



Selected Works festival 2022/23

Selected Works festival is back live with audiences after last year's online festival during the lockdown of winter 2021. This is the seventh time that the festival will be presenting the latest trends in the independent field throughout Denmark, and for the first time, performances will take place in both Copenhagen and Aarhus.

The festival will take place from 1–5 November '22 at Toaster in Husets Teater and Den Frie Centre of Contemporary Art, as well as at AFUK Scene in Copenhagen, and from 25–28 January '23 at Bora Bora and Åbne Scene in Aarhus.

15 SEPT 2022

The focus of Selected Works festival is to present innovative works from the independent field in Denmark, and to highlight the artistic potential, societal necessity and national and international strength that exists in this field of the performing arts right now.

The festival is based on an open call, and the submitted works are selected by a rotating curatorial team, this time consisting of performer and actor Marina Popovic (NO), artistic director, curator and performance artist Andreas Constantinou (DK/IE/CY/UK) and playwright and dramaturgist Gritt Uldall-Jessen (DK).

This year, the curatorial team has focused on works that display humour and energy, celebrate diversity, and break taboos by showing them.

Gallstones thus become a narrative driver for Helene Kvint in the performance *The Show Must Go ON!*, stretchmarks become artistic material in the choreographic work *W.O.M.B.* by Julienne Doko, and grief is made manageable by being placed in a cute context by Beck Heiberg and Charlie Trier Laban in the installation performance *Digging A Glittery Grave*. The ubiquitous mirror becomes a concrete player on stage with choreographer Antoinette Helbing in the work *The Mirror Project*, existential questions about the role of the artist in society are addressed in Annika KompArt's choreography-based performance *I am Mephisto*, and the audience are involved as co-creators in the oral narrative *True Story* by Jon Bonnici and Satya Bhabha. Analogue culture such as letter writing is addressed and

the international artist gets a grilling in the light of the climate crisis in the work *TOTAL INTERNATIONAL (LOKAL) #2* by Andreas Liebmann & Boaz Barkan, post-Covid reflections on community are explored in *Boys** in Sync's work *Happy Vineyards*, and rom-coms are exposed to a queer gaze in Cunts Collective's performance *Kærlighed Liebe Amor Love*. In Sew Flunk Fury Wit's mixed media work *Metamorphosen*, the audience will experience a human-sized doll, live opera singing and a more than one-hundred-year-old instrument purchased for the occasion, while in the work *echoes* by Ar Utke Àcs, the audience is given the opportunity to interact with a performative installation in which emotional states are made the subject of a choreographic exploration of how emotions choreograph us — hence the title of the work.

www.detfriefeltsfestival.dk

The majority of the selected works have not previously been presented in the two cities, and they all have a form-challenging and experimental element.

The festival offers the opportunity to experience both new, young talents and older, experienced artists from all over Denmark; all with very different backgrounds, sources of inspiration, disciplines and experimental expressions. As always, this year's works have been chosen to showcase the field's innovative aesthetic, as well as its diversity of genre and form.

EAST AND WEST DENMARK

As the festival was presented online in 2021, this is the first time it will be physically held in both Copenhagen and Aarhus. The festival has entered into a unique collaboration with Toaster in Copenhagen and Åbne Scene and Bora Bora in Aarhus to present performing arts from the independent field. In total, seven works will be performed in Copenhagen, while Aarhus will see five works plus an international guest performance.

This year, the organisers of the festival are delighted to finally be able to implement the plans to expand the festival to west Denmark:

"It is important to contribute to the circulation of experimental performing arts in this country, and to give audiences in the two cities an opportunity to experience works they would not otherwise be able to see, as well as to give artists a longer outreach with their performances. Our vision is to give the performances a longer life, reach new audiences, and inspire the performing arts communities in both cities. There is a need for greater visibility of the independent field, and the festival format has proven to be useful for that purpose, as the works are presented in a concentrated form and within a framework. The need to secure access to stage capacity for the independent field has not diminished since we began more than ten years ago, as an extension of our cultural policy commitment to the conditions of the field. That's why we're putting on the festival for the seventh time," say Gritt Uldall-Jessen and Erik Pold, who are the artistic directors of the festival and have been involved in all the previous festivals.

Selected Works festival is supported by the Danish Arts Foundation's Project Support Committee for Performing Arts,

the City of Copenhagen Performing Arts Committee, Aarhus Municipality, the Augustinus Foundation, the William Demant Foundation, the S.C. Van Foundation, and others.

"We are delighted with our collaboration with our partner Toaster in Copenhagen, and in Aarhus it is Åbne Scene and Bora Bora who are enabling audiences in both Copenhagen and Aarhus to experience new works from the independent field," say Gritt Uldall-Jessen and Erik Pold.

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

In line with the festival's ambitions to raise awareness of the independent field and its strong potential, developmental power and social value, the festival also aims to promote relations, collaborations and knowledge-sharing across national borders. The festival is therefore inviting participation in a professional seminar on the similarities and contrasts in the Nordic independent field, at which three speakers from the Nordic performing arts industry will participate in a panel discussion. The seminar is made in collaboration with and supported by The Development Platform of The Performing Arts. There will also be artist talks in both Copenhagen and Aarhus, allowing artists, curators, producers and other players from the performing arts to meet and communicate with the invited international guests. The idea is to provide an opportunity for knowledge-sharing and interaction on the performing arts with a view to possible co-productions, and to create favourable conditions for the growth of the independent field. It remains highly necessary to showcase and create a stage and opportunities for the independent field, both in Denmark and internationally.

More information and the Selected Works festival programme here: www.detfriefeltsfestival.dk

WHEN?

1-5 November 2022 in Copenhagen and 25-28 January 2023 in Aarhus.

WHERE?

Huset Teater, Den Frie Centre of Contemporary Art and AFUK Scene in Copenhagen, and Bora Bora and Åbne Scene in Aarhus.

PROGRAMME

detfriefeltsfestival.dk

TICKETS

teaterbilletter.dk

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

Cunts Collective, Sew Funk Flury Wit, Boys* in Sync, Andreas Liebmann & Boaz Barkan, Annika KompArt, Helene Kvint, Beck Heiberg & Charlie Laban Trier, Antoinette Helbing, Ar Utke Ács, Jonathan Bonnici & Satya Bhabha, Julienne Doko and Doris Uhlich.

CURATORS

Andreas Constantinou (DK/IE/CY/UK), Marina Popovic (NO) and Gritt Uldall-Jessen (DK).

FESTIVAL MANAGEMENT

Artistic directors: Gritt Uldall-Jessen and Erik Pold
Producer: Ann-Jette Caron
Technical manager: Nils Engelbrecht Sørensen

FESTIVAL CREW

Project staff members Nanna Hafgarn Jensen, Nadja Mattioli, Signe Moore and Christian Adelhorst Rossil

THE FESTIVAL IS SUPPORTED BY

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Press contact and further info about the festival:
My Van Dijk — my@husetsteater.dk — +45 3141 6692