

Charlottenborg

PRESS RELEASE

11 September 2013

Carl Fredrik Hill: *Hill Hill Hill Hill Hill*
Karl Holmqvist: *Give Posters a Try*
Sora Kim: *Three Foot Walking*
Silke Otto-Knapp: *Geography and Plays*

Exhibition period: 20 September – 17 November 2013
Press preview: 18 September at 11.00 am (lunch at 12.00)
Opening reception: 19 September, 7.00-10.00 pm

Autumn at Kunsthall Charlottenborg offers four solo exhibitions by internationally renowned artists: Silke Otto-Knapp (b. 1970), Sora Kim (b. 1965) and Karl Holmqvist (b. 1964) and the deceased Swedish painter Carl Fredrik Hill (1849-1911): four artists whose artistic production is mutually interrelated – both through their choices of materials and design, and thematically. The North Wing will be devoted to Hill, while the works by the living artists will be presented in the South Wing.

Director Jacob Fabricius says: "*In very general terms, you could say that both Hill and Otto-Knapp are interested in how the body, mankind and culture affect the landscape, which they explore through landscape painting, drawings and graphics. Holmqvist and Kim, on the other hand, use words, language and performance to create their works, which often results in some form of anti-materiality. Thus, despite the diversity of expression and materials, the body is central for all four artists.*"

Carl Fredrik Hill (SE 1849-1911): Although Carl Fredrik Hill is one of Sweden's most renowned painters, this is the first time since 1973 that a large exhibition has been devoted to Hill in Denmark. Nature is a recurrent theme for Hill: tranquil, beautiful landscapes with perfected details and harmonious colours. At the age of 28 he suffered a psychosis that changed his practice significantly. In subsequent periods Hill was marked by a schizophrenic mind, and this finds an almost direct reflection in his choice of subject, which begins to involve abstractions and crowds, with a special focus on existential turbulence and the duel between calm and chaos.

In the exhibition *Hill Hill Hill Hill Hill*, which consists of 97 drawings and a single painting, one room is dedicated to drawings of chaotic human bodies, one to nature drawings, and the last to the painting *Det ensamma trädet* (The Lonely Tree) from 1878. The exhibition has been created in close collaboration with Malmö Art Museum, which holds the largest and most unique collection of works by Carl Fredrik Hill, and from where the works have been selected and loaned.

Karl Holmqvist (SE b. 1964): Karl Holmqvist works with words. Via words in books, in performances, on posters and in sounds, he examines the meaning formation, origins and usage of words. He has been doing this for almost twenty years under the slogan, mantra and challenge *Give Poetry a Try*, which on the occasion of this exhibition has become *Give Posters a Try*.

A gigantic hanging of 71 different black and white posters forms the focal point of the Holmqvist exhibition, which is situated in the large central hall of the South Wing. The posters have been pasted onto the walls from floor to ceiling, like a flickering black and white wallpaper in words and images. The exhibition also includes three video works: *I'M WITH YOU IN ROCKLAND* (2005), *I'LL MAKE THE WORLD EXPLODE* (2008) and *A IS FOR A-R-A-K-A-W-A* (2012). Furthermore Karl Holmqvist has placed a rickshaw at the disposal of the exhibition guests, in which they can be taken around during the exhibition and have a rest while they watch Karl Holmqvist's works glide by.

Karl Holmqvist has previously shown his work at the 54th Venice Biennial, Moderna Museet in Stockholm, Museum of Modern Art in New York and the ICA in London.

Sora Kim (KR b. 1965): Sora Kim's practice is diverse, with a conceptual approach to video, installation and performance. She examines the cultural and natural encodings of human (bodily) expression and behaviour, and through her works, she encourages reflection on the way people act and interact in given surroundings. The expression is minimalist, with subtle shifts in the familiar, and spatial experiences that build upon resonance and timbre – the invisibly sensuous.

The exhibition *Three Foot Walking* includes three new, site-specific commissions specially produced by Sora Kim for Charlottenborg. Sora Kim has previously exhibited at the Istanbul Biennale, the Venice Biennale, the Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead, etc.

Silke Otto-Knapp (DE b. 1970): Silke Otto-Knapp's paintings are characterised by graphic lines and opaque surfaces with staged representations of figures and landscapes. The exhibition *Geography and Plays* displays a selection of these works, which could be regarded as entering into a dialogue with *Hill Hill Hill Hill Hill*.

Silke Otto-Knapp works with watercolours on canvas, in an almost monochromatic spectrum: a choice of materials that allows the building up of the complex, semi-transparent, layered surfaces that characterise her landscapes. Based on documentation of performances by for instance the Ballet Russes in the 1920s, the Judson Dance Theatre in the 1960s or contemporary choreographers, Silke Otto-Knapp has also painted formations and tableaux formed by the bodies of the choreographed dancers. The monumentality and formalised ritual of the choreography is translated into almost abstract elements that create a contrast to the otherwise fragile expression.

Silke Otto-Knapp has previously exhibited at Tate Britain, London, Kunstverein München, the ICA Boston, etc.

Catalogue

For the exhibition, four catalogues are being published with new texts and reproductions of several of the works in the exhibitions. The catalogues may be purchased at Motto Charlottenborg.

The exhibitions are supported by the Danish Arts Council.

Invitation to press preview

Charlottenborg invites you to attend a press viewing at 11.00 on Wednesday 18 September, at which the four exhibitions will be presented. Present at the press viewing will be Jacob Fabricius, Director of Charlottenborg, the artists Karl Holmqvist, Silke Otto-Knapp and Sora Kim, and Director Cecilia Widenheim, Malmö Art Museum'. The press viewing will conclude with lunch in Café Charlottenborg.

To facilitate the practical implementation of the event, please register your attendance with Mia Flindt: mf@kunsthallcharlottenborg.dk by 16 September.

Press

For press inquiries, please contact Helle Bøgelund: +45 3374 4633 / helleh@kunsthallcharlottenborg.dk or Jacob Fabricius: +45 3374 4630 / jf@kunsthallcharlottenborg.dk

Press photos may be downloaded from the website www.kunsthallcharlottenborg.dk from 11.00 am on 18 September.

Opening hours and admission

Tuesday-Sunday 11 - 17, Wednesday 11 - 20 pm (free admission 17 - 20)

Adults DKK 60 / Students DKK 40/ Seniors DKK 40 / Groups DKK 40

Address

Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Nyhavn 2, 1051 Copenhagen K, Denmark / www.kunsthallcharlottenborg.dk