

Galerie im Tempelhof Museum
24 January – 23 March 2025

TaeWoo Kang

Bildband



© TaeWoo Kang, Bildband No. 2, ink, gouache, oil, pencils on cardboard, 2021

This exhibition presents the series “Bildband” (in German, a pun evoking both a picture book and a horizontal arrangement of images) by the painter and draftsman TaeWoo Kang for the first time. The Berlin-based artist engaged with hundreds of images of art history as well as photos and snippets of everyday life and put them in conversation with one another. The result is a visually rich reflection on the cultural history of the image and our sense of sight.

With “Bildband,” TaeWoo Kang puts the language and alphabet of painting to the test. He uses pen, ink, oil, and gouache on cardboard to create scenes of remarkable variety. In some images, a colorful grounding and just a few lines are enough to give shape to a forest landscape. In others, a carefully balanced color palette, meticulous shading, precise contours and an attentive composition of planes work together to depict a lively street scene.

“Bildband” thus explores how any given image comes about. It also points to the complexity and artistic freedom inherent in its creation. For instance, in one panel Kang juxtaposes a picture rendered in the style of 19th-century pointillism with a study after an Early Netherlandish painting from the 15th century. The two images differ strikingly with regard to their treatment of contours, the content of the picture, and the role of color, encouraging beholders to reflect on their respective aesthetic effect and the circumstances of their creation. Moreover, they allude to the specific conditions underpinning the interpretation and perception of art.

TaeWoo Kang explores these considerations with great artistic range and virtuosity in 31 panels, hung next to each other as one long frieze. “Bildband” emerges as a horizontal workshop of sight and thought. It reveals the complex, richly interwoven cultural tradition underlying images of art and our pictorial experience of the world.

TaeWoo Kang (b. 1963 in Seoul, South Korea) studied painting at the Berlin University of the Arts and finished his studies as a master student in 1991. His work has been widely exhibited in Germany and Italy. He painted the series “Bildband” between 2021 and 2024.

Press release
January 2025

Exhibition
24.1. – 23.3.2025

Opening
Thursday, 23 January
7 pm
Introduction by
Diana Thun

Artist Talk
TaeWoo Kang in conversation with Diana Thun
Sunday, 23 February
4 pm

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Galerie im Tempelhof Museum
Alt-Mariendorf 43
12107 Berlin
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Free admission
No barrier-free access
Mon closed
Tue-Sun 1-6 pm
Thu from 10 am

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