



Stills from the video *In The Park*, Cinematographer **Jinyoung Park**

In The Park

The National Art Studio in Seoul, Korea, is pleased to announce the opening of *In the Park* exhibition by Rita Leppiniemi, one of the most outstanding international exchange artists from International Studio Exchange Program HIAP Helsinki in Finland. Since last March 2007, she has worked on the Seoul city and investigated the Korean contemporary reality in two notable art works - *In the Park* (Video Installation) and *Silent Speech* (Installation).

Looking inside the urban society, Rita Leppiniemi has found a very overwhelming and extraordinary place, the old Jong Myo Park. While founded on a very strong Confucian tradition, it is at the same time very opened with sincerity to all people in the park. They show their openness and warm hospitality to each other through dancing, singing, laughing, and drinking together in public. The video shows a moment of breaking the social hierarchy, and finding real human relationships which are based on humanity without material condition, age, and sex. The park is more than a meeting point; it is a small edition of Korean life style.

excerpt from the press release written by Jae Won Jeong Program manager at IASK

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