

## Kim Bumsu

### Sacred Cinema

12 April – 5 May 2019

**Pontone Gallery is proud to present, for the first time in the UK, an exhibition by South Korean artist Kim Bumsu. Trained in his homeland and the United States, Kim's work has been extensively shown in the Far East and Europe. This is an exclusive opportunity to experience his idiosyncratic and intriguing mixed-media constructions.**

The artist makes wall-mounted 'light boxes', fabricated from acrylic sheet, exposed film stock and LED lighting. Strips of old and discarded film are cut up and arranged to create large, complex collages, which are backlit by the LEDs within the boxes. Multi-coloured, pixellated patterns, reminiscent of mandalas and sacred geometries, create a glowing, kaleidoscopic effect. It is only on closer inspection that the nature of the source material is revealed. The viewer discovers a plethora of tiny and intriguing images, some recognisable, others less so.

The cutting and pasting process, intrinsic to making the collages, corresponds with that of the film editor, who assembles fragments of information to make a coherent whole. Kim Bumsu's compositions assimilate the disparate nature of their components and unite them into something new. The artist salvages and re-purposes that which is lost or unwanted. Kim explains this as an act of 'romanticism' that 'arouses compassion'. Wishing to rescue what has been abandoned, his fractured re-making of lost narratives reminds us of the pre-digital, analogue age and its particularly tangible pleasures.

The format of this work brings to mind altarpieces, the sacred displays of temples and the iconography of cathedrals. It also elicits a 'bright and shiny', secular appeal, akin to the seductive displays of the luxury shopping outlet. The work oscillates between the sacred and profane, referencing the rich sensory experience of immersive cinema, the adrenal rush of consumerism and the awe of the spiritual.



**Hidden Emotion V** | 2016 | Movie Film, Acrylic, LED | 45 x 45 x 8 cm (17.5 x 17.5 x 3 in)



**Beyond Description (Diptych)** | 2014  
Movie Film, Acrylic, LED | 100 x 112 x 10 cm (39.5 x 44 x 4 in)

# Pontone

GALLERY

## KIM BUMSU

Born in Goyang, South Korea, 1965

### Education

- 1991 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Hong-Ik University, Seoul  
1998 Master of Fine Arts, School of Visual Art, New York

### Selected Solo Exhibitions

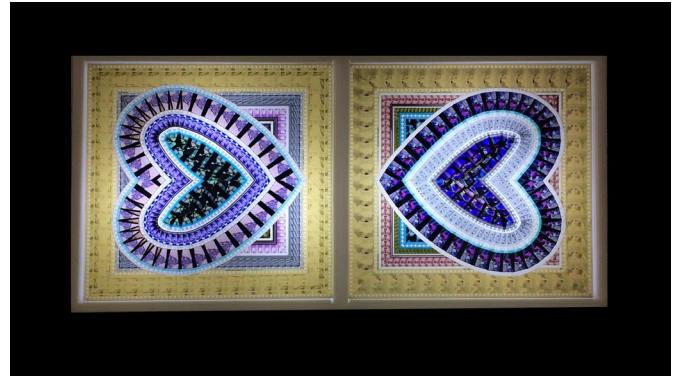
- 2018 Emotional City, ArtStation Museum, Seoul  
2016 KIM BUM SU, Gallery KHAN, Goyang  
2012 Emotional City, Jangheung Art Park, Blue Space, Yangju

### Selected Group Exhibitions

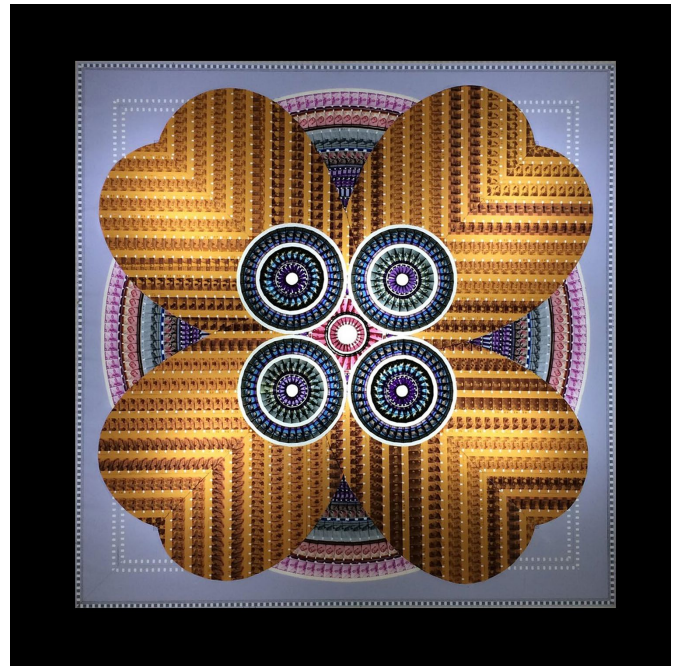
- 2018 10th ANNIVERSARY, Gallery Paryoung, Paju  
AA Project (Art&Architecture), Sabina Museum, Seoul  
One Inspiration, Koo House Museum, Yang Pyeong
- 2017 THE PASSION, Yang Pyeong Art Museum, Yang Pyeong
- 2016 Singapore Contemporary Art Show, Suntec, Singapore  
International Contemporary Art Project, Ulsan  
As the Moon Waxes and Wanes, National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Gwacheon  
THE MEETING OF ART AND SCIENCE, Posco Gallery, Pohang
- 2015 The Future is Now, MMCA (Friche Belle de Mai), Marseille  
Illusion Bite, Gallery Orchard, Seoul
- 2014 The Future is Now, MAXXI, Rome  
Dangin-Ri Art Service Art Fair, Gallery JJ, Seoul  
Light Arts, VM Art Museum, Jeon Ju  
春夜喜雨, Art&Summer, Busan  
Cool Running, Lotte Gallery, Seoul  
Emerging Artists Awards 19, Aram Nuri Arts Centre, Goyang  
Happiness in Celebration of 2014 UN Public Service Forum, Kintex
- 2014 Seoul Open Art Fair, COEX, Seoul  
Korea Galleries Art Fair, COEX, Seoul  
ASIA Contemporary Art SHOW 2013, JW Marriott Hotel, Hong Kong  
Light Art, Pohang Museum of Steel Art, Pohang  
The Future is Now, National Contemporary Museum, Seoul  
Blissful Time, Yang Pyeong Art Museum, Yang Pyeong
- 2012 Love is 37.5, Gana Art, Seoul  
20+Contact with Arts, Aram Nuri Museum, Goyang  
Shadow Make Story, Jeon buk Museum of Art, Jeon Buk  
Healing Camp, Gana Art, Seoul  
The Film 2012, Daegu Art Museum, Daegu  
Christmas in Korea, Lotte Gallery, Seoul  
Small Work, Jangheung Art Park, Yangju

### Collections

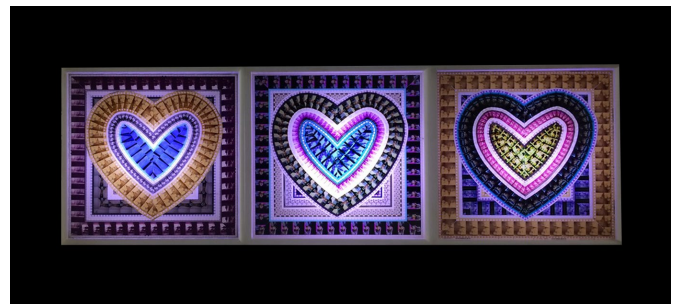
National Museum of Art, Seoul  
Jang Soung Sculpture Park, Jang Soung  
Art and Science, National Science Museum, Daejeon  
Asan Medical Centre, Seoul  
Samsung Corporation, Seoul  
CJ Culture Foundation, Seoul  
Savina Museum, Seoul



LOVE | 2016 | Movie Film, Acrylic, LED | 30 x 60 x 10 cm (11.5 x 23.5 x 4 in)



Hidden Emotion IV | 2016 | Movie Film, Acrylic, LED | 45 x 45 x 8 cm (17.5 x 17.5 x 3 in)



LOVE | 2016 | Movie Film, Acrylic, LED | 50 x 90 x 10 cm (19.5 x 35.5 x 4 in)