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UBC School of Music and The Centre for Korean Research is pleased to present:

“Korean Traditional Music in Korean Film”



**By Hee-Sun Kim,
KookMin University**

Friday, March 7th

3:30-4:30 pm

Royal Bank Cinema, Chan Centre for the Performing Arts
6265 Crescent Road

Abstract: In this lecture, I will speak on Korean traditional music in commercial Korean films to examine what constitutes the Korean spirit presented and represented in these films. Traditional music has been especially effectively used for historical (costume) dramas. In 2005, a historical drama, *King and the Clown*, (*Wang-ui Namja*) portrayed traditional music and performing arts based on the stories of artists during the Joseon Dynasty. More recently, a 2008 documentary film, *Intangible Asset No. 82*, was featured in Korea and abroad. The most important aspect of this film—directed by an Australian director Emma Franz and featuring an Australian jazz drummer Simon Barker, along with Korean musicians—is the foreign gaze of Korean music. These are special films in Korean film history which convey multi-dimensional meanings reflecting Korean society. In the postcolonial era, they can assist in the understanding of the relation between the traditional and the modern, the national and the transnational, in contemporary South Korea.

Bio: Dr. Hee-sun Kim earned the BA and MA from Seoul National University's Department of Korean Music and the Ph.D. in Ethnomusicology from the University of Pittsburgh. She formerly served as a research fellow at the Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore (Cultural Studies) and at the Asian Music Institute at the Seoul National University. Currently she is a professor at Kookmin University.