



The Standing Man, 2019 — railroad ties, H 250×340 cm, 44 pieces. Installation at Seosomun Shrine History Museum, Seoul. © CHUNG Hyun, courtesy PKM Gallery.

CHUNG Hyun

정현 鄭鉉 · b. 1956, Incheon, South Korea

Korean sculptor who transforms discarded industrial materials — railroad ties, asphalt, charred wood, scrap iron — into spare figures of memory and endurance.

ABOUT

CHUNG Hyun (b. 1956, Incheon) is one of the most distinctive Korean sculptors of his generation. For more than three decades he has given form to discarded, weathered materials — railroad ties, asphalt, charred wood and scrap iron — drawing from their accumulated time and scars a spare, resilient image of the human being. Named Artist of the Year by Korea's National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art (MMCA) in 2006, he made his Paris debut with *L'homme debout* at the Jardin du Palais-Royal in 2016, and in 2024 PKM Gallery presented a solo booth of his work at Art Basel Miami Beach. He is represented by PKM Gallery, Seoul.

ON THE WORK

"Nothing in the world is worthless — attend to the things that don't shine."

"A hardship well endured is always beautiful."

"The material that has endured a long time is itself the work; its texture is its spirit."

FACT SHEET

NAME	CHUNG Hyun (정현, 鄭鉉)
BORN	1956, Incheon, South Korea
BASED	Seoul, South Korea (studio in Paju)
EDUCATION	Hongik University, Seoul (BFA, MFA, sculpture); École nationale supérieure des Beaux-Arts, Paris (1990)
GALLERY	PKM Gallery, Seoul
MEDIA	Railroad ties, asphalt, charred wood, scrap iron, bronze, plaster, coal
KNOWN FOR	The <i>Standing Man</i> (서 있는 사람 / <i>L'homme debout</i>) series

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 *The Cumulative Burst*, PKM Gallery, Seoul
2025 *A Poem in Humble Materials*, Cheongju Museum of Art
2023 *Mass*, Nam-Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul
2022 *The Portrait of Time: Chung Hyun*, Seongbuk Museum of Art, Seoul
2018 *Chung Hyun*, Kumho Museum of Art, Seoul
2016 *L'homme debout*, Jardin du Palais-Royal, Paris
2006 *Artist of the Year 2006: Chung Hyun*, MMCA, Gwacheon

SELECTED AWARDS

- 2024 Kim Bok-jin Art Award
2014 Kim Sechoong Sculpture Award
2009 Korean Association of Art Critics (AICA) Award
2006 Artist of the Year, MMCA Korea

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art (MMCA) ·
Leeum Museum of Art · Busan Museum of Art · Daejeon
Museum of Art · Gyeonggi Museum of Modern Art · Seoul
National University Museum of Art · Pohang Museum of Steel
Art · Kumho Museum of Art · Savina Museum of
Contemporary Art

PRESS CONTACT

Interviews · high-resolution images · studio visits: hyun-eya@hanmail.net · Website: chunghyun.net · Representation & sales:
PKM Gallery, Seoul (pkmgallery.com) · Wikidata: [Q140239322](https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q140239322)

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