# Pontone GALLERY

# PRESS RELEASE

### **Hwang Seontae**

Between Light and Space 25 November - 24 December 2016 Opening reception 24 November | 6-8 pm

Hwang Seontae was born in South Korea in 1972. He studied fine art at Kyunghee University in South Korea and went on to train in Sculpture at Burg **Giebichenstein University of Art and Design Halle** in Germany, where he completed his postgraduate study, specialising in Glass Art. He has exhibited in South Korea, the USA and Europe, showing numerous times in the UK, where he is exclusively represented by The Pontone Gallery.

His work takes the form of the 'light box', constructed from layers of printed and etched glass, depicting cooly delineated, contemporary interiors. The box has a selfcontained light source which articulates the imagined scene. Sunlight enters through windows, casting pools and patterns of illumination and projecting shadowed forms across the silent spaces. In this mostly monochromatic world, there are hints of subtle colour in the exterior glimpses of landscape and foliage. The sun's rays energise and bring life to the scene. Rooms are deserted but not abandoned; they are furnished and maintained. There is a sense of recent departure and/or imminent return.

If these images express absence, they are also about the expectation of presence. There is a palpable sense of anticipation. They hint at the delayed pleasure of inhabiting such a calm, controlled space and a desire for the ordered, familiar simplicity of domestic structure. This atmosphere of expectation is also theatrical; something may be about to happen. The dramatic space is clearly defined and the props are in place. This may be an interval before action continues.

Whatever our conjecture about these pieces, their overriding sense of is of pause, stillness and suspension. They articulate a space for contemplation. The artist has made a stage-set for the action of the sun, its rays lighting the gloom of the man-made interior, bringing a moment of clarity and awareness.



The Sunshine Room (2) Tempered Glass, Sandblast & LED Backlit | 51 x 68 x 4 cm (20 x 27 x 1.5 in) | 2016



The Sunshine Room Tempered Glass, Sandblast & LED Backlit | 68 x 51 x 4 cm (27 x 20 x 1.5 in) | 2016

# Pontone

GALLERY

#### **HWANG SEONTAE**

Born in 1972 in South Korea.

#### **EDUCATION**

AUFBAUSTUDIUM in Glass Art, Burg Giebichenstein University of Art and Design Halle 2006

DIPLOMA in Glass Art and Skulptur, Burg Giebichenstein University of Art and Design Halle (Prof. A. Köker & Prof. C. Triebsch) 2004

BFA in Fine Arts Education, College of Fine Arts, Kyunghee University 1997

#### SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

#### 2015

Hwang Seontae Solo Exhibition, Gallery Jeon, Daegu, Korea The light, which has become the image, 63 art museum, Seoul, Korea

#### 2014

Sunlight, Shine Artists Gallery, London, UK

#### 2013

Transparent, Pyo Gallery, Seoul, Korea

#### 2011

Familiar Unfamiliar, Gallery Lee & Bae, Busan, Korea Line and Light - The Shadow of the Essence & The Trap of the Sense, Dr Park Gallery, Yangpyeong, Korea

The Sunny Room, White8 Gallery, Villach, Austria

#### 2010

Frozen Story, Dr Park Gallery, Yangpyeong, Korea Frozen History, White8 Gallery, Vienna, Austria

#### 2009

Seontae Hwang - Solo Exhibition, Dr Park Gallery, Yangpyeong, Korea

Things Seeing, Shinsegae Gallery, Kwangju, Korea 2008

Fragile Eternity, Gallery66, Eckernförde, Germany

## SELECTED RECENT GROUP EXHIBITIONS

#### 2016

Optical Guidance, Krimson Gallery, Seoul, Korea Invite to Coffee Room, Kangneung Museum of Art, Kangneung, Korea

#### 2015

Shine Artists in NY, Shine Artists Gallery, New York, USA Masters of Lights, Shine Artists & Albemarle Gallery, London, UK

When Every Day Reveals Itself from Out of the Blue, Gallery White Block, Paju, Korea

A Special Exhibition for 'Armory Week', Shine Artists Gallery, New York, USA

Preview, Shine Artists Gallery, London, UK

#### 2014

物質(muljil | Substance) Magic, Ilwoo Space, Seoul, Korea Space: Life & Routine, Choi Junga Gallery, Seoul, Korea Reminiscencing, Gallery Form, Busan, Korea



**The Sunshine Room (3)** Tempered Glass, Sandblast & LED Backlit | 80 x 102 x 4 cm (31.5 x 40 x 1.5 in) | 2016



**The Sunshine Room (2)** Tempered Glass, Sandblast & LED Backlit | 102 x 80 x 4 cm (40 x 31.5 x 1.5 in) | 2016