

DARKNESS & LIGHT

CONTEMPORARY
NORDIC
PHOTOGRAPHY

December 11, 2013

ADVANCE FACT SHEET

DARKNESS & LIGHT: CONTEMPORARY NORDIC PHOTOGRAPHY



WHAT

Darkness & Light: Contemporary Nordic Photography presents over 30 recent works by 10 emerging and established photographers from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden whose practices demonstrate the breadth and strength of Nordic photography today: Thora Dolven Balke, Tonje Bøe Birkeland, JH Engström, Joakim Eskildsen, Ulla Jokisalo, Bára Kristinsdóttir, Tova Mozard, Nelli Palomäki, Katya Sander, and Pétur Thomsen.

WHEN

February 22 through April 26, 2014
Opening Reception: Saturday, February 22, 2014, 6 – 8 pm

WHERE

Scandinavia House: The Nordic Center in America
58 Park Avenue (at East 38th Street)
New York City

EXHIBITION

Focusing on a diverse selection of recent photographic works, *Darkness & Light: Contemporary Nordic Photography* illuminates the ways in which light—both measured and perceived—informs the practice of contemporary Nordic photographers. Tonje Bøe Birkeland takes on the role of fictional photographer Luelle Madgalon Lumière and recreates an imaginary journey to the Orkney Islands. Tova Mozard stages a psychological drama, starring her mother, grandmother, and herself in conversation with a therapist on the stage of Stockholm’s Royal Dramatic Theatre. And Joakim Eskildsen, in a series of works shot in New York, California, Louisiana, South Dakota, and Georgia, examines the growing crisis of American poverty.

SUPPORT

Darkness & Light: Contemporary Nordic Photography has been made possible by a generous grant from the Nordic Culture Fund, with additional support provided by Frame Visual Arts Finland and Moderna Museet, Sweden. We gratefully

acknowledge the support of the Consulate General of Denmark, New York; the Consulate General of Finland in New York; the Consulate General of Iceland in New York; the Royal Norwegian Consulate General in New York; the Consulate General of Sweden in New York; SWEA New Jersey Chapter; and the Office for Contemporary Art Norway. Additional support has come from the following Funds of The American-Scandinavian Foundation: The Bonnier Family Fund for Contemporary Art; The Icelandic Cultural Fund; The F. Donald Kenney Fund for the Visual Arts; The Elle Leppälä Kronquist from Kuru, Finland, and William Kronquist from Narpes, Finland, and Dr. Laura Kronquist Mesaros Memorial Endowment Fund; The Norwegian Centennial Cultural Fund; and The Hilppa Roby Fund for Finnish Cultural and Educational Programs at Scandinavia House.

CURATORIAL CREDITS

The exhibition is organized by leading figures in the world of Nordic photographic art: Ingrid Fischer Jonge, Director of Brandts Museum of Photographic Art; Jens Friis, Curator, Brandts Museum of Photographic Art, Denmark; Elina Heikka, Director of The Finnish Museum of Photography, Finland; María Karen Sigurðardóttir, Director of the Reykjavík Museum of Photography, Iceland; Ingrid Nilsson, Director of the Preus Museum, Norway; and Anna Tellgren, Ph.D., Curator of Photography at Moderna Museet, Sweden.

THE ASF

The American-Scandinavian Foundation (ASF) is the leading cultural and educational link between the United States and the Nordic countries. An American nonprofit organization, the ASF works to build international understanding through an extensive program of fellowships, grants, intern/trainee sponsorship, publishing, and membership offerings. Headquartered at Scandinavia House, in New York City, the ASF celebrated its centennial in 2011. For more information: amscan.org

SCANDINAVIA HOUSE

As the headquarters of The American-Scandinavian Foundation, Scandinavia House presents contemporary Nordic culture through a wide range of programs that encompass the visual arts, music, and literature, as well as business, finance, and technology. Offerings include art, design, and historical exhibitions; films; concerts; lectures and literary programs; symposia; language courses; and programs for children and families. For more information: scandinaviahouse.org | [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ScanHouse) | Twitter [@ScanHouse](https://twitter.com/ScanHouse) #nordicphoto

HOURS & ADMISSION

Admission is free to the Scandinavia House 3rd Floor Gallery; open Tuesday through Saturday from 12 – 6 pm, Wednesday until 7 pm

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Above images, left to right: Pétur Thomsen, *Imported Landscape AL3_9a, Kárahnjúkar, Iceland*, 2003. Pigment print, 43 1/3 x 55 in. (110 x 140 cm), Courtesy of the artist; Ulla Jokisalo, *My Eyes*, (Unique variation 3), 2013. Cut-out pigment print, embroidery, thread and needles on fabric, 16 1/2 x 10 1/5 (42 x 26 cm), Courtesy of the artist; Tonje Bøe Birkeland, *Plate #4 Papa Westray*, 2013, From the project *Luelle Magdalon Lumière (1873-1973)*. Digital c-print, 51 x 64 in. (130 cm x 162.5 cm), Courtesy of the artist.