

ON GRAFTAGE

18/08 – 01/09/2019

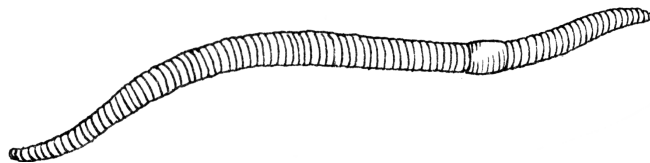
Opening: Sunday 18/08 from 14:00

Solo show: Mikael Øye Hegnar

Solvang kolonihager, avd. 3
Mittveien 311
Bus 25 to Nordbergveien

The ground beneath our feet is also the anchor to our existence. We depend on it for all that grows and sustains us, as do a myriad other species, large and small. The thin crust that nurtures us is in fact a great collaborative canvas, a small handful of which is home to billions.

A host of soil invertebrates work alongside bacteria, fungi, and other microbes to decompose organic matter that combined with mineral particles, water and air, create the fertile topsoil. These invertebrates shred plant materials, aiding and promoting fungi and bacteria, which are in turn eaten by larger organisms. As each decomposer dies or excretes, it provides food for others further up the energy pyramid.



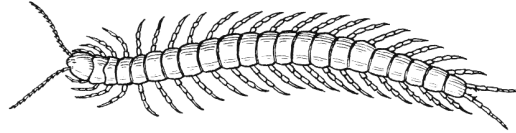
Earthworms are constantly digging and depositing, their digestive systems rich in hormones, enzymes, and other fermenting substances to further the breakdown process.



Tiny nematodes, resembling fine human hair, are the most numerous of the decomposers. A single rotting apple contains an estimated 90 000 of these transparent, microscopic worms.



Springtails feed on nematodes and the droppings of other arthropods and then meticulously clean themselves. When disturbed a small spring-like structure under the belly catapults them into the air.



The fast-moving centipedes have formidable claws behind their head, which feature poison glands to paralyze small red worms, insect larvae, newly hatched earthworms, as well as other insects and spiders.

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About the artist

Mikael Øye Hegnar (b. 1984) lives and works in Oslo. Recent exhibitions include "Garderoben" at Kristiansand Kunsthall; "MNikael i benspenn", Kunstnerforbundet, Oslo; "Drawing biennale 2016: SKISSEN", LNM, Oslo; "Neolithic Graffiti", QB Gallery, Oslo; "Blotto" Galleri BOA, Oslo; "Øy", Elephant Kunsthall, Lillehammer, Norway.