

OVERGADEN.

Press release May 2015

Lea Porsager: SPIN Φ

Våbenhvile – 100 års forestillinger

6 June – 9 August 2015

Opening: Friday 5 June 5-8pm

Lea Porsager: SPIN Φ

Lea Porsager's large-scale solo exhibition at Overgaden draws threads between quantum physics, chaos magic, hypnosis, gibberish, encryption and politics.

Overgaden is expanded by metal beams that cut through and take possession of the physical space. The metal construction functions as a so-called 'sigil' – a seal with magical powers alleged to act as a catalyst for the manifestation of thought forms and mystical phenomena.

This is where the theosophist Helena P. Blavatsky is born and gives life to her heir Annie Besant, who gives birth to Niels Bohr, whose testicles spew out Angela Merkel. Their hypnotised voices are teleported via the quantum vehicle *the H@t*, thereby evoking the phenomenon of #PUSSY.

This thought experiment is the central node of Lea Porsager's extensive solo exhibition, which hallucinates and speculates in a tangle of births and vanishings and the obscure coming into being of quantum physics. Bronze sculptures, 3D video, wool, photography, hypnosis and sound interweave the esoteric with an encrypted age that forms an entangled and unstable coded space.

It's speculative, it's equivocatory, it's #political animal #unresolved #furry #extimacy, and it's #Merkel_fabulates: *... it feels really heavy from the knees down. When I think about it, it is as if it grows a bit up and down. It's not so nice when the legs just dangle. I think I should have been born a long time ago. It's as if I've been handed down. I don't feel I have anything to do with the stomach I'm inside. I was the one meant to give birth. It hardly matters that I should give birth to it ... give birth to what I'm inside without being inside it. Okay, I'm not that keen on being here any more. I need to ...*

Lea Porsager (b. 1981) graduated from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts and Städelschule in Frankfurt am Main in 2010. Her works balance on the border of comprehensibility, and are based on the occult and magical ways of understanding the world in an approach that is simultaneously earnest yet with strong, ironic elements. She often draws on alternative practices like hypnosis, clairvoyance or telepathy, and her works are marked by a strict, minimalist aesthetic, which is nevertheless sensual and strongly focused on material and form.

Porsager's most recent exhibitions include Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin (2015); Sorø Art Museum (2014); Moderna Museet Malmö (2014); Henie Onstad Kunstsenter, Høvikodden (2013); Lunds Konsthall (2013); The Emily Harvey Foundation, New York (2013); Neue Gesellschaft für Bildende Kunst, Berlin (2013); Contemporary Art Centre (CAC), Vilnius (2013); Museum voor Moderne Kunst, Arnhem (2013); Kunsthall Aarhus (2013) and Fotografisk Center, Copenhagen (2013). In 2014 Porsager was awarded the Carl Nielsen the Anne Marie Carl-Nielsens Art Scholarship, and in 2012 she exhibited at DOCUMENTA (13).

Våbenhvile – 100 års forestillinger

This year marks the centenary of women's right to vote in Denmark. Overgaden celebrates the occasion with a participatory group show curated by the artist, dramatist and author Tomas Lagermand Lundme. In a broad range of expressive forms, the cards will be shuffled and the gender slate wiped clean to discover how we can act and create communities – together.

Overgaden usually resembles a white cube, but with Tomas Lagermand Lundme's stage treatment it has been transformed into a theatre where the artworks are the props and visitors become actors who are encouraged to move in certain ways, dress up in certain ways, or perform certain actions. Rather than an exhibition, visitors are invited to a show where artists re-enact and interpret some of the key opinions, positions and narratives of the

past century of gender negotiations and social developments.

The musician Martin Hall has, for example, composed a soundtrack on sexual fan culture for the exhibition, and the musician Jomi Massage will be hosting collective sessions with the audience in which music and sound are created by the body itself – a form of intimate concert. The Norwegian artist Nina Strand has made a photographic diary – a literary fanzine reinterpreting the clichés of pulp novel romances – and the Danish artist Molly Haslund has made a costume of feminist symbols the audience can wear as well as a floor scenography of cress islands. The dramatist Gritt Uldall-Jessen has unearthed a speech by Mathilde Fibiger, which the Danish feminist novelist was meant to hold in 1852. Visitors can use the props in the exhibition to make the speech themselves, and on the last day of the exhibition Uldall-Jessen will perform a remake of the never-held speech. Rumpistol and Ane Trolle have rerecorded an entirely new and fierce version of the Danish singer Trille's women's lib classic 'Hej søster', and at the heart of the exhibition is a problem page letterbox where the cast of artists will be asked questions demanding impossible answers about being women, being men – and being human.

During the exhibition the rooms will constantly change character, the works will swap places, and new material will be added. There will also be a series of spontaneous happenings and mini concerts by the participating artists.

Participating artists: Kristina Ask, Peter Brandt, Kristina Nya Glaffey, Kajsa Gullberg, Martin Hall, Molly Haslund, Jomi Massage, Mathias Kryger, Jonas Liveröd (SE), Stine Ljungdahl, Tomas Lagermand Lundme, Puls Ravn, Rumpistol, Julie Sass, Nina Strand (NO), Gritt Uldall-Jessen, You Little Teapot and Kristoffer Ørum.

Scheduled events:

Thursday 11 June 6pm

Problem Page, questions and answers performed by the actor Amira Jensen on behalf of a moving movement.

The Idea of Myself as Someone Else, monologue in Danish by Tomas Lagermand Lundme performed by the actor Casper Sloth.

This is not my real head, mermaid performance by Michiel Tange van Leeuwen with text by Tomas Lagermand Lundme.

Thursday 18 June 6pm

Concert with Jomi Massage and joint performance by Molly Haslund and Tomas Lagermand Lundme.

Thursday 16 July 5-8 pm

The Guattari Reading Circle presents the workshop **Seven Billion Perverts** based on the controversial and censored 12th edition of the journal *Recherches* from 1973, which had the title *Trois milliards de pervers: Grande Encyclopédie des Homosexualités*.

Sunday 9 August 3pm

Gritt Uldall-Jessen's remake of Mathilde Fibiger's never-held feminist speech from 1852.

The Idea of Myself as Someone Else, monologue in Danish by Tomas Lagermand Lundme performed by the actor Casper Sloth.

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

THE DANISH ARTS FOUNDATION

