

Press Release

Kimsooja

Weaving the World

22 September 2017 – 21 January 2018

Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein is devoting an extensive solo exhibition to the Korea-born artist Kimsooja (* 1957), who lives and works in New York and Seoul.

In her performances, installations, sculptures, video and photo works Kimsooja combines isolated, fragmentary observations to form a whole encounter of different places and people. Duration and time and the metaphorical intertwining of her own experiences, cultural backgrounds, and historical references all play a major role. The artist equates her task with a needle whose work brings together divergent elements, that is to say, different cultures or standpoints.

One day in 1983, Kimsooja was sewing a traditional bedcover together with her mother. When passing the needle through the fabric, she had a sudden sensation like an electric shock. "The energy of my body channeled through the needle, seeming to connect to the energy of the world. From that moment, I understood the power of sewing: the relationship of needle to fabric is like my body to the universe." This experience became a far-reaching crucial experience for Kimsooja's artistic work. Her highly varied and contemplative oeuvre has received considerable international attention for over 30 years. Works from 1999 to 2017 are now on show at Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein.

The thread that runs through the exhibition – as expressed by the title – is the metaphor of *Weaving the World*. Among the works featured is the trailblazing video installation *A Needle Woman* (1999–2001) in which the artist stands still facing the waves of crowds in eight metropolises. *Thread Routes – Chapter IV* (China) of her latest 16mm film work *Thread Routes* (2010–ongoing) is shown for the first time. This distinct body of work, filmed in six chapters, each shot in a different cultural area of the world, weaves an impressive tapestry of textile traditions in all their beauty, at the same time reflecting the interaction with nature, architecture and agriculture. *Thread Routes – Chapter I* (Peru) and *Thread Routes – Chapter II* (Europe) are also on show at the exhibition.

The exhibition conceived in close collaboration with Kimsooja is a production of Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein, curated by Christiane Meyer-Stoll.

Publication

A two-volume publication from Walther König publishers, with an English and a German edition, will be released. It comprises all interviews with Kimsooja from 1994 to 2017 and an accompanying volume of illustrations. Interviews by Daina Augaitis, Nicolas Bourriaud, Ryu Byoung Hak, Franck Gautherot, Flaminia Gennari Santori, Chiara Giovando, Hou Hanrou, Hwang In, Mary Jane Jacob, Petra Kapš, Barbara Kelly Gordon, Sunjung Kim, Andrew Maerkle, Gerald Matt, Hans Ulrich Obrist, Francesca Pasini, Oliva María Rubio, Olivia Sand, Jérôme Sans, Thomas Van Loocke, Bahk Young-Taik, Maxa Zoller.

Opening

Thursday, 21 September 2017, from 6pm

Public guided tours

Thursday, 28 September 2017, 6pm

Thursday, 19 October 2017, 6pm

Thursday, 16 November 2017, 6pm

Thursday, 18 January 2018, 6pm

Take Away (short guided tours)

Thursday, 26 October 2017, 12.30pm

Thursday, 30 November 2017, 12.30pm

Side programme

Thursday, 5 October 2017, 6pm

Lecture **Chinoiserien in Seide**

by Anna Jolly

In cooperation with Liechtensteinische Kunstgesellschaft.

Wednesday, 11 October, and Thursday, 12 October 2017, 2–5pm

Holiday Workshop

for children from 6 to 12

Saturday, 4 November 2017, 2–4.30pm

Workshop **Qigong Yangsheng**

with Hanni Schierscher and Christiane Meyer-Stoll

Sunday, 5 November 2017, 11am

Public guided tour „One Hour“ **Kimsooja. Thread Routes**

with Christiane Meyer-Stoll

Thursday, 23 November 2017, 6pm

Lecture (in English) **Buddhism in Contemporary Art**

by Mary Jane Jacob

In cooperation with Liechtensteinische Kunstgesellschaft.

Sunday, 3 December 2017, 11am

Public guided tour „One Hour“ **Kimsooja. Nadel und Faden**

with Fabian Flückiger

Museum Filmclub

The exhibition is accompanied by a film programme, curated by Maxa Zoller, Cairo.

Press contact:

Franziska Hilbe, Press and Communications

franziska.hilbe@kunstmuseum.li or +423 235 03 17