

KUNSTHAL CHARLOTTENBORG

Press release

Copenhagen, 21 August 2018

Giant artworks from BIG-Bjarke Ingels Group's architecture set to wow visitors at Kunsthal Charlottenborg

Kunsthal Charlottenborg kicks off the fall season with their most comprehensive exhibition of large-scale contemporary art to date: 'Big Art'. Art works by some of the most acclaimed artists in the world including Ai Weiwei, Douglas Coupland, Jeppe Hein, Julie Edel Hardenberg, SUPERFLEX and Victor Ash, are exhibited at 1:1 scale – the original size of the art envisioned for BIG's buildings and urban projects globally. One of the highlights features the original house from Lars Von Trier's serial killer thriller 'The House That Jack Built' which premiered at Cannes Film Festival in May. Designed by BIG, the house is shaped by the building material and not for the fainthearted! The exhibition is curated by Michael Thouber in collaboration with BIG-Bjarke Ingels Group.

Exhibition period: 21 September 2018 – 13 January 2019

Press view: 20 September 3pm – 4.30pm

Talk with Bjarke Ingels: 20 September 5pm – 6pm

Official opening: 20 September 6pm – 12am



Big Art explores the field where art and architecture intersect, placing particular emphasis on the special challenges and demands artists face when working on a vast scale in architectural and urban spaces.

The exhibition title, *Big Art*, has a dual meaning: every artist featured has been chosen on the basis of their collaboration with BIG and at the same time the exhibition presents art on a large scale, showing each individual piece at the original size envisioned for its intended urban setting.

Art as creative dialogue

The exhibition transforms the 1,000 m² south wing of Kunsthal Charlottenborg into an architectural landscape that welcomes visitors to explore BIG's creative collaborations with a total of nineteen contemporary artists: A Kassen, Victor Ash, Douglas Coupland, Es Devlin, Shepard Fairey, Peter Funch, Julie Edel Hardenberg, Jeppe Hein, HuskMitNavn, John Kørner, Benoit Maire, Tomás Saraceno, Kaspar Astrup Schröder, Snarkitecture, SUPERFLEX, Martin de Thurah, Lars von Trier, Andrew Zuckerman, Ai Weiwei.

Michael Thouber, Director of Kunsthal Charlottenborg, about the exhibition:

'At Kunsthal Charlottenborg we work extensively with projects that are intended to reach beyond our own particular site, but I also find it interesting to choose projects that end up outside the scope of museums, reclaiming and returning them to the investigative gaze of the institution in order to examine their effect – and what makes them tick. Kunsthal Charlottenborg's decision to collaborate with Bjarke Ingels and BIG

on this exhibition is particularly exciting because they don't just use art as decoration. Rather, they enter into creative dialogues with the artists, inviting them at an early stage of the process and making them co-creators. What is interesting is how BIG and the artists are able to surprise us, shake up our expectations and make us question things by positing an aesthetic experience or message in the places where people pass by every day. This way, they affect their audiences through small movements in everyday life.'

At *Big Art*, visitors can look forward to exploring works such as *Superkilen* from the Nørrebro neighbourhood in Copenhagen; *Social Bench*, which was featured in the Danish EXPO pavilion in Shanghai; and *Northern Lights*, which is integrated into the façade of the skyscraper Telus Sky Tower in Calgary (Canada), due for completion in 2019.

'Our creative collaborations with artists from all over the world have been some of the most meaningful moments in our architectural adventures and we are very pleased to see them celebrated in this exhibition, where everyone can experience the artists' installations at the scale they were intended to be in', says Bjarke Ingels.

Bjarke Ingels Group

Bjarke Ingels Group (BIG) is a Danish architectural firm founded by Bjarke Ingels in 2005, comprising a large team of architects, designers, urbanists, landscape architects, interior designers, product designers, researchers and inventors. With offices in Copenhagen, New York and London, the group is currently involved in a large number of projects throughout Europe, Northern America, Asia and the Middle East.

BIG combines a range of disciplines to create buildings and urban spaces that surprise and create new experiences. BIG integrates multicultural exchanges, global economic flows and communication technologies in their orchestration of architecture and urban development, working with what they term 'pragmatic utopian' architecture which seeks to merge aspects such as everyday life, leisure, work, parking and shopping with elements such as art, philosophy and contemporary movements.

The exhibition is supported by the A. P. Møller Foundation, Augustinus Foundation, Danish Arts Foundation, Knud Højgaards Foundation, Obel Family Foundation, Oticon Foundation. Sponsored by Arkitekturministeriet, HAY, Marazzi, MOON, Lukas Dong Films.

Facts about the exhibition

Big Art

21 September 2018 – 13 January 2019

Talk with Bjarke Ingels and some of the featured artists 20 September 5pm-6pm (free admission)

Official opening 20 September 6pm-12am

Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Kgs. Nytorv 1, 1050 Copenhagen K

Admission: DKK 90 (admission to the official opening is free)

[More about the exhibition](#)

Photo credit

SUPERFLEX, BIG-Bjarke Ingels Group, Topotek 1, *Superkilen*, 2012. Copenhagen. Photo: Iwan Baan. (l.) Douglas Coupland, BIG-Bjarke Ingels Group, *Northern Lights*. TELUS Sky Tower, Calgary, Canada. (c.) Jeppe Hein, BIG-Bjarke Ingels Group, 'Social Bench', Danish Expo Pavilion, 2010. Shanghai, China. (r.)

Press materials

Press materials, including high-resolution images, are available for download from Kunsthall Charlottenborg's website: <https://kunsthallcharlottenborg.dk/en/exhibitions/big-art/>

Hashtags for the exhibition: #bigart #bjarkeingelsgroup #kunsthallcharlottenborg

For additional information and materials, please contact

Jeannie Møller Haltrup

Head of Communications, Kunsthall Charlottenborg

jmh@kunsthallcharlottenborg.dk / (+45) 3374 4629

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