

# **MAN IN HOUSE**

## ***Institut Funder Bakke***

**Sitara Abuzar Ghaznawi - Sidsel Meineche Hansen  
Nancy Lupo - Diego Marcon - Reba Maybury  
Dea Trier Mørch - Ser Serpas & Rafik Greiss**

MAN IN HOUSE takes its name from a sign that would be mandatory to place in the entrance of Copenhagen's Danner House to alert the residents that a man had entered.

Danner House has a remarkable history, it was built between 1873-75 as a home for poverty stricken women and their children by Countess Danner. Originally named Louise Rasmussen she was the daughter of a servant who became a ballet dancer which is how she met the king, who she later married (to the left hand) becoming the Countess. After the king's death, the Countess commissioned the erection of the house.

During the development of the Danish welfare state, fewer and fewer women needed a space like the Danner House. In the 1970s a developer tried to buy and tear the building down, turning it into offices.

In reaction to this capitalist's desire The Danish Women's Liberation Movement occupied the house and a vast cross national fundraising took place by individuals and groups of women. Due to this action Danner House was protected and subsequently restored and renovated solely by female builders.

From here on the building changed its functions to both a refuge and a crisis and knowledge center to raise awareness and prevent violence against women.

Within MAN IN HOUSE lurks the Scandinavian paradox, a murky and embarrassing inconsistency within the statistics surrounding domestic abuse. In what is apparently the safest area in the world, with Denmark ranking as the fourth safest country, it in fact has an ongoing problem where domestic abuse levels remain almost always static regardless of public crime and violence lessening and gender equality apparently expanding.

In contemporary discourse conversations around gender seem to sidestep what is still a huge elephant in the room - gendered domestic violence. Domestic abuse is perhaps one of the ultimate crimes and because of this an inevitably complicated but essential conversation because it is everywhere.

MAN IN HOUSE is an exhibition exploring the history of this remarkable house that attempts to shine a light on an ever present but quite literally invisible domestic catastrophe.

13th May - 16th July 2023

Open Saturdays and Sundays 12 - 4 pm & by appointment  
Free and open to all

Institut Funder Bakke

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<https://institutfunderbakke.com>

**Sitara Abuzar Ghaznawi** is an artist born 1995 in Ghazni, Afghanistan who lives and works in Zürich and Tbilisi. The artist works with mixed media and installation and considers notions of how taste is produced under environments of western narratives and hierarchies. For this exhibition she has shown her work *'Male Extinction 2'* (2020). This work includes a man's shirt, cigarette burns, and other intimate yet disposable objects underneath the glass of a frame.

**Sidseleine Meineche Hansen** is an artist born 1981 in Ry, Denmark. Her work crosses media from video, sculpture and drawing and explores themes of power, sex, capitalism and the pharmaceutical industry. In this show she has made a sculpture of a chimney named *'Home vs Owner 2'*.

**Nancy Lupo** is a sculptor born in 1983 in Flagstaff, Arizona USA and lives and works in Los Angeles and wherever she is. Lupo's work is invested in the multisensory and for this exhibition she has made a held hand into an object. Here, it is cast in bronze and plays as a door handle on the outside of the building. Its name is *'escape handle three'* (2023)

**Diego Marcon** is an artist born in 1985 in Busto Arsizio, Italy who lives and works in Milan. His film *The Parents Room* (2021) is playing in the garage. The film is a sort of musical about family, death and a bird.

**Reba Maybury** is an artist, writer and dominatrix born in 1990 in Oxford, UK. Her work is made under her orders by her submissives and for this show she has had her crossdressing submissive complete a paint by number kit of Degas's *The Star, The Dancer on Stage* (1876). However this work's name is *Amanda, British civil servant, 50, Blackpool, 2.* (2023)

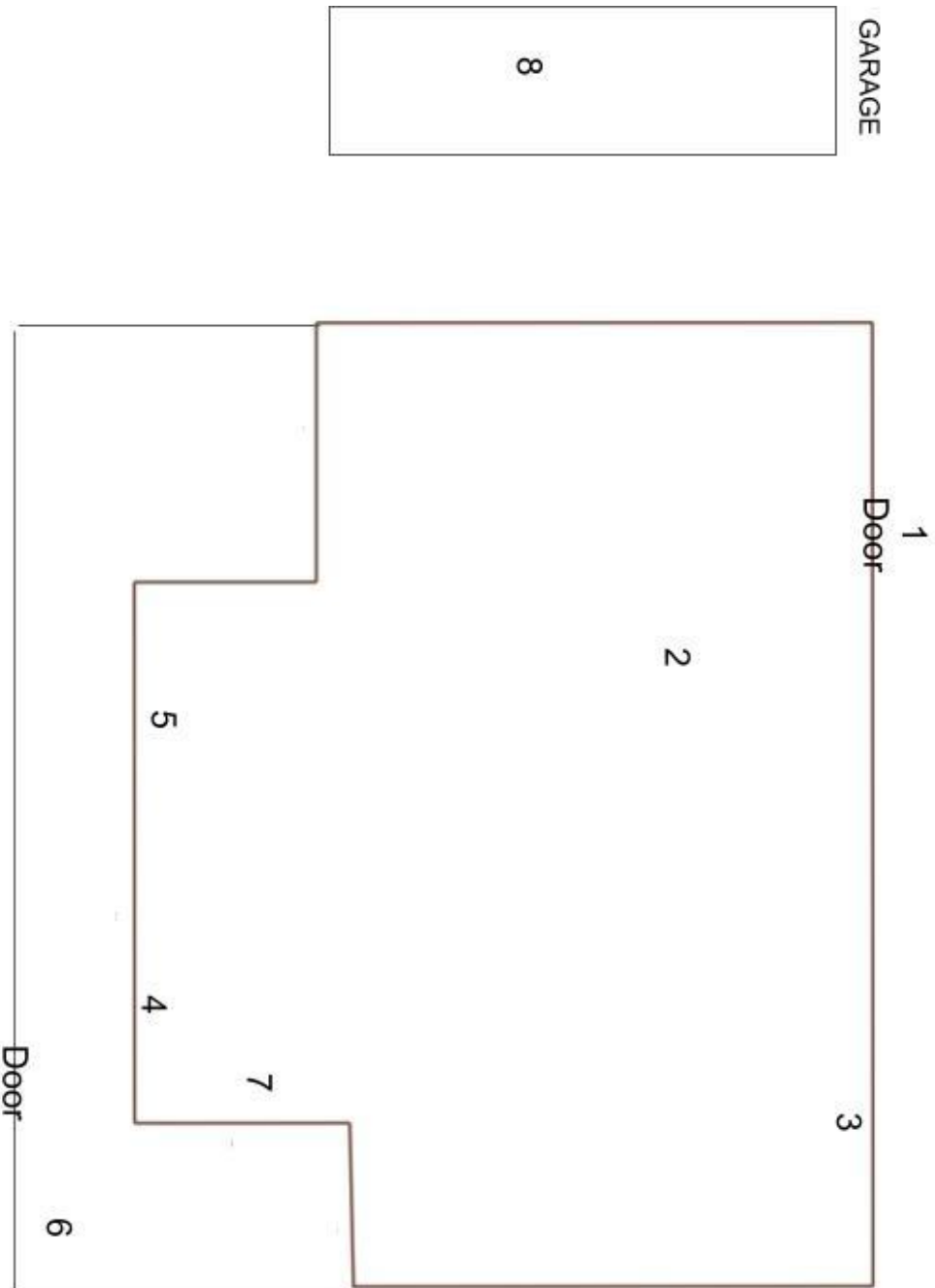
**Dea Trier Mørch** was born in 1941 in Copenhagen in Denmark and died there in 2002. She was an artist, activist and writer who was passionate about socialism and well known for her lithograph prints depicting women's work. For this show two of her prints are on show.  
*Stuehuset*, 1978 - *Forvalteren*, 1978

**Ser Serpas & Rafik Greiss.** Ser is an artist who was born in 1995 and currently resides between New York, Tbilisi and Paris but was born in Los Angeles in the USA. Rafik also lives and works in Paris and is an Irish born Egyptian artist born in 1997. For this exhibition an edition of a photograph of one of Ser's sculptures, made from discarded objects found on the streets of Paris has been taken by Rafik. The work is named *By the Highway 22*, 2023.

**MAN IN HOUSE** is produced with support from:

The Danish Arts Foundation - June 15 Fund - The Augustinus Foundation -  
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*The Parent's Room* by **Diego Marcon** is Produced thanks to the endowment from the Italian Council, 2019. Collection of Fondazione Donnaregina per le arti contemporanee - museo Madre, Napoli



- 1 Nancy Lupo
- 2 Sidsel Meineche Hansen
- 3 Reba Maybury
- 4 Dea Trier Mørch
- 5 Dea Trier Mørch
- 6 Sitara Abuzar Ghaznawi
- 7 Ser Serpas and Rafik Greiss
- 8 Diego Marcon