

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **KYUNGWOO CHUN: *BEING A QUEEN* and *BURDEN OR SUPPORT***

#### **THERE'S A QUEEN IN US ALL**

To have one's portrait painted like Her Majesty Queen Margrethe of Denmark in a fine dress and with high-piled hair might be a dream for many, but at the Aarhus Art Building this dream now becomes reality with the opening of an exhibition of a series of portraits by the artist Kyungwoo Chun, featuring Danish men and woman who have posed for their portraits just like Her Majesty.

Two different exhibitions present the South-Korean artist Kyungwoo Chun to the Danish audience in Aarhus:

**"Being a Queen," the Aarhus Art Building, August 29 – November 1, 2009**

**"Burden or Support," Galleri Image, August 29 – October 4, 2009**

**Please join us at the openings on Friday, August 28, 2009**

**At 15:00 at Galleri Image and at 17:00 at the Aarhus Art Building**

Kyungwoo Chun will be present at the openings.

The exhibition "Being a Queen" at the Aarhus Art Building takes its starting point in various Danes' identification with Her Majesty Queen Margrethe. In a series of staged portraits and video interviews of Danish women and men Kyungwoo Chun examines the importance of the Queen to the way in which the population understands itself. The participating individuals all believe that they have some kind of physical or mental similarities with the Queen which are expressed through a series of video interviews. All the involved have volunteered to participate via Galleri Image after announcements in the Danish press.

"Being a Queen" consists, among other things, of portraits where the individual models have been photographed with variable shutter speeds according to their age while dressed in a copy of one of Queen Margrethe's dresses. In this way Kyungwoo Chun examines a temporary aspect as well as the history of the photographic medium itself. In a more immediate sense the portraits depict the queen in the individual person, but also the individual person in every queen.

The exhibition "Burden or Support" at Galleri Image presents Kyungwoo Chun's four latest video works plus documentation from his performances. Here relations between people are in focus, while the works themselves specifically focus on the relationship between individuals and groups.

#### **KYUNGWOO CHUN**

Born in 1969 in Seoul. The artists' work is centered on photography and the many possibilities inherent in the medium. Aside from photography Chun also works with video and performances. He has, among other places, exhibited at The Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, Gemeentemuseum in The Hague, Museet for Fotokunst in Odense, The Museum of Photography in Seoul and Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe in Hamburg and he has participated in performances and projects in Düsseldorf, Barcelona, Seoul, Berlin, Prague, Liverpool, Lisbon and Copenhagen.

The exhibitions have been arranged in collaboration with The Hannan Museum of Photography, Seoul, Korea, and are sponsored by DIVA (Danish International Visual Arts Exchange Program), King Frederik and Queen Ingrid's Fund, the BG Fund, the Cultural Development Foundation, the Municipality of Aarhus, Helnan Marselis Hotel, Bruun Rasmussen Auctioneers and Miss D Confectioner's.

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Press images can be downloaded from: [www.aarhuskunstbygning.dk](http://www.aarhuskunstbygning.dk)

### **GUIDED TOUR AND ARTIST TALK**

Sunday August 30 at 15:00 at the Aarhus Art Building Kyungwoo Chun will participate in an artist talk. Earlier that day, at 14:00, there will be a free guided tour of the exhibition followed by a cup of complimentary coffee or tea. The Artist Talk will be held in English, and all are welcome.

### **BEING A QUEEN AT BAZAR VEST**

Tuesday, September 1 from 14:00-16:00 the exhibition "Being a Queen" will move to Bazar Vest on the outskirts of Aarhus, where Kyungwoo Chun will carry out a performance.

### **BOOK PUBLICATION**

In connection with the exhibition, the book "Being a Queen" with contributions by Louise Wolthers, Rune Gade and Boseul Shin will be published. The book is a collaboration between The Hannan Museum of Photography, the Aarhus Art Building and Galleri Image. In Denmark the book will be distributed by Forlaget Vandkunsten.