

OVERGADEN.

Press release March 2015

Stine Marie Jacobsen: *Mann beißt Hund*

28 March – 17 May 2015

Opening: Friday 27 March, 5-8pm

What happens when legislative power is placed in the hands of individuals and private corporations? Who has the right to sentence and mete out punishment and ultimately decide what is right and what is wrong? This is the complex of political issues triggered by Stine Marie Jacobsen's first solo exhibition in Denmark.

Jacobsen uses the medium of film as a tool for dialogue to address serious and disturbing social issues, including violence and surveillance. Her exhibition at Overgaden deals with the current move in European legislation that grants hired citizens the authority to enforce the law on other citizens on the basis of subjective assessment and without judicial intervention.

Jacobsen has applied the analysis that both the law and film are violent media to a new version of the Belgian black comedy *Man Bites Dog* (1992), which illustrates the extreme consequences of an individual taking the law into his own hands. In the film, a documentary crew help a serial killer who has established his own set of rules for who can be killed when and why. In the recreation Jacobsen returns to the original film locations, which she has found using Google Earth and social media. But the film is devoid of plot and characters, so instead of being seen directly on screen, the violence can only be sensed through the movement of the camera. The work is installed in a black box in the centre of the exhibition space, accompanied by black and white prints of locations in the film the artist has not yet traced.

As well as the film, the exhibition includes the results of a workshop with a group of teenagers who have been asked to consider the boundary between privacy and the public domain, and the surrender of basic civil rights in realms like the Internet. On the basis of this, they have formulated and written their own laws on the wall of a toilet, which is installed in the exhibition.

In another room in the exhibition Jacobsen has set up a court where different youth groups will be invited to re-judge a concluded court case outside of Overgaden's opening hours. The trial will be moderated by a lawyer, and each session will be filmed and subsequently made available to the public at Overgaden.

In *Mann beißt Hund* Jacobsen critically examines the shifting legal foundations of contemporary society and the right to privacy, challenging us to reflect on our own relationship to the law.

Stine Marie Jacobsen (b. 1977) is a graduate of the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts and CalArts, California Institute of the Arts. She has exhibited at Nikolaj Kunsthal – Copenhagen Center of Contemporary Art, as well as the 7th Momentum Biennale in Norway (2013) and the Turku Biennale in Finland (2013). She has exhibited extensively in Berlin in contemporary art spaces like Haus am Waldsee and Künstlerhaus Bethanien. Stine Marie Jacobsen lives and works in Copenhagen and Berlin.

Contact: For more information about the the exhibitions contact Press Officer Anne Riber at ar@overgaden.org or on +45 32 57 72 73. Press images can be downloaded from the press page on our website.

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.

Overgaden.
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Tuesday-sunday 1-5pm, thursday 1-8pm. Free Admission

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