

PRESS RELEASE

Kunsthall Spritten announces its exhibition programme for the first two years, featuring SUPERFLEX followed by Sidsel Meineche Hansen. Both exhibitions will occupy the entirety of Kunsthall Spritten for a full year.

When Kunsthall Spritten opens its red doors for the first time, it will do so with a solo exhibition by the world-renowned Danish artist collective SUPERFLEX. The following year, the internationally acclaimed artist Sidsel Meineche Hansen will occupy the entirety of Kunsthall Spritten with a new exhibition. Both exhibitions signal Kunsthall Spritten's international ambition to present established cross-disciplinary artists to the public, drawing on the history of the former factory site in Aalborg where the kunsthall is located.

The announcement of the exhibition programme also marks a departure from the industry norm of frequent exhibition change, as Kunsthall Spritten will instead focus its energy on one annual exhibition. The Co-Directors of Kunsthall Spritten, Bibi Henriksen Saugman and Signe Cecilie Jochumsen, elaborate:

"We are reducing the frequency, and increasing the ambition of our exhibitions to ensure a sustainable ecosystem at Kunsthall Spritten while working at an international level. We believe the art institutions of tomorrow will play a societal role more tied to continuous everyday engagement than a single opening celebration."

Kunsthall Spritten will activate audiences year-round through new forms of partnerships and a broad public programme developed in close collaboration with the local community.

That being said, preparations are currently underway for an unmissable grand opening at Kunsthall Spritten in 2027. The title of the opening exhibition by SUPERFLEX, *There Are Other Fish in the Sea*, is already emblazoned across the building's facade, inviting passersby to pause and reflect. The exhibition is created specifically for Kunsthall Spritten and will feature, among other installations, a system of sculptures that creates a new form of underwater architecture. The installation *There Are Other Fish in the Sea* is produced in collaboration between Kunsthall Spritten and the internationally renowned Palazzo Strozzi in Florence.

The exhibition at Kunsthall Spritten is made possible through support from the main contributor Nordjyllandsfonden, together with additional support from Aage og Johanne Louis-Hansens Fond, 15. Juni Fonden, The New Carlsberg Foundation and Augustinus Fonden.

SUPERFLEX was founded in 1993 by Jakob Fenger, Bjørnstjerne Christiansen and Rasmus Rosengren Nielsen. Conceived as an expanded collective, SUPERFLEX has consistently worked with a wide variety of collaborators, from gardeners to engineers to audiences themselves. In recent years, they have extended this collaborative approach further to include other species, developing a new kind of urbanism that considers the perspectives of plants and animals. Often working with projects that re-think the role of art in relation to social and economic structures, SUPERFLEX's approach resonates with Kunsthall Spritten's DNA.

Sidsel Meineche Hansen (b. 1981) lives and works between London and Copenhagen. Their practice addresses virtual and robotic bodies, and their relationship to human labour within the gaming, pornographic, and tech-industries. Meineche Hansen's work spans a range of media and materials, including: wood, clay and metal, as well as CGI animation, VR, video and other reproducible mediums.

The artist has participated in significant international exhibitions, including at museums around the world and the 59th International Art Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia, in Venice. Meineche Hansen's interest in the mechanised body, reproduction and production will unfold throughout the former industrial setting of Kunsthal Spritten in 2029.

Bo Uggerhøj, Director of Nordjyllandsfonden comments on the foundation's support for SUPERFLEX's exhibition *There Are Other Fish in the Sea*:

"We are looking forward to the opening of Kunsthal Spritten and the first exhibition by the internationally acclaimed artist collective SUPERFLEX. They manage to make major issues such as climate change, rising sea levels, and biodiversity tangible and approachable for audiences. At the same time, they invite visitors into the development process and help establish a sense of community surrounding the works within the Kunsthal's monumental exhibition spaces. The ambition to make art more open, participatory, and accessible is an important reason why Nordjyllandsfonden has decided to support the project."

Arturo Galansino, Director General of Fondazione Palazzo Strozzi expands upon the collaboration between Palazzo Strozzi and Kunsthal Spritten:

"Through 'There Are Other Fish in the Sea', SUPERFLEX engaged directly with the architecture of Palazzo Strozzi in Florence, continuing the Fondazione's commitment to placing contemporary artistic visions in dialogue with historic spaces and urgent global questions. We are really proud that this project has been developed in collaboration with Kunsthal Spritten where it will continue its journey in a new and expanded form, extending the dialogue initiated in Florence toward new contexts, audiences, and perspectives."

About Kunsthal Spritten

Kunsthal Spritten is currently under development on the site of Aalborg's former distillery. The acclaimed Danish architectural studio Praxis Arkitekter is leading the transformation of the listed factory building into a contemporary art institution. The artwork Cloud City will play an important role in both the construction of the kunsthal and the experience of future visitors. The 30-meter-high sculpture is created specifically for Kunsthal Spritten by the world-renowned Argentinian artist Tomás Saraceno (b. 1973). Kunsthal Spritten will serve as a venue for international contemporary art and a meeting place for the wider local community. The re-development of the distillery into a contemporary art institution is supported by Realdania and Aalborg Kommune. Cloud City is being realised with support from Det Obelske Familiefond, Nordjyllandsfonden, The New Carlsberg Foundation, Salling Fondene, Augustinus Fonden, A. Enggaard A/S, and Wagner Ejendomme ApS. Kunsthal Spritten along with Cloud City will open in 2027.

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