## KUNSTHAL CHARLOTTENBORG

Press Release

Copenhagen, May 17 2017

## Controversial exhibition focusing on whistleblowers and the digital resistance

Who owns the right to define whether whistleblowers are heroes or enemies of society? This question is posed by the controversial exhibition Whistleblowers & Vigilantes showcasing several main protagonists, positions and strategies of digital resistance past and present. The exhibition will be on view at Kunsthal Charlottenborg throughout summer.

Exhibition period: 18 June – 13 August, 2017 Opening: Saturday 17 June 3–6pm Press Viewing: Thursday 15 June 11–12pm



Through artworks, TV-clips, surveillance footage, documentaries and historical documents, the exhibition *Whistleblowers & Vigilantes – Figures of the digital resistance* presents the most important protagonists and various forms of resistance, together with activist strategies and considerations of the legal implications that surround these.

In this way the exhibition provides a range of perspectives on the intense debate around whistleblowers and digital activism which has prevailed in recent years, specifically in connection with <u>Edward Snowden</u>, <u>Julian</u> <u>Assange</u> and <u>Chelsea Manning's</u> disclosure of confidential material. These three whistleblowers are represented in the exhibition alongside <u>Anonymous</u>, DIS, Ted Kaczynski (UNA-bomber), Etoy, <u>Omer Fast</u>, Peng! Collective, <u>Metahaven</u> and others.

The exhibition also examines what links whistleblowers, hackers, activists, artists and other exponents of the radical type of online activism, known as 'internet vigilantism' or simply 'digilantism', which has flourished since 1996. At the same time, historical allusions are made to the resistance against state surveillance, as well as technological and economically motivated surveillance throughout the past 45 years.

The exhibition is curated by Inke Arns and Jens Kasich and organised in collaboration with Hartware MedienKunstVerein, Dortmund. Supported by The Danish Arts Foundation, The Obel Famli Foundation and Goethe-Institut Dänemark.

## Facts about the exhibition

*Whistleblowers & Vigilantes – Figures of the digital resistance* Group exhibition featuring Anonymous, Julian Assange, DIS, Omer Fast, Chelsea Manning, Metahaven and Edward Snowden among others. 18 June – 13 August.
Opening: Saturday 17 June 3–6pm
Press Viewing: Thursday 15 June 11–12pm (The curators as well as several of the artists will be present)
Kunsthal Charlottenborg, Kgs. Nytorv 2, 1050 København K
Admission: 75 DKK (Free admission during the opening)
Read more about the exhibition here: <u>http://kunsthalcharlottenborg.dk/whistleblowers-vigilantes/</u>

Social media hash tag: #whistleblowersexhibition

## **Press Material**

Press material, including high-resolution images, can be found on the Kunsthal's website below the description of the exhibition: <u>http://kunsthalcharlottenborg.dk/whistleblowers-vigilantes/</u>

Photo credit, images on press release from left to right: Omar Fast, "5,000 Feet is the Best", 2011. Film still. Images courtesy of the artist, GB Agency, Paris & Arratia Beer, Berlin; Metahaven, "Black Transparency", 2014.

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