

PKMGALLERY

SAMBYPEN: LAZY

April 12 – May 17, 2025 | PKM

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PKM Gallery presents *LAZY*, a solo exhibition by pop artist SAMBYPEN, from April 12 to May 17, 2025. SAMBYPEN has reinterpreted contemporary popular culture with humor and satire. Celebrating a decade of his debut, the exhibition showcases approximately 20 new paintings that explore the psychology of *laziness* in modern life. Throughout the show, merchandise featuring iconography from the works and original music by emerging artists inspired by them will be released in stages.

SAMBYPEN has established a distinct visual language by parodying and creating new characters drawn from commercial brands and cultural artifacts familiar to the public. His work playfully subverts recognizable imagery and phenomena from contemporary consumer society—including corporate mascots, animated characters, internet memes, films, and masterpiece paintings—and questions the distinction between the real and the artificial. Guided by the ethos of “art for everyone,” his practice fosters an accessible dialogue with audiences, encouraging them to engage their imagination as a means of navigating the complexities of modern life.

In *LAZY*, SAMBYPEN examines the psychology of *laziness* in an era of excess, rapid transformation, and entangled distractions. The artist humorously visualizes the mental turbulence—hesitation, fear, and delusions—that arises when countless tasks are postponed, along with their physical manifestations, through a newly introduced character, *Bomb!* This exhibition will present SAMBYPEN’s latest painting series for the first time, which integrates traditional painting, graffiti, and image transfer techniques, alongside his signature sculptural paintings.

Having spent his childhood in Europe and the United States, SAMBYPEN began experimenting with parody during his school years in Poland, where he recognized striking similarities between socialist imagery and the advertisements of New York’s Times Square. Since his debut solo exhibition in 2015—where he satirized the Michelin mascot—he has held numerous exhibitions in Seoul, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Las Vegas, and Miami. He has also collaborated with global brands such as Porsche, CASETiFY, KB Kookmin Card, and SMTOWN, expanding his practice across diverse media including product design, murals, and public art.