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A MEISTER MEETS AMERICA

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AN EXCLUSIVE PORTFOLIO

← RACHEL MACLEAN
GIRLY GROTESQUE

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HISTORY LESSONS

REHEARSING REBELLION

On May 16, 1961, Park Chung Hee staged a military coup of South Korea, ushering in a nearly 20-year authoritarian dictatorship—and a correspondingly intense artistic response. London’s Korean Cultural Center U.K. explores this rich yet fraught moment in Korean culture in its exhibition “Rehearsals from the Korean Avant-Garde Performance Archive,” opening June 27. Co-organized by KCCUK’s in-house curator Je Yun Moo and independent curator Victor Wang, the exhibition combines archival material from pivotal moments in Korea’s performance art history of the 1960s and ’70s, along with the work of five contemporary Korean artists including Kyung Roh, Zadie Xa, and Christine Sun Kim. “The 1960s and ’70s in Korea were a time of uprising, and we’ve again entered a time in which ways to end conformism and defacement need to be discussed,” says Moon. “It’s important to note how artistic practices arise and respond to often traumatic or oppressive political regimes,” adds Kang. “And the pivotal role art can play within those political contexts.” —MC

HIGHLIGHTS FROM DOCUMENTA 14

For the first time in its 62-year history, Documenta expanded outside its home in Kassel, Germany to another European city: Athens. While the Grecian outpost launched on April 8, the Kassel contingent officially opens June 10. Here are a few particularly powerful projects not to be missed.

1. Expiration Movement (Kassel)
   In Daniel Knorr’s installation, white smoke billows from the Fridericianum Museum’s tower every day from 10 A.M. to 8 P.M. During its inaugural weekend in April, the local firehouse was flooded with callers reporting a fire at the museum, prompting 30 false-alarm investigations.

2. Rose Valland Institute (Kassel)
   Named after Rose Valland, an art historian who documented Nazi-looted art during World War II, Maria Eichhorn’s interdisciplinary project will investigate real estate, assets, and art taken from European Jews from 1933 to today.

3. Glimpse (Athens)
   This silent, black-and-white short film by Polish artist Artur Zmijewski depicts the grim realities of the refugee crisis in the Calais “jungle”—a former ad-hoc refugee camp that was home to some 6,000 people from Iran, Iraq, and Syria, which has since been destroyed.

4. Every Time A Ear di Soun (Athens and Kassel)
   Under the curation of Bonaventure Soh Bejeng Ndikung, radio stations in Brazil, Cameroon, Colombia, Germany, Greece, Indonesia, Lebanon, and the U.S. will broadcast a variety of new and archived audio works exploring the role of music, sound, and speech in constructing cultural narratives.

5. Whisper Campaign, (Athens and Kassel)
   For this performance piece that will run 24 hours a day for the entire course of the exhibition, artist Pope.L enlisted performers to wander around both Athens and Kassel whispering fictional texts penned by the artist, randomly generated series of numbers, and folk songs from the 1930s to themselves while public audio speakers in both cities play similar content. —ID