

**GONG
MYOUNG**



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Performing arts group GongMyoung, formed in 1997, re-interprets classical Korean music in a modern way and is Korea's most inspired drumming collective today.

GongMyoung pursues diversity in traditional Korean music, through the unlimited possibilities of the bamboo. Its music is a kind of profound play. GongMyoung synthesizes various kinds of music and sounds into a harmonious artwork. From its debut, the group has been described as "exceptional" and "unconventional," attracting the interest of many throughout the world. By combining Dionysian rhythmic energy with the uniquely lyrical traditional Korean music, GongMyoung creates new horizon for modern Korean music. Such innovative musical ideas open up a whole new world of music, which is steeped in the traditional Korean music known as "*gugak*," yet, different.

GongMyoung has tried to transform Korean Music so that people today all around the world can easily enjoy it. Their purpose is to create music for everyone who likes music, as the communication method of feeling and thought. They always have been attempted to meet various kinds of music regardless of the genre. In order to do this, they play various kinds of musical instruments. When they want to express the new mood and sound for the music, they learn and play various instruments from other countries, creating a colorful blend of music. Their purpose is to create music for everyone who likes music, as the communication method of feeling and thought.



HISTORY

- **AWARDS**
KBS National Classical Music Awards
_Best Group (2007)
- **CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION**
By South Korean Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism (2012)
By City of Los Angeles, State of California (2008)
- **2013**
The 6th JEJU HAEVICH ARTS FESTIVAL
Showcase /Jeju Island
GongMyoung Deahakro Concert WITH SEA
/Daehangno Arts Theate, Seoul
Seoul metropolitan dance Theater-Musical
_'Scarecrow' Music Director
Performing Arts Market in Seoul (PAMS)
Showcase _'WITH SEA'
Seoul foundation for arts and culture Performing
Arts Creation Fund Choice _'Plateau'
Introduced in Korean middle school music
textbooks _'GongMyoungYooHee'
- **2012**
Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the
Korea-Vietnam Diplomatic Relationship /Hanoi
Invitational Performing in Korean Cutural Center
in Tokyo /Tokyo, Japan
Korea Festival in Brazil & US tour
/Sao Paulo(Brazil), Boston(USA)
Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the
Korea-Chile Diplomatic Relationship /Santiago
Korea-US Cultural Exchange
_'Sound of Friendship' /LA, Seatle
London Olympics "All Eyes On Korea"
/South bank, London
- Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the
Korea-New Zealand Diplomatic Relationship
/Auckland, Christchurch, Wellington
15th Anniversary of GongMyoung Concert
/National Theater of Korea
- **2011**
Philippine International Jazz Festival
Malasimbo music and art Festival /Puerto Galera
Chinese and Korean cultural festival
/Wuhan hubei province
Korean National foundation day in Chennai
/Chennai, India
Guangzhou International music Festival
/Guangzhou Opera House
50th establishment of Diplomatic relations of
Korea and Greece, Portugal
Closing Ceremony of 'Korea Year in India'
/Bangladesh, India
- **2010**
SXSW Music Festival /Texas, USA
Live Singapore 2010 /Sentosa Resort
CINARS 2010 /Montreal(Quebec)
- **2009**
Midem 2009 Showcase /Cannes France
European Parliament 'Letter From Korea'
/Brussels Belgium
Førde Folk Music Festival /Norway
Sommarscen Malmo /Sweden
Etnofestival /San Marino
7 Cities Tour Performance/London, UK
The Hindu Friday Review Music Festival invited
by InKo centre /India
- **2008**
GongMyoung's 10th anniversary concert
Charity concert for helping Afghan children
/Regensburg, Germany
Participation in the event 'Love Story-Choon-
Hyang' /Canada
LA Levitt Pavilion performance invited by
NETKAL /LA, USA
WOMEX 2008 off Womex Showcase
/Sevilla, Spain
- **2007**
APAP Showcase /New York, USA
Festival Vancouver
Melbourne International Festival
Montreal Embassy invitation performance
Korea-Cambodia 10 year reunion concert
Korea-Sri Lanka 30 year reunion concert
- **2006**
NIKE FOOTBALL uniform site background music
Mexico Art Market
Nara Music Festival /China
- **2005**
Seoul Art Market opening
New Wave into the World
- **2004**
'Hamlet' music director at Dong Soong Art Center
International Museum Association performance
invitation at the COEX
- **2003**
Blue House Open Music Concert performance
'Whispering Corridors : Wishing Stairs' OST
- **2002**
Participation in Sydney Festival /Sydney
NHK Digital Stadium satellite performance /Japan
'2002 Lady Macbeth' Poland Contact Festival
- **2001**
Invitation to Singapore Festival
'Woman Above Tree Over the Hill' - Music
Direction & Actors
Singapore Asian Art Market
Featured in the Australian Festival - 'Rapunzel
Lonely'
First album 'Communication' release
Invitation performance in Pina Bausch festival
/Wuppertal, Germany
- **1999**
KBS TV Documentary - 'Culture Search'
Movie 'The Foul king' OST
- **1997**
Formation of the innovative instrumental group
GongMyoung

MEMBER

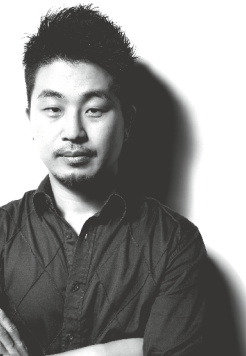


**SEUNG-WON,
PARK**

Seung Won Park plays '*Piri*' which is also a Korean woodwind instrument played just like a recorder. He also plays the recorder and the guitar, leading the melody as well.

Instrument

Taepyeongso, Guitar, Korean Drums, Piri, Vocal, Janggu, Jing, Cymbals, Sop.Recorder, Xylophone, Electronic Janggu, String Bamboo, BamDrum, Gongmyoung(Bamboo)



**KYONG-KEUN,
SONG**

Kyong Keun Song who plays '*Daegum*' and '*Sogum*' leads the melody of the music with calm and soft sound. '*Daegum*' is a Korean woodwind instrument which is made of bamboo and played just like a flute and '*Sogum*' is smaller than '*Daegum*'.

Instrument

Sogum, Daegum(Korean Bamboo Flutes), Didgeridoo, Jabara, Kalimba, Nagak, Janggu, Sakuhachi, Korean Drums, Shakers, Al.Recorder, Electronic Janggu, Gongmyoung(Bamboo)

Yong Ju Lim plays '*Buk*', the Korean drum. His play adds the power to the music so we can feel the scale.

Instrument

Korean Drums, Timbales, Jamblock, Janggu, Crasher, Gong, Cymbals, Djembe, Cajon, Wind Chime, Shaker, China Gong, Jing, Waterphone, BamDrum, Electronic Janggu, Gongmyoung(Bamboo)



**YONG-JU,
LIM**

Sun Il Kang who plays '*Janggu*' brings excitement to their music. '*Janggu*' is a Korean drum which is beat on both side parts. We can feel a strong sense of rhythm, adding to the fun and excitement of the music.

Instrument

Korean Drums, Taepyeongso, Gong, Janggu, Vocal, Wood bells, Harmonica, Energy Chime, Xylophone, Shakers, Kalimba, Electronic Janggu, Gongmyoung(Bamboo)



**SUN-IL,
KANG**

MAIN WORKS

Sunflower

Performance by the group Gongmyong featuring traditional Korean instruments and instruments from other countries as well as new instruments they invented to produce various sounds. This piece is very representative of the group and invites the audience to participate in it.

Space Bamboo

This performance is accompanied by images that capture the sentiments aroused by a bamboo forest and the freedom and comfort afforded by nature. The natural sound made by the empty space of bamboo is embellished by the different sounds made by bamboo. (Chosen for the creation fund of the Arts Council Korea in 2010)

With Sea

This performance reflects Gongmyong's thoughts on the environment. The relaxation and rest made possible by Korea's beautiful islands and sea and their sounds and images are combined with Gongmyong's sentiments. It allows the audience to engage in meditation, heal themselves, and realize the preciousness of nature. (Chosen for the creation fund of the Arts Council Korea in 2011)



SUNFLOWER

War and Peace

People are at a crossroads. Terrific mental struggles are occurring inside us. When peace can be found there, the world will be a place of peace.

Treasure Island

When we were children, we all hid our most precious treasure somewhere in our hearts. With the passage of time, we forget where we hid it or even the existence of such a place. It may well be that we will embark on the toughest journey in the world, in search of the treasure shining somewhere in our hearts.

Sunflower

Someone is looking at somebody. With such a happy face, he is gazing upon her with all his heart like a sunflower looking at the sun.

Seoljanggu

Four hour-glass shaped drums called janggu are used to present the rich and varied beats of Korean music. Intense and yet exciting rhythms invite the audience to draw mental image pictures deep inside.

Joy

This piece is a secret. We hope it is a pleasant surprise to the audience.



SPACE BAMBOO

○ Bamboo Bamboo

The start of the performance shows how a “bamdrum” is made and what it is made from - which is one of GongMyoung’s newly created instruments. After completing it, it is then used to play with the other artists and their instruments.

○ Play with us!

Play is a blank slate. To play is important to create something great.

○ Gongmyoungyoohee

A bamboo musical instrument called gongmyoung and other instruments are all brought together in an ensemble to present this joyful work.

○ Camelopardalis

Although it is hard to see the night sky in the city, Camelopardalis shows its long neck as if shy to those who love a quiet night sky. It is an honest constellation which keeps its place so that it can be found anywhere in the northern hemisphere.

○ Space Bamboo

This track is the standout track of GongMyoung from their premier in last year’s Arts Center and also selected as the lead track of this year’s PAMS CHOICE. The melody comes from the empty space inside the bamboo and it spreads further and further from there to the audience.



WITH SEA

○ The End of a Continent

The fringes of a continent face the sea. They mark the start and the end of voyages. Travelers start and end their journey here. Then, they go on another journey.

○ Story of Salmon

They knew their fate but they did not turn away from it. They did so for the sake of love and to be together in the next world.

○ Walkabout

A boy embarks on a journey. The thing is that the journey has no destination. No one can stop the journey. Only the boy can stop it when he knows by himself that he has grown up.



DISCO- GRAPHY

GongMyoung 1st Album (2001)

Record label: UNIVERSAL MUSIC KOREA

Produced: GongMyoung, Composed: GongMyoung

GongMyoung 2nd Album (2003)

Record label: YEJEON MEDIA KOREA

Produced: GongMyoung, Composed: GongMyoung

GongMyoung 3rd Album (2007)

Record label: GONGMYOUNG ENTERTAINMENT

Produced: GongMyoung, Composed: GongMyoung

GongMyoung Live Album (2009)

Record label: Company GONGMYOUNG

Produced: GongMyoung, Composed: GongMyoung



CREATED INSTRUMENT

gongmyoung

Gongmyoung is a bamboo musical instrument named after GongMyoung since the group itself invented and produced them. As the word, *GONGMYOUNG* means 'resonance' in Korean, *gongmyoung* was designed to take advantage of the vibrations and resonances of pieces of bamboo of different sizes, and it creates various tones through hollow bamboos. Each artist plays several *gongmyoung* to create complex rhythms and also plays percussion and wind instruments in a unique ensemble.

Electronic Janggu

Electronic *Janggu* opened up a new musical world for Korean music. '*janggu*' is a traditional Korean drum but *GongMyoung* devised and invented the new instrument with their constant effort. With this instrument, we can enjoy the electronic sound from an existing Korean instrument and operate it with computer sampling. This invention was a very attractive achievement for young people, who usually listen to contemporary pop, to enjoy GongMyoung's music. Furthermore, *Electronic Janggu* was an important meaning to Korean music, as it extends its boundaries to the world and the future.



MUSIC WITH ANOTHER ART

GongMyoung also has a wide sphere of activities. Their work is not only limited to music, as they produce music for other forms of art such as movies, dramas, dances etc.

They are acknowledged by the art critics for their analysis and interpretation. They have worked for many productions, among which the drama 'Lady Macbeth' in particular received high praises.

They also have held a concert with interactive media art. It is an experimental concert with "Audio Visual Performance", a kind of media art which responds to the music on the screen by a Korean computer media artist, *Su Jung Kim*(Seoul National Univ.).



ACTIVITY TO THE WORLD

Ever since GongMyoung's debut, they have held the position of "ambassadors" of traditional Korean music, being featured in numerous international festivals and art markets. They have been praised not only for their innovative musical ideas, but also for their refreshing performances. In 2007, GongMyoung gave a performance at the Vancouver Music Festival, Melbourne National Art Festival, and were invited to play in Montreal, Cambodia, and Sri Lanka; representing Korean music in the international realm. GongMyoung has also been to performances at the World Music Expo 'WOMEX' in 2008 and the 'MIDEM' held in Cannes, France, in 2009. The group is also drawing great attention in Europe after successfully finishing a recent tour at the Forde Music Festival in Norway, Sommarscen Malmo in Sweden and San Marino Etno festival in Italy.

In 2009, they held a UK tour in October, performing in 7 cities across the country, and in 2010, they were invited to the SXSW music festival held in Austin, Texas, one of the biggest music festivals in the US.

Recently, Gongmyoung expand its global presence by performing at many diplomatic events; Korean National Foundation day in Chennai in 2011, Celebrating of Korea-New Zealand 50 years of diplomatic relationship, and Celebrating of Korea-Chile 50 years Diplomatic Relationship in 2012, representing Korean music in the international realm.







