

KUNSTHAL CHARLOTTENBORG

Press release

Copenhagen, 10 October 2019

International acclaimed artist takes a satirical look at power, desire and global politics in new exhibition at Kunsthal Charlottenborg

In his first-ever solo show in Denmark, the artist, writer, director and professor Roe Rosen presents his *Vladimir's Night* series and the film *The Dust Channel*, which was previously shown at *documenta 14*. The works will be on display at Kunsthal Charlottenborg from 31 October.

Exhibition period: 31 October 2019 - 16 February 2020

Official opening: Wednesday 30 October 17.00-20.00

Charlottenborg Art Talk: Wednesday 30 October 17.00-18.00



Roe Rosen (b. 1963 in Rehovot) is a voice of social critique in his native Israel. He has created an artistic universe that undermines normative ideas through fiction and satire while merging Israeli and global politics with myths and historical references. Using a variety of fictional characters and iconographic motifs, Rosen draws on - and transforms - a range of materials ranging from the historical avant-garde to popular media, political propaganda and classic fairy tales for children. To emphasise his focus on artistic expression during exile and oppression, he often works under pseudonyms. This is also the case at Kunsthal Charlottenborg: all works are presented as having been created by the Russian author and artist Maxim Komar-Myshkin, who, having escaped from Russia to Israel, struggled with his own paranoia and with the restrictions imposed by his surroundings. This battle between inner and outer powers is also reflected in the exhibition *The Mosquito-Mouse and Other Hybrids* at Kunsthal Charlottenborg.

The exhibition presents the series *Vladimir's Night* (2011-14), an album of thirty-nine gouaches and verses that takes an incisively satirical look at fetishism and power while drawing inspiration from the so-called unofficial Moscow artists of the 1960s and 1970s, including Kabakov and Pivovarov. *Vladimir's Night* is a hybrid of a children's book, a tale of gory martyrdom and a twisted political treatise in which the main protagonist, Vladimir, is both a young child and a political leader. He is surrounded by animated objects and absurd scenarios. It all starts out as a cheerful visual fable, but slowly slips into a violent and grotesque narrative about power and torture. *Vladimir's Night* was written by Maxim Komar-Myshkin, who, upon fleeing to Tel Aviv in the early 2000s, founded the artists' collective *Buried Alive Group*, whose videos and manifesto are also included in the exhibition.

The exhibition also features the film *The Dust Channel* (2016), which attracted a great deal of attention at *documenta 14*. Constituting the final chapter in a series based on Komar-Myshkin's life as an artist, the film is an operetta about all the different kinds of cleansing and purification that take place in a bourgeois Israeli family whose fear of dirt, dust and any foreign matter results in an almost perverted devotion to household appliances. The work plays on the connection between dust and sand

by incorporating the Israeli desert, where political refugees are detained and the fear of foreigner's flourishes. The prison is called Holot, the Hebrew word for sand. An absurd and politically incisive fiction, *The Dust Channel* creates a polemic space for addressing current societal issues.

Roe Rosen is a professor at the HaMidrasha College of Art, Kfar-Saba as well as at the Bezalel Art Academy of Arts and Design, Jerusalem. In his practice, Roe Rosen addresses subjects such as power, forms of desire and structural violence. The exhibition is accompanied by a small publication featuring texts by Paul B. Preciado. The publication will be launched this autumn.

The exhibition is curated by Anne Mikél Jensen and supported by the Danish Arts Foundation, Grosserer L. F. Foght's Foundation, Knud Højgaard's Foundation and the Obel Family Foundation.

About the exhibition

Roe Rosen: *The Mosquito-Mouse and Other Hybrids*

31 October 2019 - 16 February 2020

Charlottenborg Art Talk: Wednesday 30 October 17.00-18.00

Official opening: Wednesday 30 October 17.00-20.00

Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Kongens Nytorv 1, 1050 København K

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

[Further info about the exhibition](#)

Hashtags for social media: #roeerosen #themosquitomouseandotherhybrids #kunsthallcharlottenborg

Press materials

Press materials, including high-resolution images, are available on the Kunsthall Charlottenborg website:

kunsthallcharlottenborg.dk/en/exhibitions/roe-rosen/

PLEASE NOTE: Roe Rosen will be in Copenhagen from 30 October to 2 November and will be available for interviews during that period. The official opening will include a Q/A session with the artist moderated by Mathias Kryger.

Photo credits

Roe Rosen, *Vladimir's Night*, 2012. No. 17, gouache on paper, 63 x 45 cm. Courtesy Roe Rosen og Galleria Riccardo Crespi.

Roe Rosen, *The Dust Channel*, 2016. Still from digital video, colour, sound, 23 min. Courtesy Roe Rosen.

Roe Rosen, *Vladimir's Night*, 2012. No. 14, gouache on paper, 63 x 45 cm. Courtesy Roe Rosen og Galleria Riccardo Crespi.

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