



## **FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE**

*Han Youngsoo: Photographs of Korea, 1956-1963*

Exhibition: Sep 22- Nov 21, 2018

Opening Reception: 6-8pm, Sep 22 2018

Baik Art is pleased to present *Han Youngsoo: Photographs of Korea, 1956-1963*, curated by Claudia Bohn-Spector. This exhibition marks the first time the critically acclaimed South Korean photographer has been featured in Los Angeles in over thirty years. Presented in close collaboration with the Han Youngsoo Foundation in Seoul, Korea, this rare opportunity will offer a glimpse of Han's vintage work, which has never before traveled outside of Korea. This exhibition will be on display from September 22 to November 21, 2018. The opening reception will be held on September 22, 2018, from 6- 8PM.

A successful commercial image-maker in his later years, Han Youngsoo (1933-1999) began his work in photography after he returned to Seoul from the frontlines of the Korean War (1950-1953). The city, like the rest of the country, was devastated and impoverished. "After the war, still covered with the soot of tragedy, I found myself in the middle of civic confusion," Han later observed. "I was startled to find, however, the great determination of the human spirit to carry on with life—in a sense something simple and natural, but also ... very profound." In the ensuing years, Han captured the city and its surroundings with a passionate eye for form and narrative detail, documenting both its ancient ways of life and its dramatic transformation from war-torn metropolis to a prosperous modern society.

*Han Youngsoo: Photographs of Korea, 1956-1963* consists of two parts. Han's small never-before-seen vintage photographs are on view at Baik Art's main gallery at 2600 La Cienega Boulevard. A selection of large, posthumous prints of Han's most iconic images are displayed in Baik Art's second space at 2632 La Cienega Boulevard. Together, Han's bold black & white images betray the revolutionary influence of photographers like Henri Cartier-Bresson, Marc Riboud, David Seymour ("Chim"), Robert Frank, and Helen Levitt, while offering a fascinating window onto post-war South Korea and the everyday lives of its ordinary men, women, and children.

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