

The House Where the Spirit of Nam June Paik Lives on

Opened to the public in 2008, the Nam June Paik Art Center aspires to revive the generosity, criticality and interdisciplinary nature characteristic of both Nam June Paik's work and life. To fulfill the artist's wish building 'the house where the spirit of Nam June Paik lives on', Nam June Paik Art Center develops creative and critical programs on the artist.



ARCHITECTURE

The curving exterior of Nam June Paik Art Center building takes the form of grand piano, which makes a frequent appearance in Paik's works, and its shape also refers to 'P', the first letter of his surname. The Nam June Paik Art Center building is designed by German-based architects, Kirsten Schemel and Marina Stankovic / KSMS.

MUSEUM IDENTITY

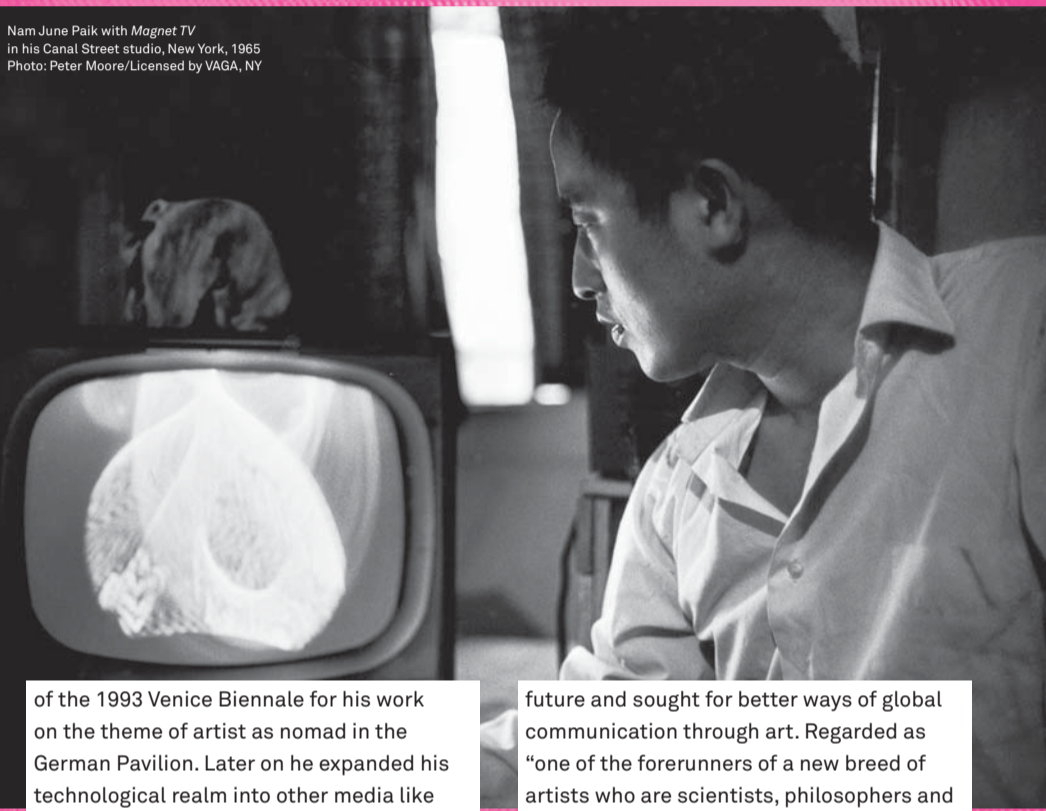


The enigmatic mathematical symbols used for the main logo image of Nam June Paik Art Center are derived from the numerical expression that Paik used in commemorating his 54th birthday. They represent Paik's rich imagination and unique sense of humor. The logo image shows that when a question is reversed and transformed into a new question, endless transformations and recurrences take place: it incorporates the identity of Nam June Paik Art Center aiming to be an experimental space that doesn't cease to question established answers.

Born in Seoul in 1932, Paik spent his middle-school days in Seoul and Hong Kong, and his high-school days in Kamakura, Japan. He studied aesthetics in the University of Tokyo, with a graduation thesis on Arnold Schoenberg. Moving to Germany in 1956 and studying European philosophy and modern music, he came to work actively with contemporary avant-garde artists and began to carve out his artist-identity by doing radical performances which were completely different from artistic canons and conventions back then. Afterwards he pursued a novel path of art making by means of new media. His media art gained momentum by his first solo show *Exposition of Music – Electronic Television* in which he presented televisions with inner circuits modified and manipulated, as a work of art.

In 1964 Paik migrated to the US where he developed his video art in full swing. Not only producing video images, he combined them with sculptures and installations, and even created a video synthesizer, a machine to process images. His incessant exploration about music and the body was also a key factor in constructing a distinct territory of his art. From the 1980s Paik realized a series of global projects, such as *Good Morning Mr. Orwell*, to tear down barriers between avant-garde art and popular culture by satellite TV technology. He won the Golden Lion

Nam June Paik with *Magnet TV* in his Canal Street studio, New York, 1965
Photo: Peter Moore/Licensed by VAGA, NY



of the 1993 Venice Biennale for his work on the theme of artist as nomad in the German Pavilion. Later on he expanded his technological realm into other media like laser, and while suffering a stroke since the mid-1990s, he never ceased to take his artistic step forward until he passed away in Miami in 2006.

Paik is a pioneering media artist working with various technologies in creative and experimental ways. He saw the artist's role as consisting in thinking about the

future and sought for better ways of global communication through art. Regarded as "one of the forerunners of a new breed of artists who are scientists, philosophers and engineers at the same time" and as "a very special and genuine genius and futurologist with foresight" Paik still lives on with us right here as "the most contemporary artist" today.

NAM JUNE PAIK

COLLECTION

Nam June Paik Art Center houses 248 pieces of video installations as well as drawings of Nam June Paik's and other contemporary artists. There are also Nam June Paik archives including 2,285 pieces of videos and other primary materials. The Nam June Paik Art Center collection forms the basis for critical research and curatorial practice.



Elephant Cart, 2001

EXHIBITION

Taking up Paik's artistic legacies, Nam June Paik Art Center aims to make exhibitions receptive to new discourses, breaking away from the modern notion of art and widening the possibilities of information and communication in a media age. Continuous research is conducted on Paik's creativity, which forms the basis for Paik exhibitions and also for different exhibitions to expand his artistic views into the future.



TV Garden, 1974(2002)



«Wrap around the Time» Exhibition view, 2016

PERFORMANCE & EVENT

With the understanding of Paik and Fluxus, the programs of Nam June Paik Art Center introduce experimental and multifarious performances, not limited to categories of genres or formats. The aim is to broaden the understanding of Paik by discovering and supporting artists and their works inheriting the experimental spirit of Paik and Fluxus.



Kim Myeong-sin, Jang Hyeon-jin, and Choi Seung-yun
No Pain, No Gain «Society of Choreography» 2015

RESEARCH & PUBLICATION

Nam June Paik Art Center undertakes in-depth research into artist-thinker Paik's work. This leads to an international symposium, different talks and seminars, and an interview project for major figures who worked together with Paik in his lifetime. The outcomes of these programs are published in a scholarly journal and monographs. These academic activities are ultimately to invigorate creative discussion on Paik, media art, and contemporary art and the humanities in general, and thereby to open up a new horizon of Paik studies.



EDUCATION

Nam June Paik Art Center offers a series of programs for integral and holistic art education, keeping such keywords in mind as: ideas about media, rethink of existing education systems, and how to break down the museum wall. The education programs, which analyze Paik's works and provides diverse interpretations of broader contemporary art, are future-oriented to facilitate a better public understanding of Paik, as a pioneering thinker and educator for a globalized age.

NAM JUNE PAIK ART CENTER PRIZE

Awarding Nam June Paik Art Center Prize to artists who inherit Nam June Paik's creative and experimental spirit, Nam June Paik Art Center generates an opportunity to support and spotlight contemporary artists who can contribute to reflecting on the significances of Paik's art relevant today. Prize was presented to Eun-Me Ahn, Seung-tack Lee, Ceal Floyer, Robert Adrian X(2009), Bruno Latour(2010), Doug Aitken(2012), Haroon Mirza(2014), and Blast Theory(2016).



NAM JUNE PAIK ART CENTER ARCHIVES

Nam June Paik Art Center Archives comprise: Nam June Paik archives collections including primary materials regarding Nam June Paik and his art works, Nam June Paik's Studio collections including paper materials and furniture in Paik's studio in New York, and Video Archives collection consisting of 2,285 analogue video tapes of Paik's works and sources. Aiming at functioning as a foundation for conducting research on Paik, archives support Art Center's curatorial practices as well as external researchers.

NAM JUNE PAIK LIBRARY

Nam June Paik Library is a public art library located on the first floor of Nam June Paik Art Center. Library's holdings include approximately 5,000 monographs and exhibition catalogues, 1,000 periodical subscriptions, and over 850 audio video materials. Library collection covers Nam June Paik, media art, Fluxus, aesthetics, art in general, philosophy and social science.



Open 10am – 5pm
Closed on Mondays

library@njpartcenter.kr

* Email appointment is required for archives visit in advance.

VISITOR INFORMATION

Opening Hours 10am – 6pm
Summer(Jul. - Aug.) 10am – 7pm
Last admission is one hour before closing.
Closed on Mondays, Jan.1st., Lunar New Year's Day and Korean Thanksgiving Day.

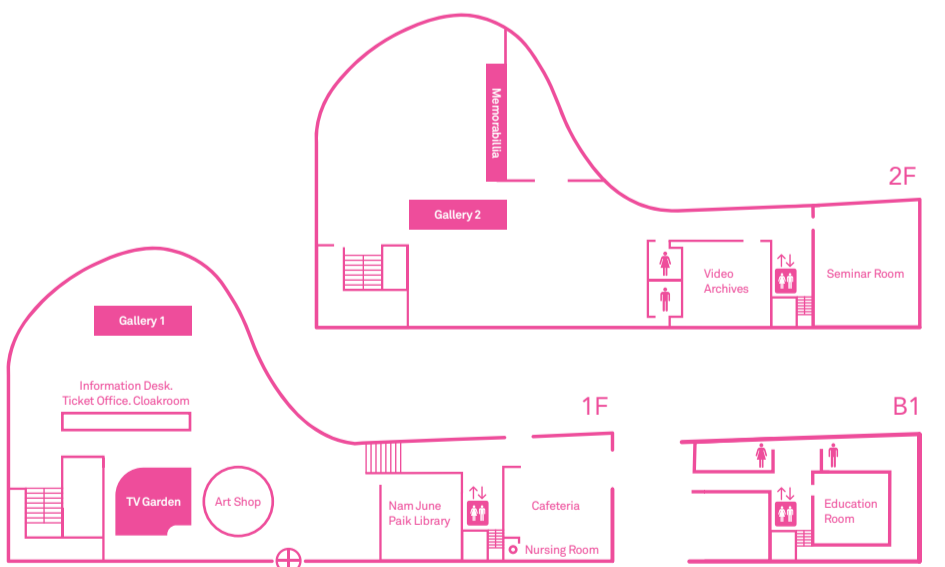
Admission is free, except for special exhibitions.
* For special exhibitions, admission fee is charged differently according to the exhibition.

Inquiry & Reservation +82-31-201-8571~2
reservation@njpartcenter.kr

* Groups with over 20 people are requested to reserve their visit at least one week in advance via Nam June Paik Art Center website.

FACILITIES

- 2F Gallery 2, Seminar Room, Video Archives
- 1F Gallery 1, Information Desk/Ticket Office/Cloakroom, Nam June Paik Library, Art Shop, Cafeteria, Nursing Room
- B1 Education Room



GETTING HERE

By Bus

Stop at Sanggal Police Station · Nam June Paik Art Center

Express 5000, 5001, 5003, 5005, 5600

Local Yongin 66-4, Suwon 10, 27-1, 66

Stop at Gyeonggi Provincial Museum

Express 1560, 5001-1, 5500-1

Local Yongin 10-5, Suwon 37, 58, Bundang 116-1

By Subway

Giheung Station(Bundang line, exit no.5) 15-minute walk to NJPAC.

Parking

Please refer to our website regarding parking lots and charges.

