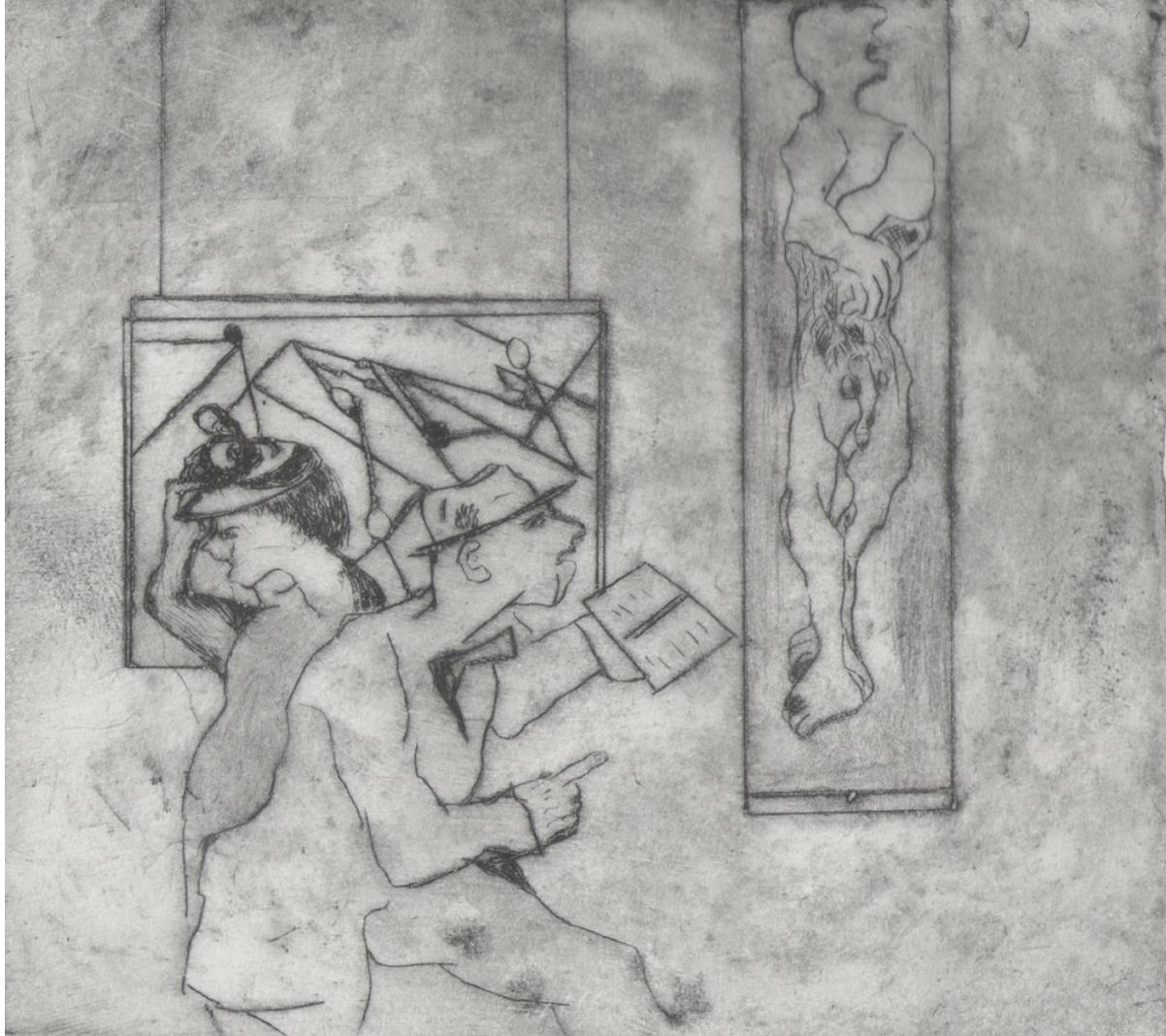


Mads Lindberg

...
August 11th – September 21st, 2023



‘Everyone has a book inside them,’ the American journalist Christopher Hitchens once said, ‘which is exactly where it should, I think, in most cases, remain.’ Even for the famously cutting Hitchens, this statement is particularly brutal. It implies that writing is better left to the professionals and that the rest of us should keep our ideas to ourselves, *thank you very much*.

The art world functions in a similar way: while trained professionals travel the globe, showing their wares at exhibitions, biennales, and art fairs, amateurs are stuck in the garage painting canvases to go above their mantelpieces or tinkering with sculptures for their gardens. But what makes one person an expert and the other a dilettante? And why are some pieces worth nothing while others sell for thousands of dollars?

These questions occupy Mads Lindberg, who for the past few years has been making art out of canvases found through his part-time job clearing houses. As Lindberg explains, during these house clearances anything that can be resold is put to one side, while everything else is thrown out – irrespective of how much sentimental value it might have held for the deceased owner. By saving these works from the skip, he offers them a new home as part of a conceptual practice with its roots in the thrift store paintings of Jim Shaw and Asger Jorn. To paraphrase the title of a 2008 exhibition at Vienna’s Mumok, which featured both artists, sometimes bad painting equals good art.

Comprising a selection of landscapes from this series and a metal sculpture, ‘...’ at C.C.C. is a shrine to unfulfilled potential. The pieces on display feature picturesque representations of country life (chickens, wagons, and overalls) and kitschy wish fulfilment (women, swans, and castles) created with an earnest sincerity only undercut by the blizzard of snowballs Lindberg has painted across their surfaces. Made using a stencil, there is a cartoonish quality to these forms, which some Danish viewers might recognize from the advertising posters for Julebryg, Tuborg’s Christmas beer.

Launched on “J-day” at 9pm and only available for six weeks, the beer’s release marks the beginning of the Christmas season for many Danes. It is reportedly also followed by a spike in violent crime. There is a clear absurdity in this pairing as bucolic, overwrought landscapes are taken over by motifs from a slick advertising campaign that promotes excessive drinking. Here, instead of merging high and low culture à la pop art, Lindberg combines low with low, using what he calls, ‘Minus minus equals plus logic’ to produce something of worth. Value is also the implicit subject of the exhibition’s final work, a largescale reproduction of a found supermarket receipt. Featuring a variety of different types of bread bought at Netto, the receipt and its reproduction poke fun at Danish stereotypes as well as the medium’s status as a place where the super-rich can park their money.

Beyond offering a quippy critique of the art market, in which taste is privileged above all else, ‘...’ reinforces Lindberg’s love of the hobbyist. Rather than destroying their work, he accentuates it, cleaning up and nickel-plating metal or removing rotten frames to give what’s underneath a new lease of life. The owners might be gone, but their work has survived them. Ultimately, it’s an act of love. In the words of the artist himself, “The gifted amateur is my guy.”

Chloe Stead is an editor and art critic based in Berlin.



Mads Lindberg. ... 2023
(Installation view)



Mads Lindberg. ... 2023
(Installation view)

5.



Mads Lindberg. *Untitled (Staircase)*, 2023. Nickel plated steel. 130 x 78 x 70 cm











Mads Lindberg. *Untitled (Snow Painting)*, 2023. Oil on found painting. 27 x 37 cm



Mads Lindberg. ... 2023
(Installation view)



















Mads Lindberg. ... 2023
(Installation view)



Mads Lindberg. ... 2023
(Installation view)











Netto

HILLERØDGADE 23
2200 KØBENHAVN N

HØRFRØRUGBRØD	19,95
SOL OVER GUDHJEM BRØ	24,00
KERNERUGBRØD 500G	6,95
SKOVMAND 500	13,50
GILLELEJE HAVN	25,95
ØGD KERNERUGBRØD	20,50
BAGERENS BEDSTE RUGB	22,95
WASA FRUKOST	
6 x 30,95	185,70
TOTAL	317,55
BETALINGSKORT	317,55
MOMS UDGØR	63,51

Du blev betjent af:
Khadijah
20 1 626 27 04 23 14:45
Butik 7708 MOMSNR.35954716



Mads Lindberg. *Untitled (Rugbrød)*, 2023
(Detail)

CV

Mads Lindberg

B. 1984, Copenhagen, DK

Lives and works in Copenhagen, DK

Education

2006 – 2013 MFA, The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, Schools of Visual Arts, Copenhagen, DK

2010 – 2011 HFBK Hamburg, DE

Solo exhibitions

2022. Sculpture 3D, SIMIAN, Copenhagen, DK

2022. Mute Unmute, C.C.C., Copenhagen, DK

2020. Extended Versions, Osteria 16, Copenhagen, DK

2019. Oxygene, Minuit Vernissage, Copenhagen, DK

2018. Thank Y, C.C.C., Copenhagen, DK

2017. Recreational Paintings, Jir Sandel, Los Angeles, US

2016. Amazed of Legs, Danske Grafikere, Copenhagen, DK

2013. Paintings for Apartment, ApArt, Copenhagen, DK

2013. Nye Farver på Blomsten (w. Anna Ørberg) Cafe Blomsten, Copenhagen, DK

2012. Untitled Jpegs, Toves Galleri, Copenhagen, DK

Group exhibitions

2023 Summer Show, Beige (Curated by Charlotte Norwood), Brussels, BE

2022 TIERE, Catherine Zeta, Cologne, Germany, DE

2022 JUBILÆUM 2, Ringsted Galleriet, Ringsted, DK

2022 Tiger Milk w. John Costi, Four Boxes, Skive, DK

2022 Recent Paintings w. Magnus Frederik Clausen, Freddy, Harris, NY

2022 “RE/UPCYCLING” SOMMERSKULPTURSØBY, DK

2022 Napkin Brain, Local 1, Mexico City, MX

2021. Group Show, C.C.C., Copenhagen, DK

2020. Off-Site (w. Magnus Frederik Clausen), Uffizi, Garrison, US

2020. Extended Versions, Osteria 16 / Jir Sandel, Copenhagen DK

2019. Reservoir encore un été, Shivers Only, Île d’Yeu, FR

2019. Hverdag, du forbandede hverdag, CGK, Copenhagen, DK

2019. Untitled (yes), SØ, Copenhagen, DK

2018. Last Xmas at The Harbour, Copenhagen, DK

2018. .Gif, Museet for Samtidskunst, Roskilde, DK

2018. Genuine Jocose, Grønttorvet 34, Copenhagen, DK

2018. Connected by the Hand, Henie Onstad Kunstsenter, Oslo, NO

2018. Scrims & Blurs, El Museo de Los Sures, New York, US

2017. Dulce Dientes, Rainbow In Spanish, Los Angeles, US

2017. Allow Me to Introduce Myself, Susanne Ottesen, Copenhagen, DK

2017. I wish I could do what you do, Koldinggade 12, Copenhagen, DK

2017. We Are The Ones Vol.1, CbyKunst, Copenhagen, DK

2017. Landscape Modern Oil Painting Canvas Painting Abstract Oil Painting Wall Hanging, Jir Sandel, Copenhagen, DK

2017. Lean Issues, Kyoto Art Center, Kyoto, JP

2017. Multitasking Death Spiral (w. Niels Bonde), D7, Copenhagen, DK

2017. Yey an unusual way of spelling yay. ^-^, Jir Sandel, Los Angeles, US

2016. DRAGGING MYSELF TO THE GYM (w. Magnus Frederik Clausen), Jir Sandel, Copenhagen, DK

2016. 51.250639, 12.446975 Magdeborn, BSMNT, Leipzig, DE
2016. Fractioning Ever Tries (w. Ronny Szillo), FutureSuburbanContemporary, Copenhagen, DK
2016. ONLY LOVERS, Le Coeur. Paris, FR
2015. Contemporary Gallery, (w. Jonas Lund), New Shelter Plan, Copenhagen, DK
2015. Hairy Plotter and the Polygrapher's Tones, Toves, Copenhagen, DK
2014. Anonyme Tendenser, R2 gallery, Svaneke, DK
2014. MP5PuE5rp / cpeCO39422 (w. Brian Kure), IMO, Copenhagen, DK
2014. Friction, DIG, London, UK
2013. Var Forbi, Kunsthal Charlottenborg, Copenhagen, DK
2013. Kunsten I Centret, Centret i Kunsten, Ballerup Centeret, Ballerup, DK
2013. Untitled (w. Markus Von Platen & Heine Thorhauge Mathiasen), Ringsted Galleriet, Ringsted, DK
2013. AFGANG 2013, Kunsthal Charlottenborg, Copenhagen, DK
2013. Medium sized paintings (mostly) on walls on walls (w. Torben Ribe), IMO, Copenhagen, DK
2012. Food, Danske Grafikere, Copenhagen, DK
2012. Copy & Re:peat, BKS Garage, Copenhagen, DK
2011. Gestallten Statt Nur Verwalten, Karolinenstrasse 2, Hamburg, DE
2010. Various Futures (not All), BKS Garage, Copenhagen, DK
2010. Untitled (No.5), LARMgalleri, Copenhagen, DK
2009. The Transition Is Now Fluid; Matter Seems Luminescent, TTC Gallery, Copenhagen, DK
2009. Cirkus Hein, FRAC Centre, Orléans, FR
2008. Old Gods Appear As Moveable Figures, Alt_Cph, Copenhagen, DK
2008. Finally, I understood "X" as sonic science, Q, Copenhagen, DK

CCC35

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Photos by Brian Kure

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