

PRESSE RELEASE

“HYBRID MATTERS”

May 20 – July 31 2016

With human fat as fuel for cars of the future, cloned Christmas trees and virtual organisms, the exhibition HYBRID MATTERS investigates current hybrids of biology, technology and art.

The exhibition HYBRID MATTERS looks at today's brave new world in which genetically modified plants and animals, artificial organisms and new hybrids between digital technology and human biology are increasingly altering the balance between natural and man-made. HYBRID MATTERS investigates and experiments with new and more beneficial forms of co-existence in a time characterised by climate changes and Anthropocene conditions. The participating artists take a both critical and inventive stance towards a new hybrid ecology.

The artist Hege Tapio, for instance, transforms her own belly fat into bio-petrol in the work *HUMANFUEL*. Here, the human body is invested in the search for alternatives to fossil fuels. Artists Kristina Lindström and Åsa Ståhl take a closer look at *inter-species collaboration* as they employ mealworms in the transformation of plastic waste into compost. In her work *The Condition*, Laura Beloff exposes genetically identical Christmas trees to different gravitational conditions, testing the resilience of this life form under simulated extraterrestrial conditions. Hanna Husberg focuses on changes to our environment through pollution travelling imperceptibly through water and air, while Rosemary Lee and Jens Lee Jørgensen zoom in on our very techniques for measuring the environment. Finally, Lawrence Malstaf plays with the translation of physical matter into digital form while Carl Emil Carlsen unleashes a virtual organism in the exhibition space, alluding to technology as an intelligent life form that we as developers and users are helping to live, spread and develop through use and updates.

Overall, HYBRID MATTERS presents a multitude of perspectives, and perhaps even a few solutions to, current and future challenges of the Anthropocene.

The exhibition will tour the Nordic countries during 2016, and the Copenhagen opening will take place on May 19, 2016 from 5-8pm.

Participating artists (a.o.): Laura Beloff/Jonas Jørgensen (FI/DK), Hanna Husberg (FI/SE), Rosemary Lee/Jens Lee Jørgensen (US/DK), Kristina Lindström/Åsa Ståhl (SE), Lawrence Malstaf (BE/NO), Hege Tapi (NO) and Carl Emil Carlsen (DK).

HYBRID MATTERS is a Nordic art and research collaboration, created with the participation of Bioartsociety (FI), The IT University of Copenhagen, Malmö University (SE), Kunsthall Grenland (NO), Forum Box (FI) and Nikolaj Kunsthall.

<http://hybridmatters.net>

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