

Press Release

Friday, January 25, 2008, at 5 p.m. the Aarhus Art Building presents the opening of:

The art group GUIRLANDEN

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January 26 – March 2, 2008

In 2008 the art group Guirlanden marks its 40th anniversary. For the past several years the group has had a yearly exhibition at the Aarhus Art Building. From its inception the group has formed the framework for a large number of renowned artists based primarily in the eastern part of Jutland.

As a new concept for this year's exhibition the members of the art group have taken their starting point in a common theme – the Danish letter and word, symbol and notion "Ø". At the exhibition the letter "Ø" will be turned and twisted as a phenomenon in a linguistic and mathematical way, physically and mentally. And this examination of the notion builds up to reflections of a varied kind and calls attention to the diversity and equivocal qualities of the exhibition.

The vision behind this exhibition concept is to challenge the collaboration between the members of GUIRLANDEN. Thus the Ø-exhibition will separate itself from the earlier GUIRLANDEN exhibitions because it calls for a large degree of communication, discussion and collaboration with the aim of strengthening the exhibition's content, visual unity and dynamics. The Danish letter and word "Ø" meaning "a land mass entirely surrounded by water" refers specifically to the physical presentation of the exhibition in the sense that the exhibition itself will consist of islands. Each island is the territory of one artist, and each island is a unit in itself. And the space between the islands is a common zone for the relation between the art works and the visitors at the exhibition.

The exhibiting artists are: Jørgen Mikael Andersen, Thomas Andersson, Else Ploug Isaksen, Bjørn Kromann-Andersen, Ole Krog Møller, Max Parylewicz, Anne-Marie Pedersen, Inge Rasmussen, Nils Ryberg, Bodil Sohn and Esther Vohnsen.

Guest exhibitors are: Anders Gammelgaard Nielsen, Marianne Jørgensen and Signe Bang Nielsen, Jette Gejl Kristensen, Kaare Nielsen and Jan Skovgård.

The exhibition is a result of a collaboration with the curator Trine Rytter Andersen, who will also open the exhibition. In connection with the exhibition a 62-page catalogue will be published. The catalogue contains an essay by Trine Rytter Andersen where the notion of "islands" as a starting point leads to a discussion about identity, plus a conversation between Trine Rytter Andersen and Thorsten Sadowsky about the relationship between artist, curator and visitors. Moreover artist talks will be held on February 6 and 20. The exhibition is sponsored by the Cultural Development Foundation, the Municipality of Aarhus, and the Danish Arts Foundation.

For further information, press material or appointments for interviews please contact Anne Fogtmann Madsen at (+45) 86 20 60 55 or send a mail to af@aarhuskb.dk. Press photographs can be downloaded from our web site: www.aarhuskunstbygning.dk.

Sincerely,

Thorsten Sadowsky
Director, The Aarhus Art Building