

PRESS RELEASE

Exhibition title: *Danskjävlar – a Swedish Declaration of Love*

Duration: Saturday 12 January till Monday 24 March 2008

Curator: Bo Nilsson, director at Kunsthal Charlottenborg

Co-curator: Maria Gadegaard, curator at Kunsthal Charlottenborg

Participating artists: Martin Erik Andersen, Olafur Eliasson, Jens Haaning, Lise Harlev, Jesper Just, Sophia Kalkau, Eva Koch, Joachim Koester, John Kørner, Ann Lislegaard, Lilibeth Cuenca Rasmussen, Kirstine Roepstorff, Pia Rönicke, Katya Sander, Nina Saunders, Morten Schelde, Trine Søndergaard & Nicolai Howalt, Tal R and Kathrine Ærtebjerg.

Press conference: Welcome to press conference Thursday 10 January 2008, 11-13 with Bo Nilsson presenting the exhibition, followed by a light lunch.

About the exhibition: *Danskjävlar – a Swedish Declaration of Love* is the title of Kunsthal Charlottenborg's opening exhibition. The title originates from Lars von Trier's TV drama *The Kingdom* in which the Swedish doctor Stig Helmer, played by Ernst Hugo Järegård, ascends the roof of the Copenhagen University Hospital to shout "Danskjävlar!" – Danish bastards. *Danskjävlar* is about looking at the Danish contemporary art from the outside and presents Bo Nilsson's subjective selection of twenty artists. They may all be Danes but they share an international format and scope. The international perspective is at the heart of Kunsthal Charlottenborg's new exhibition profile, and thus the exhibition offers different insights into otherwise familiar issues of identity, politics, social conditions and national self-knowledge. From Karachi over New York to Johannesburg and Tokyo, operating all over the world, most of the artists have made their names globally long ago. It is evident that they are players in a bigger league. *Danskjävlar* concerns this new home ground.

Catalogue and communication: In connection with the exhibition a catalogue has been produced, with texts analysing the practice of the individual artists. We have emphasised that the catalogue reflects the crux of the exhibition, and thus the texts, new and old alike, are printed in the language in which they were originally written: Danish, Swedish, Dutch, German, French and English. Danish translations will be available as inserts in the catalogue and as downloads from our new website. In an upgrade of our communication, a handout with picture and text for each artist's contribution to the exhibition will also be made available. In addition the daily dialogue about the art will be handled by our new *art hosts*. They all have a professional background in art, can always be found near the works and will gladly talk about the art with anyone. The Danish Arts Council's Committee for Visual Arts has supported the publication of catalogue and handouts. The publications are designed by Rasmus Koch Studio.

Website: Kunsthal Charlottenborg has a new website – www.kunsthalcharlottenborg.dk. Here you can download pictures from the exhibition, learn more about communication and teaching programmes or check the calendar for exhibition events. You can also book our new event space, Mezzanin, which offers everybody working in art the opportunity to host screenings, performances, debates, readings, etc. The website is also designed by Rasmus Koch Studio.

Opening festivities: The exhibition will be inaugurated by Minister for Culture Brian Mikkelsen, with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Frederik in attendance, on Thursday 10 January, 20.00, in connection with a dinner for previously invited company. Friday 11 January there is a 20-24 preview for people from the art world. Grand opening for the public Saturday 12 January, 12-17. Speech by director and curator Bo Nilsson at 14.00. Concert by Baby Dee in the exhibition at 14.30.

New opening hours: Open Tuesday to Thursday, 12-21. Friday to Sunday, 12-17.

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