

# KUNSTHAL CHARLOTTENBORG



Michael Stevenson  
*Signs & Wonders*

William Forsythe  
*In the Company of Others*

21 Nov 2015 - 21 Feb 2016

Press release

Press opening: Fri 20 Nov, 11 am–noon

The press opening will be followed by a light lunch in the company of the exhibitions' artists and curators.

Exhibition opening: Fri 20 Nov, 7-10 pm

## World class contemporary art

Kunsthal Charlottenborg's winter season kicks off by presenting international contemporary art by highly acclaimed artists: A solo exhibition by the New Zealand artist, Michael Stevenson, and a group exhibition curated around the practice of and including American choreographer and visual artist, William Forsythe.

Michael Thouber, Director of Kunsthal Charlottenborg: *"It is with great pleasure that we present Michael Stevenson and William Forsythe – two international super stars! I regard it as a fundamental part of Kunsthal Charlottenborg's job to introduce a Danish audience to new artists, new works and themes. These two exhibitions, which both have been produced especially for Kunsthal Charlottenborg, do just that."*

## Michael Stevenson *Signs & Wonders*

Kunsthal Charlottenborg is the first Scandinavian art institution to present a solo exhibition by the New Zealand artist Michael Stevenson (b. 1964). *Signs & Wonders* is new comprehensive installation created especially for the kunsthalle's spectacular galleries.

Six home-built flight simulators placed in a circle take exhibition visitors on a network of silent, imaginary plane rides using a physically constructed cockpit and a virtually constructed terrain in the form of computer software. The flights take us to remote areas in the highlands of Papua New Guinea, where small planes play a vital role in navigating the difficult terrain. Thus, the aeroplane holds particular significance for the local population as well as Christian missionaries in the region.

Connecting subjects such as religion, aviation, education, anthropology and globalisation, the exhibition continues on from Michael Stevenson's previous projects whose characteristic sculptural installations interlace anecdotes, history writing and current affairs.

*Signs & Wonders* is curated by Henriette Bretton-Meyer and is produced in collaboration with Midway Contemporary Art in Minneapolis, where the exhibition will be presented in 2016.

### Related event

Michael Stevenson in conversation with Jan Verwoert. 19 Nov, 5-6.30 pm at Kunsthal Charlottenborg: Experience Michael Stevenson in conversation with the German art critic, Jan Verwoert, contributing editor at frieze magazine, talking about his artistic practice and his new, comprehensive installation.

## William Forsythe *In the Company of Others*

William Forsythe is nothing less than a super star in the world of dance and is considered to be one of the greatest living choreographers. Over the last ten years, William Forsythe has also made his mark as a visual artist with his choreographic objects, installations and video works.

### Senses and movement

Walk through a multitude of hanging pendulums, try to hold a duster of nervous ostrich feathers without moving a single fibre, and experience a selection of other works by William Forsythe – objects and videos. In addition, you will meet a go-go dancer on a poetic, light blue podium in a work by Sturtevant and experience one of Bruce Nauman's iconic performance videos in contrast to a New York vogue dance in a video work by Rashaad Newsome.

This thematically curated exhibition William Forsythe – *In the Company of Others*, brings installations and video works by the world famous choreographer and visual artist into play with seven international

contemporary visual artists: Manon De Boer (NL), Gerard Byrne (IRL), Maria Meinild (SE/DK), Bruce Nauman (US), Rashaad Newsome (US), Magnus Pettersen (NO) and Sturtevant (US). The works in the exhibition touch upon aspects of the relationship between body, space, objects and community

### *In the Company of Others*

The show's curator, Mathias Kryger has thus assembled a temporary company of artists in this exhibition and highlights a community that exists across time, genres and artistic methods. Creating a conversation between the works dealing with the body's relationship to physical and mental space and not least the body's relationship to objects – and in particular, the art object.

### **Related event**

William Forsythe in conversation with Daniel Birnbaum. 20 Nov, 5-7pm at Kunsthal Charlottenborg: Hear about William Forsythe's artistic practice and his life as a dancer, choreographer and artist when he talks to the director of Moderna Museet in Stockholm, Daniel Birnbaum.

The exhibition is curated by Mathias Kryger and is part of a three-year collaboration between Kunsthal Charlottenborg and The Danish National School of Performing Arts' continuing education programme.

### **Thank you**

The exhibitions have been realised with support from the Danish Arts Foundation.

### **Press contact**

For further information about the exhibitions, please contact the curators: Henriette Bretton-Meyer: +45 33 74 46 80 / [hbm@kunsthalcharlottenborg.dk](mailto:hbm@kunsthalcharlottenborg.dk) (concerning Michael Stevenson) or Mathias Kryger +45 22 80 32 53 / [mathiaskryger@gmail.com](mailto:mathiaskryger@gmail.com) (concerning William Forsythe).

For press lunch registration, press photos, artist interviews etc., please contact Helen Nishijo Andersen, Kunsthal Charlottenborg: +45 33 74 46 34 / [hna@kunsthalcharlottenborg.dk](mailto:hna@kunsthalcharlottenborg.dk)

### **Opening hours and prices**

Tuesday - Sunday, 11 am-5 pm. Wednesday, 11 am – 8 pm  
Adults 60 DKK. / Students 40 DKK. / Seniors 40 DKK. / Children under 16 are free of charge /  
Groups 40 DKK. / Season ticket 150 DKK.  
(Free admission: Wednesday, 5-8pm)

### **Address**

Kunsthal Charlottenborg, Kongens Nytorv 1, 1050 Copenhagen K