

Meet young artists at Seoul Space Geumcheon and Seogyo

While studying at the Graduate School of Korea University, Tamagawa Chigusa became deeply interested in Korean culture. She got an opportunity to work as an intern at Seoul Art Center-Geumcheon (SASG) for a month, and thinks the internship will provide significant chances to meet artists in Korea.



A lobby on the second floor of Seoul Art (left)



A cooking area at SAS-Geumcheon Space-Geumcheon (right)

“After I came to Korea, I focused only on studying thus did not have many chances to experience Korea’s various cultures. I had a few opportunities to see good performances or cultural events. I am very excited to work at SASG since I will be able to broaden my perspective on Korean artists and their activities.”

SASG, one of the Seoul Art Spaces, was originally a printing factory in Doksan-dong, Geumcheon-gu. It is an art factory that serves as an international residence as well as having group project studios.



Seoul City converted a large printing factory in Geumcheon into a creative space for artists.

SASG is equipped with 18 residents' studios, 5 hostel rooms, group work rooms and practice rooms. Through the Artist Residency Program, residents engage in very diverse fields, ranging from visual art, installations, video, performance and experimental art, to planning and critiquing. The resident artists have workrooms of three different sizes, in accordance with the scale of their work, for a period of six months or a year, which may be extended.

Since the space used to be a huge printing factory, it is very large. The exhibition room on the third floor is used for a variety of exhibits. Recently, exhibitions of Patricia Thoma from Germany and Anja Marais from South Africa were held at the exhibition room. Exchanges between Korean, foreign artists

Jae-sung Choi, one of the SASG staff pointed out that a lot of foreign artists want to capture Seoul in their paintings or photographs, like Patricia Thoma.

“I am aware that Patricia Thoma, who participated in the residency program at SASG, worked on paintings that reflect the characteristics of the area, Geumcheon. There is a livestock market near the art space. I think such places interested her. In addition, the hostel of SASG is also a great benefit for foreign artists.”

Tamekawa Chigusa smiled at Choi's comment. Even though she majors in politics and diplomacy, she is deeply interested in Korean culture and traditional arts. She also hopes to have more opportunities to see the activities of young artists of the same age and also enjoy easier access to such information.

She said that her friends were very interested in young Korean artists and would want to communicate with them if they knew more about them.

SASG plans to grow into an international art zone to practice “Glocal” arts. It also aims to provide opportunities for local residents to enjoy and learn about culture and the arts.



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“If this kind of space was located downtown, foreigners could visit much more easily. It might be a little bit difficult for foreigners who are not familiar with Seoul to find this place. How about running a shuttle bus to and from the downtown during the period of fund programs?”

“For example, I heard that there will be an open exhibition of artists. This program could be very interesting for foreigners. You can see what the resident artists are doing here, ask questions to the artists and listen to their answers. These (programs) are very attractive.

“I think SASG is a unique and great space, in that artists gather here to create artworks and it provides local residents with opportunities to participate. I also highly appreciate that the opportunity to participate in the program is also provided to foreigners. I will let my friends know about the art space at SASG.”