

FOKUS 2017

Tekst

**Video Kunst
Festival**

9.2.—9.3

fokusfestival.dk

FOKUS videokunsthifestival arrangeres af Nikolaj Kunsthall og har fundet sted hvert år siden 2011.

FOKUS foregår i 2017 på festivalens nye onlineplatform og på udvalgte steder i København, da Nikolaj Kunsthall istandsættes frem til 3. marts 2017.

FOKUS was established by Nikolaj Kunsthall in 2011 as an annual festival of video art.

In 2017 FOKUS takes place on the festival's new online platform and selected venues in Copenhagen, while Nikolaj Kunsthall is undergoing renovation until March 3 2017.

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Intro

Velkommen til den 7. udgave af FOKUS videokunsthifestival. Igen i år byder vi på en måned i videokunstens tegn fra den 9. februar til den 9. marts 2017.

Med FOKUS ønsker Nikolaj Kunsthal at synliggøre video som et af samtidskunstens mest betydningsfulde og levende udtryk.

FOKUS er i år flyttet ud af den vanlige udstillingsramme, så du kan opleve festivalen dér, hvor du er, og når du har tid og lyst. Hjemme i sofaen, i toget, på cafeen. Alle filmene kan ses via vores FOKUS-app eller online på fokusfestival.dk i hele festivalperioden. Du kan også finde FOKUS på udvalgte steder rundt omkring i byen.

Over 150 videoværker af kunstnere fra 22 forskellige lande er blevet sendt ind til FOKUS 2017. Årets festivaljury har udvalgt de 10 bedste videoproduktioner, som præsenteres her i programmet, og som udgør årets festival.

I løbet af festivalen uddeler juryen tre priser til de endelige vindere af FOKUS 2017 blandt de 10 nominerede kunstnere. Læs mere om prisuddelingen på fokusfestival.dk.

Rigtig god fornøjelse med FOKUS 2017!

Intro

Welcome to the 7th edition of FOKUS video art festival. Again this year, we present a month dedicated to video art running from February 9 to March 9 2017.

With FOKUS, Nikolaj Kunsthal aims to make video art visible as one of the most significant and vibrant expressions of contemporary art.

This year, FOKUS moves beyond the exhibition format so you can experience the festival wherever you are and whenever you feel like it. At home, on your couch, on the train, on a café. All films are available via the FOKUS app or online at fokusfestival.dk during the entire festival period. You will also find FOKUS at selected places in the city.

More than 150 video works by artists from 22 different countries were submitted for FOKUS 2017. This year's festival jury has selected the 10 best video productions, presented here in this programme, which constitute this 2017 edition of FOKUS.

During the festival, the jury will award three prizes to the final winners of FOKUS 2017 among the 10 nominated artists. Read more on fokusfestival.dk.

Enjoy your FOKUS 2017!

Find FOKUS 2017 App

Download FOKUS-appen og se videokunst on the go. Kig efter -ikonet her i programmet, scan billedet med appen og tryk på play-ikonet på din skærm for afspille videoen direkte på din telefon.

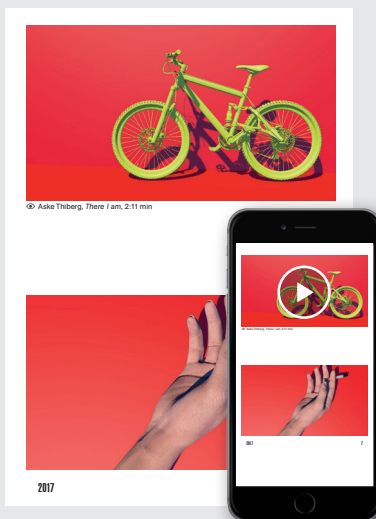
Du kan også se videoerne via FOKUS-plakaterne, der er opsat i København – scan billederne på plakaterne med FOKUS-appen og videoen starter.

Se en demonstration af appen på fokusfestival.dk.

Download the FOKUS app and watch video art on the go. Look for the -icon in this programme, scan the image with the app and press play on your screen to stream the video directly on your phone.

You can also access the videos with the app using the FOKUS posters hanging in and around Copenhagen.

Watch a demonstration of the app on fokusfestival.dk.



Find FOKUS 2017 Locations

Du kan møde FOKUS 2017 på nettet, på din mobil og på udvalgte steder i og uden for København.

Mød de 10 nominerede videoværker på hver deres udvalgte lokation i København:

GRAND Teatret

Søren Thilo Funder, *DOWN WITH DOMESTIC TRASH (Rubber Plant)*
Mikkel Bryggers Gade 8
1460 København K

Gloria Biograf & Café

Omar Imam, *9½*
Rådhuspladsen 59
1550 København V

Vester Vov Vov

Paul Simon Richards, *L*a*b*
Absalonsgade 5
1658 København V

Københavns Hovedbibliotek

Johanna Lecklin, *Maybe you can even sense our lifestyles are probably comparable: I simply am not there*
Krystalgade 15
1172 København K

Brønshøj Bibliotek

Aske Thiberg, *There I am*
Krabbesholmvej 3
2700 Brønshøj

Østerbro Bibliotek

Eli Maria Lundgaard, *Hundred Explanations For a Single Thing*
Dag Hammarskjölds Allé 19
2100 København Ø

You can find FOKUS 2017 online, on your phone and at selected venues in and around Copenhagen.

The 10 nominated videos are installed on a screen at these selected locations in Copenhagen:

Paludan Bogcafe

Sabina Jacobsson, *The Collectors*
Fiolstræde 12
1117 København K

Illum Rooftop

Jeppe Lange, *Pigeons*
Østergade 52
1100 København

Roland Bar

Dan Robert Lahiani, *Slaps*
Københavns Universitet
Karen Blixens Vej 1, 21.0.15
2300 København S

Props Coffee Shop

Niu Han & Shen Wei, *Hotel*
Blågårdsgade 5
2200 København N

— **Eller se alle 10 videoværker
samme sted her:**
— **Or watch all 10 nominated
videos in these two locations:**

Thorvaldsens Museum

Bertel Thorvaldsens Plads 2
1213 København K

Nivaagaards Malerisamling

Gammel Strandvej 2
2990 Nivå

ASKE THIBERG

There I am, 2:11 min

DK *There I am* udspiller sig i et 3D-animeret univers, hvor identitet, krop og realitet sættes på spil. Aske Thiberg tematiserer grænsefladen mellem det digitale rum, hovedpersonens tanker og drømme og virkelighedens hændelser.

UK *There I am* takes place in a 3D-animated universe, engaging identity, body and reality. Aske Thiberg points to the borderlines of digital space, events taking place in real life, and the main character's thoughts and dreams.

Aske Thiberg er f. 1994 i Sverige. Han bor og arbejder i København.

Aske Thiberg was born 1994 in Sweden. He lives and works in Copenhagen.



👁 Aske Thiberg, *There I am*, 2:11 min



DAN ROBERT LAHIANI

Slaps, 8:41 min

DK *Slaps* udforsker de skjulte mekanismer i parforholdet gennem en intens performance for to. En endeløs række af lussinger uddeles. Aktiv og passiv, dominerende og undertrykkende skifter plads. Den særlige kobling mellem lyd og billede fremhæver samhørigheden, spændingen og uforudsigeligheden i relationen mellem de to parter.

UK *Slaps* explores the hidden mechanisms within a couple through the intense performance of two actors. An endless number of slaps are exchanged, as the roles are inverted from active to passive, dominant and submissive. The coupling of sound and image points to the co-ordination, tension and unpredictability of a relation between two individuals.

Dan Robert Lahiani er født 1987 i Paris, Frankrig. Han bor og arbejder i Jerusalem, Israel.

Dan Robert Lahiani was born 1987 in Paris, France. He lives and works in Jerusalem, Israel.



👁 Dan Robert Lahiani, *Slaps*, 8:41 min



ELI MARIA LUNDGAARD

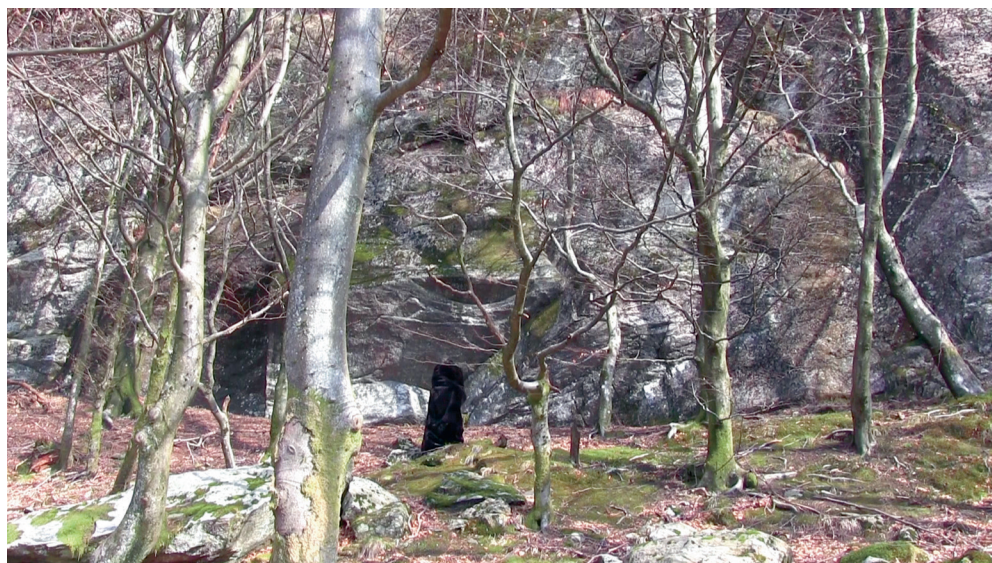
Hundred Explanations for a Single Thing, 8:59 min

DK *Hundred Explanations for a Single Thing* beskriver tanker og spekulationer hos en person, der befinder sig i en skov ved skumring. Det tiltagende mørke både skærper og svækker sanserne, og forestillingsevnen vandrer frit. Mørket griber om sig, og nok så mange oplysende ord kan ikke indfange frygten.

UK *Hundred Explanations for a Single Thing* describes the thoughts and speculations of a person situated in a forest as night is falling. The growing darkness both intensifies and weakens the senses, and imagination roams freely. Darkness thickens, and an all-encompassing sense of fear sets in which cannot be explained, no matter the number of words.

Eli Maria Lundgaard er født 1989 i Trondheim, Norge. Hun bor og arbejder i Malmø, Sverige.

Eli Maria Lundgaard was born 1989 in Trondheim, Norway. She lives and works in Malmö, Sweden.



👁 Eli Maria Lundgaard, *Hundred Explanations for a Single Thing*,
8:59 min



JEPPE LANGE

Pigeons, 3:44 min

DK I *Pigeons* ser vi i *close-up* og *slow-motion*, hvordan duer bevæger deres vinger, når de flyver. *Pigeons* bygger en bro fra vor tids visuelle døgnfluer – screensavers, gif-animationer og memer – til 1800-tallets studier af dyrs bevægelser via fotografiske optagelser. Analoge duer lander i et digitalt rum, hvor kunstneren leger med optagelserne, så de til sidst tømmes for betydning og vibrerer et sted mellem dokumentation og rent kunstnerisk materiale.

UK *Pigeons* show us, in close-up and in slow motion, how birds move their wings when flying. *Pigeons* bridges the visual ephemera of our day and age – screensavers, gif animations and memes – and 19th century studies of animal movements, using photographic recordings. Analogue pigeons land in a digital space where the artist plays with the recordings until they are ultimately left devoid of meaning, flickering somewhere between documentation and purely artistic material.

Jeppe Lange er født 1987. Han bor og arbejder i København.

Jeppe Lange was born 1987. He lives and works in Copenhagen.



© Jeppe Lange, *Pigeons*, 3:44 min



JOHANNA LECKLIN

Maybe you can even sense our lifestyles are probably comparable: I simply am not there, 11:15 min

DK Et portræt af et selvoptaget individ tegnes op af omgivelserne – chefen, kollegerne, ekskonen, elskerinden og kæresten byder ind med hver deres indtryk. Billedet af en mulig kriminel handling toner frem. *Maybe you can even sense our lifestyles are probably comparable: I simply am not there* er bygget op som en serie af *tableaux vivants*, scener, der mimer komposition og motiver i kunsthistoriske mesterværker.

UK A portrait is drawn of a self-absorbed individual through statements made by people surrounding him: his boss, his colleagues, his ex-wife, his lover, and his girlfriend all share their impressions and opinions. The notion of a possible criminal act emerges. The video *Maybe you can even sense our lifestyles are probably comparable: I simply am not there* is a series of *tableaux vivants*, scenes miming compositions and subjects of selected masterpieces of art history.

Johanna Lecklin er født 1972 i Helsinki, Finland. Hun bor og arbejder i Helsinki, Finland.

Johanna Lecklin was born 1972 i Helsinki, Finland. She lives and works in Helsinki, Finland.



👁 Johanna Lecklin, *Maybe you can even sense our lifestyles are probably comparable: I simply am not there*, 11:15 min



NIU HAN, SHEN WEI

Hotel, 7:15 min

DK *Hotel* består af tre korte scener, der skildrer uforløste situationer mellem to personer. En mand taler med sin mor om aktiekurser over telefonen, mens hans kæreste venter utålmodigt i baggrunden. En kvinde taler i telefon med sin mand, mens hendes elsker mister lysten. En kvinde forsøger at overbevise sin mand om, at hun er blevet gravid under guddommelige omstændigheder og ikke har været ham utro.

UK *Hotel* consists of three short scenes depicting unresolved situations between two persons. A man phones his mother in a bathtub, listening to her advice on buying stock, while his girlfriend waits impatiently in the background. A woman talks on the phone with her husband while her lover falls out of lust. A woman tries to convince her husband that her pregnancy is due to divine intervention and that she hasn't slept around.

Niu Han er født 1985 i Xi'an, Kina. Han bor og arbejder i Beijing, Kina. Shen Wei er født 1991 i Beijing, Kina. Han bor og arbejder i London, England.

Niu Han was born 1985 in Xi'an, China. He lives and works in Beijing, China. Shen Wei was born 1991 in Beijing, China. He lives and works in London, England.



👁 Niu Han, Shen Wei, *Hotel*, 7:15 min



OMAR IMAM

9½, 7:34 min

DK En person bevæger sig gennem havets bølger og op på land. Familiefotos hænger til tørre i et træ. En gruppe mennesker sidder parat med deres pas på ladet af en åben lastbil, mens en mand iført gasmaske spiller violin. En lille pige i brudeslør og orange fangedragt knæler som en fange med en voksen mand bag sig. 9½ skildrer ofrene for krigen i Syrien – men styrer med sin særlige “Syrealisme” uden om den forudsigelige skildring.

UK A person moves through the ocean waves and goes ashore. Family photos are hung to dry in a tree. A group of people sit with their passports ready on the platform of a truck while a man wearing a gas mask plays the violin. A little girl in a bridal veil and an orange prison uniform kneels down with a grown man behind her. 9½ portrays the victims of the war in Syria – but with its own brand of “Syrealism” it steers clear of the predictable presentation.

Omar Imam er født 1987 i Syrien. Forlod Damaskus i 2012 og bor og arbejder nu i exil i Amsterdam, Holland.

Omar Imam was born 1987 in Syria. Left Damascus in 2012 and now lives and works in exile in Amsterdam, Holland.



👁 Omar Imam, 9½, 7:34 min



PAUL SIMON RICHARDS

L*a*b, 12:00 min

DK Et psykedelisk melodrama, der udspiller sig mellem to personer i en lille lejlighed. Den samme aften beskrevet fra to perspektiver. En digitalt eksperimenterende fortælling om at bevæge sig rundt i mørke eller ligge og vente i uvished.

UK A psychedelic melodrama taking place between two persons in a tiny flat. The same evening described from two perspectives. A digitally experimental tale of moving about in the dark or lying and waiting in uncertainty.

Paul Simon Richards er født 1981. Han bor og arbejder i London, England.

Paul Simon Richards was born 1981. He lives and works in London, England.



© Paul Simon Richards, *L*a*b*, 12:00 min



SABINA JACOBSSON

The Collectors (short version), 12:00 min

DK | *The Collectors* fører kameraet os gennem et pænt kvarter i Los Angeles og frem til et hus med swimmingpool i haven. Her mødes to kvinder over en drink og taler om en fernisering på et galleri aftenen før. De klæder sig af, hopper i poolen, taler i telefon, tager notater i en notesbog. Fragmenter af en handling serveres gradvist i denne visuelle hyldest til David Hockneys berømte malerier af huse, personer og swimmingpools i Los Angeles.

UK In *The Collectors*, the camera takes us through a well-to-do neighbourhood in Los Angeles, on to a house with a swimming pool in the garden. Here, two women meet over drinks and talk about a gallery opening the evening before. They get undressed, jump into the pool, talk on the phone, take notes in a notebook. Fragments of a story are gradually laid out in this visual tribute to David Hockney's famous paintings of houses, people and swimming pools in Los Angeles.

Sabina Jacobsson er født 1987. Hun bor og arbejder i Oslo, Norge.

Sabina Jacobsson was born 1987. She lives and works in Oslo, Norway.



👁 Sabina Jacobsson, *The Collectors* (short version), 12:00 min



SØREN THILO FUNDER DOWN WITH DOMESTIC TRASH (Rubber Plant), 7:45 min

DK *DOWN WITH DOMESTIC TRASH (Rubber Plant)* fortæller i computergrafik om Sovjettidens forestillinger om boligblokke og fleksible, kollektive samværsformer. Et univers, der er rensset for kitsch, kæledyr og stueplanter. Fortællerstemmen er en potteplante, der på den anden side af Jerntæppet udfylder en livsvigtig rolle som luftrensende livsform.

UK Using computer graphics, *DOWN WITH DOMESTIC TRASH (Rubber Plant)* presents Soviet era ideas of blocks of flats and flexible, collective types of social life. A universe stripped of kitsch, pets and indoor plants. The narrative voice belongs to a potted plant, now, beyond the Iron Curtain, playing a vital role as a life form that serves to purify the air.

Søren Thilo Funder er født 1979. Han bor og arbejder i København.

Søren Thilo Funder was born 1979. He lives and works in Copenhagen.



👁 Søren Thilo Funder, *DOWN WITH DOMESTIC TRASH*
(*Rubber Plant*), 7:45 min



Jury

Juryen til FOKUS 2017 har valgt at nominere 10 videoer ud af de mere end 150 videoer, der er indsendt fra over 22 forskellige lande. De 10 videoer konkurrerer om at blive blandt vinderne af årets tre priser.

Juryen består af:

ANN LISLEGAARD **Billedkunstner**

Ann Lislegaard bor og arbejder i København og New York. Hun er en af dansk kunsts fornemste repræsentanter for videokunst og arbejder især med 3D, lyd, skulptur og installationer i sine værker. Temamæssigt beskæftiger hun sig med science fiction, kønsroller og dyreuniverser, hvor hun bl.a. undersøger alternative tilgange til sprog. Hun har udstillet over det meste af verden, bl.a. har man for nylig kunnet se hendes værker på Gwangju Biennalen, Overgaden, Kyoto Art Center og Tel Aviv Museum.

ANDREAS JOHNSEN **Filminstruktør og producent**

Har som instruktør, producer og kameramand stået bag internationalt prisbelønnede dokumentarfilm siden 2002. Hans film har været vist på festivaler over hele verden og er blevet vist på tv i et stort antal lande. Han er bl.a. kendt for filmene *KIDD LIFE*, *A Kind of Paradise*, *MURDER*, *Ai Weiwei – The Fake Case* og, senest, filmen *BUGS*.

ERIK BARKMAN **Projektkoordinator på** **The Animation Workshop**

Tidligere har han bl.a. været informationsmedarbejder på ROSA – Dansk Rock Samråd og Center for Traume- og Torturoverlevende (CETT). Sideløbende har han skrevet for kulturmagasiner og websites som GAFFA, Cinemazone og Strip!, og så er han chefredaktør på tegneseriewebsitet Nummer9.dk.

HELENE NYBORG BAY **Udstillingskoordinator,** **Nikolaj Kunsthall**

Tidligere leder af Viborg Kunsthall. Har i en årrække siddet som bestyrelsesmedlem i Foreningen af Kunsthaller i Danmark og er medlem af bestyrelsen for Nordens Hus på Færøerne. I årene 2006–2011 drev hun sit eget galleri, Helene Nyborg Contemporary, i København.

ANDREAS BRØGGER **Leder, Nikolaj Kunsthall**

Har i Nikolaj Kunsthall realiseret en lang række udstillinger med bl.a. Santiago Sierra, John Akomfrah, Stan Douglas, Dias & Riedweg, Karin Sander og Jeannette Ehlers. Har bidraget til en lang række bøger, tidsskrifter og aviser og har sammen med Omar Kholeif bl.a. redigeret *Vision, Memory and Media* (Liverpool/Chicago University Press). Medstifter af FOKUS videokunstfestival.

Jury

The Jury of FOKUS 2017 has nominated 10 videos, selected from more than 150 videos submitted to the festival from artists in 22 different countries. Among the 10 videos three will win this year's festival prizes.

The Jury is:

ANN LISLEGAARD **Visual artist**

Educated at The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts 1988–93 and at PS1 in New York 1995–96. She is one of the most notable representatives of Danish video art and works in particular with 3D, sound, sculpture and installations. Thematically, she explores issues such as science fiction, sexual roles and animal universes in which she, among other aspects, investigates alternative approaches to language. She has exhibited in most parts of the world, and recently, her works have been featured at places such as the Gwangju Biennale, Overgaden, Kyoto Art Center and Tel Aviv Museum.

ANDREAS JOHNSEN **Film director and producer**

Since 2002, he has made a number of internationally awarded documentaries as director, producer and cinematographer. His films have been shown at festivals around the world and have been broadcasted in countless countries. He is renowned for such films as *KIDD LIFE*, *A Kind of Paradise*, *MURDER*, *Ai Weiwei – The Fake Case* and his latest film *BUGS*.

ERIK BARKMAN **Project co-ordinator at The Animation Workshop**

He has previously worked for ROSA, The Danish Rock Council, and The Centre for Trauma and Torture Survivors. Alongside this, he has contributed to cultural magazines and websites such as GAFFA, Cinemazone and Strip!, and he is the editor-in-chief of the comics website Nummer9.dk.

HELENE NYBORG BAY **Exhibition co-ordinator, Nikolaj Kunsthal**

Previously the head of Viborg Kunsthal. For a number of years, she has been a board member of The Danish Association of Art Centers, and currently, she is a board member of The Nordic House on the Faroe Islands. In the years 2006–2011, she ran her own gallery, Helene Nyborg Contemporary, in Copenhagen.

ANDREAS BRØGGER **Head of Nikolaj Kunsthal**

Has organised numerous exhibitions at Nikolaj Kunsthal with artists such as Santiago Sierra, John Akomfrah, Stan Douglas, Dias & Riedweg, Karin Sander and Jeannette Ehlers. He has written a large number of articles on art and culture for books, magazines and newspapers. With Omar Kholeif he is the editor of *Vision, Memory and Media* (Liverpool/Chicago University Press). Co-founder of FOKUS video art festival.

Tak til / Thanks



Props Coffee Shop



SAMSUNG

**The
Exposed**

Nikolaj Kunsthal drives af Københavns Kommune. Udstillingsprogrammet støttes af Statens Kunstfond.

Nikolaj Kunsthal is funded by The City of Copenhagen. The exhibition programme is supported by Danish Arts Foundation.



HISTORIE & KUNST
KØBENHAVNS KOMMUNE

STATENS KUNSTFOND

FOKUS Online

På fokusfestival.dk kan du se alle værkerne via din computer under hele festivalen.

FOKUS App

Download FOKUS-appen og se videokunst der, hvor du er. Kig efter -ikonet her i programmet, scan billedet med appen og tryk på play-ikonet på din skærm for afspille videoen direkte på din telefon. Se også videoerne med din app via FOKUS-plakaterne, der er opsat i København.

FOKUS Locations

Du kan se FOKUS i og uden for København – se lokationererne her i programmet.

FOKUS Online

Watch all the videos online at fokusfestival.dk during the entire festival period.

FOKUS App

Download the FOKUS app to watch video art wherever you are. Point the app at the images in this publication and press the play icon to stream videos to your phone. You can also access the videos via your app using the FOKUS posters hanging in and around Copenhagen.

FOKUS Locations

Find FOKUS in and around Copenhagen – check the locations in this programme.

