range of media including drawing, collage, photography, video and embroidery. Her work is often about juxtapositions. She contrasts the innocence of cute dolls with themes of violence beneath seemingly idyllic scenes. Her detailed embroideries express the aesthetic of nature, using a slow, artisanal process that opposes modern speed and productivity.

[www.siyoungkim.com](http://www.siyoungkim.com)

@\_siyoung\_kim\_

**Nele Ka**, materialised in SAO-21846 Cassiopeiae in 2598, is part of a species – the Transplanetarians [Pre-tempus, Immortalibus, Amantes, Curiosæ]. The Transplanetarians travel between solar systems in search of the cause of transient existence. They have been stationed on the blue planet for an indefinite period of time. Their research mission: [C0-M/M-01;00] to find connections and relationships that seem impossible in the context of social inequalities. To explore questions of mortality, time and consciousness. Using different materials and concepts, experimental arrangements are developed that question paradigms and involve more-than humans. They are always processual and fragmentary narratives, centered around non-linear time axes of interstellar post/ apocalypses. NELE KA is part of Longega Project since the Artist Residency 2021 and currently located in Munich at the Academy of Fine Arts Munich with Prof. Pamela Rosenkranz. Ongoing research has been presented at Kunstpavillon Munich, Castle Egglkofen, MaximiliansForum, Apartment der Kunst, Marburger Kunstverein, Galerie der Künstler, Galerie Noah, JETLEG Biennale, Space n.n., Rosa Stern, as well as in collaborations, such as HTSSNASS:S in Super Books at Haus der Kunst, MAGIK MIKE at Kunstarealfest Munich and Future Perfect Collective

[www.nele-ka.de](http://www.nele-ka.de)

@n\_e\_l\_e\_k\_a

**Oliver Haussmann**, (b. Heidelberg, Germany) lives and works in Munich. He invents and creates his own worlds in his paintings, which in turn follow their own rules. He negotiates symbioses and compositions of digital and analogue aesthetics. He is interested in how spaces are constructed in the digital world and how different interfaces and games build visual and narrative logics. He is interested in how our visual experiences change in the course of digitalization and how new aesthetic realities are derived from this. By transferring visual concepts and logics from the digital world and mixing analog material from art history into painting, his investigation is directly linked to the digital transformation of our society.

He studied communication design and fine arts at the Academy of Fine Arts Munich with Pia Fries as a master student since 2022. He is part of the Longega Project with the Artist Residency 2021. 2022 he was nominated for Karl&Faber Art Prize. He received Kulturförderpreis of LfA Förderbank Bayern 2018 and the First Prize of Short Film Festival 'kurz und schön' 2014 in Cologne. He exhibited at Museum Kurhaus Kleve, Bavarian State Ministry for Science and Art, Munich, Erholungshaus Bayer-Kultur, Leverkusen, Braun-Falco Galerie, Radierverein Munich, MaximilianForum, Lothringer Halle, etc.

[www.oliverhaussmann.de](http://www.oliverhaussmann.de)

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### **Organization of the German Pavilion: PLATFORM Munich**

PLATFORM is a versatile art space in Munich that hosts a year-round exhibition program. In addition to one-year internships in cultural management, PLATFORM offers studios and exhibition spaces, making it a vibrant place for artistic practice and mediation. Spanning 2500 m<sup>2</sup> in a former industrial complex, PLATFORM promotes continuous exchange between artists and cultural workers. It showcases contemporary art curated by both regional and international curators and organizes lectures and symposia to stimulate current art discourse. The diverse cultural projects, workshops, and educational activities contribute to its reputation as a dynamic platform for art.



### **Sophie-Charlotte Bombeck**

(\*1991) lives and works in Augsburg and Munich. She explores the interactions between art, science, aesthetics, and societal trends. As the operator of the art space "super+Centercourt," she is involved in numerous international projects. She has curated the first Lindau Biennale in 2022 and has initiated the comprehensive exchange program between Munich and South Korea, which started in 2018. Bombeck curated exhibitions in Germany, China, Turkey, Greece, England, and South Korea. She is continually seeking opportunities to reshape the contemporary art landscape and provide a platform for emerging artists.

[www.studio-bombeck.com](http://www.studio-bombeck.com)

@studio\_bombeck

### **Cooperation Partner: Horanggasy Creative Studio and Residency (Gwangju)**

Horanggasy Creative Studio in Yangnim-dong runs an annual multidisciplinary Artist in Residence program to support young artists and contribute to the local community. Since the program's inception, there have been various intercultural interactions between artists from Munich, Lisbon, Italy, and Vienna. Since 2021, Horanggasy Creative Studio has also hosted the Gwangju Biennale, providing space for creative and intercultural interactions between artists of diverse background.

### **Venue: Gwangju History & Folk Museum**

The Gwangju History & Folk Museum presents a generous exhibition space of over 750 m<sup>2</sup> for the first German Pavilion at the Gwangju Biennale and the extensive installation by Longega Project.

### **Funding**

The German Pavilion at the 15th Gwangju Biennale is realized through the ifa – Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen with financial support from the Federal Foreign Office of Germany.

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The artists will be happy to talk to you. To contact the artists, please get in touch with the press contact.

You will find press images available for download here:

[www.platform-muenchen.de/presse/](http://www.platform-muenchen.de/presse/)

Instagram @germanpavilion.gwangjubiennale

[www.german-pavilion-gwangju-biennale.de](http://www.german-pavilion-gwangju-biennale.de)

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