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## Søren Thilo Funder: *You're Gonna Die Up There*

23 January – 13 March 2016

Opening: Friday 22 January 5-8pm

The story of an astronaut afraid to travel into space forms the point of departure for this major solo exhibition by the artist Søren Thilo Funder. The exhibition takes the form of a sequence of images, sounds and objects interwoven in a fragmented narrative.

Inspired by the film character Captain Billy Cutshaw – who we were introduced to in the horror film *The Exorcist* (1973), just before he was about to embark on a trip to the moon, and who we meet again as a patient in a mental asylum in the film *The Ninth Configuration* (1980) – Søren Thilo Funder presents a new video work seeking to fill the narrative gap between the two cult films. Because what was it that happened to the space captain during the time in between, since he now refuses to travel into space?

From here the exhibition branches out into a speculative investigation of alternative communities, the space race, and the colonisation of alien planets, as well as the psychological and social challenges posed by space travel. By focusing on these themes, Søren Thilo Funder provides an opportunity to reflect on society's blind faith in progress and its human as well as socio-political consequences.

The medium of video is central to Søren Thilo Funder's art practice, which explores and questions the cultural realities and mythologies of our age, taking a critical stance on the established political realities that surrounds us, as well as exploring ideas of alternative social structures. In his works, which are characterised by a high level of dramatic and poetic quality, he draws on both literary references and documentarism to create new spaces for political reflection and the formation of collective memory.

Søren Thilo Funder (b. 1979) lives and works in Copenhagen. He graduated from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in 2008 and The School of Art and Architecture at the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2006. Most recently Thilo Funder has exhibited at X AND BEYOND (2015), Museum of Contemporary Art, Zagreb (2015), Tranen Contemporary Art Center (2014), the Biennale of Sydney (2014), DIAS – Digital Interactive Art Space (2014), and Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin (2014).

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

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