

Roh Choong-hyun: City, Space, Present

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The space suggested by Roh Choong-hyun looks like a dreary city. The spaces he has handled primarily so far are parts of 'Han River Citizens' Park', which are relatively familiar to us, but in designs or screens they are desolate with nothing therein. He does not take photography of men or nature with the digital camera but contains the atmospheres he wants and prints out them onto the screen. In this process, the artist gradually controls his vague sense or emotion. Hence, Roh Choong-hyun's works are landscape, which contain artificial spaces rather than depict the nature with grass or tree. They are called 'Prosaic Landscape' by the artist himself. As it is, the space in the screen look like being dead. Any monotonous life or expression is described as being nowhere. However, it is seldom revealed where such a vanity stained in his works is derived from or what their characteristics are. His works show neither comic element nor intense ones. They do not tell us any painful story.

He suppresses his own emotion which might otherwise turn violent, while putting on the thin-and dull-colored surface his seemingly light and lonely emotion. Then, he attaches to the space 'a crisp sense of texture' (artist' note) that seems to evaporate soon because it has neither emotion nor weight. To this end, he does not leave any brush touch; he lays the brush to create a sense of texture by spraying the color.

The artist says his space featuring a desolate urban city with no emotion that was already 'there'. And to him, meeting the spaces already there simultaneously means that they are 'here now'. So, it is perceived that if we face them, they would more clearly disclose artist's identity. What spaces are we urban dwellers facing now? When we reviews the spaces in artist's views, we will be aware of our spaces anew as well as of ourselves therein, and thus, we could create another significant every-day life.