

VON DER HOEDEN CONTEMPORARY

Freja Sofie Kirk

Shift

February 15th - March 16th, 2025

What is not clean is dirty. It could be desire or socks or an industry.

What is not dirty is boring or, at best, average. It could be desire or socks or an industry.

That particular void between what is normalized and what is fetishized and the flashes where those two alleged opposites may meet. Whenever something is wanted it can be sold, but is that perversion or just living.

Most people are eventually hired. They do a job, a superior is paying them and will to various extents instruct them, control them, occasionally/often suppress them. A workday could look like this: get out of bed early, put on some clean clothes, clock in at a designated location, execute designated tasks (though creative/intellectual/functional freedom may occur), hate it or love it, feel content with the money earned, spend some on the way home, undress (the clothes is now dirtier), have someone look at you or not, sleep or not, make a baby or not. This can be repeated on end until life ceases or until it feels like life ceases. Every time someone pays you, you exist a little more and a little less and so it goes, loops of inferiority and boiling success. Production remains inevitable because succeeding is increasingly addictive and beauty is increasingly important. It's trendy and pointless to mourn this fact, the word for work is work.

<https://www.feetfinder.com/>. This is a website for people who enjoy looking at pictures of other people's feet and people who enjoy/need to sell pictures of their own feet. Footwork foot job foot work. Freja Sofie Kirk did this job, she made this work. It fits under an abundant umbrella of categories, the lust umbrella, and this umbrella is huge. Needless to say, nail lengths and toe shapes and sole positions are large spectrums of preferences. When it comes to fetishization, it could be of body parts or cash flows or power, there is this fine line between specificity and perversion, and probably also between submitting and dominating.

Who is more submissive: the seller or the buyer.

What is more perverse: getting off from a stranger's unwashed socks or doing your polite little payroll duty every day (knowing that his skills will always be slightly more appreciated)

Which is more specifying: to direct or to act or to cast

I see a photograph. The photograph has been taken. By a photographer, by a capable employee, by the hungry eyes of someone who wants to devour it, by a market who is largely unconcerned with the fact that photographs also belong to the faces on them. I get photographed. The photograph has been taken, and usually when something is taken a certain degree of loss is involved. Who shoots who loses.

- Text by Nanna Friis

Freja Sofie Kirk (b. 1990) graduated with an MFA from The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in 2024. She was the subject of solo exhibitions at Simian, Copenhagen (2024) and Inter.pblc, Copenhagen (2024), and has been included in group shows at NEVEN Gallery, London (2025); Kunsthal Charlottenborg, Copenhagen (2024); 5533, Istanbul (2023); Copenhagen Contemporary, Copenhagen (2022); Bianca D'Alessandro, Copenhagen (2022); Kunstforeningen Gl. Strand, Copenhagen (2020); Kunsthal Århus, Århus (2018); Kunstverein Wiesen, Wiesen (2016). Her films have been screened at CPH:DOX, Rencontres Internationales Paris/Berlin, Oberhausen International Short Film Festival, Uppsala International Short Film Festival among others.