

OVERGADEN.

Press release August 2013

Uffe Isolotto: The Pocket Philosopher's Catharsis in the Winter Garden

7 September - 27 October 2013

Opening: Friday 6 September 2013, 5-8pm

The Danish artist Uffe Isolotto explores archetypal perceptions of the identity of the artist in an age where we're all producers of images. The role of the sensitive and destructively introvert artist is staged from several angles in a sculptural installation where human bodies perform hazardous stunts.

On the first floor of Overgaden the room facing the Christianshavn Canal has been transformed into a sculptural paraphrase of a classical winter garden: a passage between the authentic and the artificial. The pillars in the room mime tulips, and an interior of ornate, patinated copper furniture approximates a metaphor for the intricate paths of the mind. Images of the self-absorbed individual sucking its own poison are spread across the room. The furniture is based on the concept of a Procrustean bed, named after the myth of Procrustes, who stretched or cut off the legs of his victims to fit his iron bed. By extension, the concept is used to refer to people who tailor reality to fit their own preconceived ideas. The ability of the artist to construct realities and become obsessed by their own creative thoughts is key in Isolotto's exhibition.

Conceptually the exhibition links the extent of 'self design' in the age of contemporary social media like Facebook and Instagram to the myths of classical Greece, which Isolotto uses as a point of departure to investigate the construction of the role of the artist and the creative product as a guarantee of underlying authenticity. Because where does the image-creating artist stand when everyone can easily frame their own image, comment on current events, and document the everyday life surrounding them – then broadcast it to the whole world in less than a minute?

In this solo exhibition, Isolotto sets the scene for a monologue on creativity and its preconditions and pitfalls. In a stage setting that balances between pathos and satire, and with the homespun philosopher as his alter ego, Uffe Isolotto turns the role of the artist and the creative process upside down.

On September 6th - the evening of the exhibition opening - Uffe Isolotto's doppelgänger will perform an reenactment of Bas Jan Ader's performance, during which his double will ride into the canal on a bike. The performance will be under surveillance and recorded by drone-helicopters.

Uffe Isolotto graduated from The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in 2007. He is one of the artists behind the exhibition space Toves Galleri in Copenhagen and has exhibited here and elsewhere in Denmark and abroad, including at Den Frie Center of Contemporary Art, Malmö Konsthall and Charlottenborg.

Contact: For further information, please contact press officer Anne Riber at ar@overgaden.org, or call +45 3257 7273. High-resolution press pictures may be downloaded from our website at www.overgaden.org, under 'Press' and 'Upcoming'.

Overgaden is Copenhagen's innovative exhibition venue for Danish and international contemporary art. With varying exhibitions and events, including artist talks, lectures, performances and film screenings, Overgaden acts as a platform for the latest developments on the art scene, and as a forum for discussion and debate.

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Tirsdag-søndag 13-17, torsdag 13-20. Fri entré



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