

URSULA NISTRUP

- Searching Through the Dark and the Light

5 December 2025 to 8 February 2026, galleries 2 + 3

Opening: Friday, 5 December at 4.30 p.m.

In the beginning of December, as the last exhibition in 2025, Kunsthall Aarhus opens *Searching Through the Dark and the Light* by artist Ursula Nistrup. Through its visual language, soundscape, and scenography the exhibition presents a physical and sensory view of today - a time in which we humans navigate a *twilight zone* between the hopeful light and the disturbing darkness. *Searching Through the Dark and the Light* is thus one large installation in two parts, a dark and a light, consisting of sculptural elements, a musical sound universe, and textual narratives.

- It's important that we find new ways of understanding the challenges that we face with nature and biodiversity. We need to do more than just understand facts and numbers. We need to feel it with our senses, with our bodies, and this exhibition allows us to do just that, says Peter Ole Pedersen, chief curator at Kunsthall Aarhus.

The exhibition is based on a fictional story developed by Ursula Nistrup in collaboration with author Ida Marie Hede. In the story, a species of butterfly has mutated in order to survive in a changing world.

The exhibition includes musical contributions from Lis Sørensen, Signe Høirup Wille-Jørgensen (JOMI), Xenia Xamanek, Luke Sutherland (Rev Magnetic), Anne Sofie Madsen, Laura Bidstrup, Marie Bancks, and Lotte Henriksen.

An LP with the music and the story of the butterflies, written in collaboration with Ida Marie Hede, will be released to accompany the exhibition.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Since the late 1990s, Ursula Nistrup (b. 1974) has worked in an expanded field of contemporary art, integrating conceptual elements with musical installations, architectural constructions, and sculptural forms. Her sculptures are made from natural materials such as silk, salt, metal, and wood.

Thematically, Nistrup's works revolve around nature. On one hand, nature as a deeply fascinating phenomenon – rich in all kinds of processes – and on the other hand as an element that we humans inhabit and explore with our perceptions and senses.

Ursula Nistrup is a graduate of the Glasgow School of Art and the University of California, Los Angeles.

The exhibition is supported by:

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The exhibition is co-curated by Sofie Gottlieb.

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