

**Ahn Sang-soo**  
**GRAPHIC DESIGNER**

Lives and works in Seoul, Paju, South Korea.

Ahn graduated from 홍익대학교 (the Hongik University in Seoul) in 1981. He received his PhD from 한양대학교 (the Hanyang University, Seoul) in 1996, and an Honorary Doctorate from Kingston University, London, in 2001.

For 22 years – until he retired in 2013 – he served as Professor of Typography and Head of the School of Graphic Design at Hongik. In 2013, he established an alternative typography institute called 파티 파주타이포그래피배곳 (PaTI – Paju Typography Institute) in Paju Bookcity in South Korea, as well as AG Typography Institute.

After graduating, Ahn worked at a creative agency for LG Electronics. He was also Art Director for magazines. In 1985, he founded his design company Ahn Graphics Ltd. Since 1988, he has also been Editor and Art Director of the underground art-culture magazine *Report/Report*.

Ahn has invented a host of typefaces, including one named after him. He masterminded a revolutionary transition of the traditional Hangul, the Korean alphabet, into a functional medium for today, with all its digital interpretations.

He has 15 books on design to his credit, and some long essays and articles. He translated seminal works on typography by Jan Tschichold and Emil Ruder into Korean.

He has received many awards, including the Grand Prix Zgraf8 (1998), Gutenberg-Preis der Stadt Leipzig (2007), the DFA (Design for Asia) Lifetime Achievement Award in Hong Kong (2016). He lectures, presents his designs and promotes Asian design around the world.

Ahn was Vice President of Icograda – International Council of Graphic Design Associations, 1997–2001. In 2000, he chaired Icograda's prestigious Millennium Congress *Oullim 2000* held in Seoul. From 2001 to 2017, he organized 타이포잔치 (*TypoJanchi*), an international typography biennale held in Seoul.